

**CONSTITUTION OF
THE MISSOURI CRIME PREVENTION ASSOCIATION, INC**

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this association shall be the "MISSOURI CRIME PREVENTION ASSOCIATION"; hereinafter called "THE ASSOCIATION".

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE, GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1. The purpose of THE ASSOCIATION is to promote and encourage crime prevention efforts in the State of Missouri by serving as a functional and constitutive resource to law enforcement and community groups for program development and training in crime prevention activities and techniques.

Section 2. The goal of THE ASSOCIATION is to substantially reduce criminal activity in Missouri through professional crime prevention action with citizen involvement.

Section 3. The objectives of THE ASSOCIATION are:

- a. To provide a vehicle for the communication of information of crime prevention activities, programs, projects and techniques between participating agencies and groups
- b. To develop or assist in the development of crime prevention programs and projects that have statewide and local applicability and impact
- c. To recommend or provide crime prevention instruction upon request
- d. To establish meetings to share information as it relates to crime prevention
- e. To develop a working rapport with professional law enforcement officers
- f. To recommend uniformity in program implementation
- g. To obtain funding to accomplish these objectives

Section 4. Statements made by officers or members shall not purport to be by or on behalf of, THE ASSOCIATION, its Executive Board, or any committee unless in accordance with authority given and procedures determined in each instance by the Executive Board.

Section 5. THE ASSOCIATION shall be incorporated in the State of Missouri as a not-for-profit professional organization.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The membership of the ASSOCIATION shall consist of four classes, namely: Active, Associate, Honorary and Sponsoring.

Section 2. Active Membership shall be defined as

a. Persons who are active crime prevention practitioners, who initiate activities to establish volunteer neighborhood crime prevention programs which encourage citizen involvement, and who are not engaged in the business of selling, distributing or promoting for sale crime prevention-related products or services are eligible for active membership.

b. Active members in good standing shall have full voting privileges, may hold office and may serve on committees.

c. Paid membership constitutes good standing.

d. Active membership is renewable annually.

Section 3. Associate Membership shall be defined as

a. Persons involved or interested in the field of crime prevention who do not meet the criteria for active membership are eligible for associate membership.

b. Associate members may serve on committees with full committee membership privileges.

c. Associate membership is renewable annually.

Section 4. Honorary Membership shall be defined as

a. An honorary membership may be conferred upon any person who has performed outstanding service in the field of crime prevention or for THE ASSOCIATION, upon recommendation of the membership committee and approval of the Executive Board.

b. Honorary members shall have the same privileges as associate members, unless qualifying as an active member, when those privileges would accrue.

c. Honorary membership is conferred for life. The member is exempt from paying dues.

Section 5. Sponsoring Membership shall be defined as

a. Any Organization or individual that makes an annual financial contribution or provides personal direct service of comparable value to the advancement of the purposes of THE ASSOCIATION is eligible for sponsoring membership.

b. Sponsoring membership is divided into two categories

- 1) Gold: annual financial contribution of \$500 or more.
- 2) Silver: annual financial contribution of \$250 or more.

c. Sponsoring members shall have the same privileges as associate members.

d. Sponsoring memberships are renewable annually.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The officers of THE ASSOCIATION shall be the Executive Director, President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President for Membership, Secretary, Treasurer and five Regional Directors.

Section 2. There shall be one Regional Director for each region as defined in the by-laws.

Section 3. The members of the Executive Board shall be:

a. The officers, including the Regional Directors

b. The immediate Past President

Section 4. Eligibility

a. To be eligible to be nominated for President a person shall have served at least one year as an elected officer.

b. No person shall serve in more than one office capacity at a time.

Section 5. Vacancies occurring for any reason among officers may be filled for the balance of the unexpired term by a majority vote of the Executive Board in executive session ordinarily as follows:

President: The First Vice-President shall succeed to office when a vacancy occurs.

All other elected officers:

Vacancies in all other offices shall be filled by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE V: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. At an annual meeting the current First Vice President shall automatically succeed to the office of President to serve for two years or until a successor is elected.

Section 2. At an annual meeting the First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President for Membership and the Secretary shall be elected by ballot by the membership to serve for two years or until their successors are elected. The Treasurer and Regional Directors shall be elected by ballot by the membership to serve for two years or until their successors are elected.

Section 3. The term of office for all officers shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected.

Section 4. Succession in office

a. The President and First Vice-President shall not be eligible to succeed themselves in the same office.

b. The Regional Directors, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are eligible to serve more than one term.

Section 5. Recall procedures

a. If, for valid reasons an active member feels an officer should no longer serve in the capacity to which he/she was elected, that member may initiate a recall.

b. First, a petition of signatures of a majority of active members should be submitted to the chair of the nominating committee at any time during the year, or in the case of the First Vice-President, no later than ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting. The petition should also clearly state the reasons for the petition.

c. If the nominating committee determines the request for recall is valid, a vote of confidence of the entire active membership will be required by mail. A vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the active membership in favor of the recall is required.

d. Vacancies shall be filled as set forth in Constitution Article IV, Section 5. In the case of a vacancy for First Vice-President, that opening shall be filled in accordance with the Constitution, but an election will be held at the following annual meeting to fill the presidency.

Section 6. Nominations at annual and special elections of officers shall consist of those made by the nominating committee, as provided for in the by-laws, and may include those made from the floor.

ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. All officers shall perform the duties prescribed by the parliamentary authority adopted by THE ASSOCIATION those duties outlined in this Constitution and its by-laws and those duties that may be delegated to the officers by THE ASSOCIATION membership.

Section 2. Each officer and chairman shall deliver to his/her successor, before the next meeting of the newly elected Executive Board or upon termination of office or chairmanship, all books, records and documents pertaining to that office or committee.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall have all powers and authority over the affairs of THE ASSOCIATION during the interim between annual meetings, shall perform such duties as specified in the by-laws, and shall determine all questions arising with respect to interpretation or administration of this Constitution and its by-laws.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1. An annual meeting of THE ASSOCIATION shall be held in the second quarter of each calendar year at a time, date and place designated by the Executive Board.

Section 2. The membership shall be notified of the annual meeting at least sixty (60) days prior to its convening.

Section 3. Special membership meetings may be called by the President, upon approval of the Executive Board within thirty (30) days prior notice given to the active members. Only business listed in the call to the special meeting shall be transacted at the special meeting.

Section 4. In extraordinary circumstances, business of THE ASSOCIATION requiring a vote of the membership may be conducted by mail.

a. Notice of the business to be transacted shall be provided to the active members thirty (30) days prior to any deadline date for receipt of returned ballots.

b. A majority vote shall constitute legal action by mail.

Section 5. The Executive Board

a. The Executive Board shall meet at least once per quarter. The President shall designate the exact time and place for these meetings. Notice of the meetings shall be sent to members of the Executive Board at least thirty (30) days before the meeting. A tentative agenda of business to be considered shall accompany such notification.

b. Special meetings of the Executive Board may be called by the President and shall be called upon written request of a majority of the Executive Board. The purpose of such meetings shall be stated in the notice. Twenty-one (21) days notice of special meetings shall be given except in cases where, in the opinion of the President, an emergency exists and immediate action is necessary to maintain the standards and further the policies of THE ASSOCIATION. In such cases, a meeting may be held at the earliest possible time, not precluding a telephone conference call and only such business shall be transacted as specified in the notice of such meeting. A majority vote of those present shall be sufficient for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VIII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order, current edition, shall govern THE ASSOCIATION in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not in conflict with this Constitution and its by-laws or any special rules of order that THE ASSOCIATION may adopt. The Secretary shall serve as parliamentarian for THE ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE IX: QUORUMS

Section 1. A quorum for the annual meeting and special membership meetings shall be twenty (20) active members. Members of the Executive Board shall be counted for the purpose of determining the quorum.

Section 2. A quorum for an Executive Board meeting shall be seven (7) board members.

Section 3. A quorum for action on business transacted by mail shall be twenty (20) returned ballots. Members of the Board shall not be counted for the purpose of determining the quorum.

ARTICLE X: DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Upon dissolution of THE ASSOCIATION, the Executive Board shall, after making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of THE ASSOCIATION, dispose of all the assets of THE ASSOCIATION in such a manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes shall, at the time, qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) and similar organizations as the Executive Board shall determine.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any annual meeting provided the following requirements have been met:

a. The proposed amendment shall have been presented through the Constitution, By-laws and Resolutions Committee to the Executive Board for consideration and recommendation to the annual meeting.

b. Active members of THE ASSOCIATION shall be notified of all proposed amendments at least thirty (90) days prior to the convening of the annual meetings.