CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

Organized at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
May 14, 1915

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

A NATIONAL POLICE ORGANIZATION



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
701 MARRIOTT DRIVE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37214

REVISED AT THE
67th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE
AUGUST 4-7, 2025
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

PATRICK J. YOES
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JIMMY HOLDERFIELD
NATIONAL SECRETARY

The Fraternal Order of Police is a non-profit corporation formed under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, entered the Decree of Incorporation on the 17th day of November 1915. The original Articles were recorded on the 18th day of November 1915, in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, in Charter Book Volume 49, Page 350. Pursuant to the provisions of the laws of Pennsylvania, application to the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, to amend the original charter was duly made on the first day of June 1940, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Further Amendments were approved on February 22, 1974.

At the First Annual Convention a Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police was formed and by proper action said Grand Lodge was authorized and empowered to use the corporate name of the Fraternal Order of Police and to exercise and perform all corporate rights, privileges, powers, authorities and franchises of the Fraternal Order of Police.

The Constitution, as set forth herein, was adopted November 18, 1915, and amended at Official Annual Conventions subsequently, including the First Annual Convention held at Pittsburgh, October 15, 1917; the 36th National Biennial Conference held at Norfolk, Virginia, August 18-22, 1963; the 40th Biennial Conference held at Phoenix, Arizona, August 8-12, 1971; the 41st Biennial Conference held at Las Vegas, Nevada, August 5-10, 1973; the 43rd Biennial Conference held at Providence, Rhode Island, August 8-12, 1977; the 45th Biennial Conference held at Orlando, Florida, August 18-21, 1981; the 46th Biennial Conference held at Phoenix, Arizona, August 22-26, 1983; the 47th Biennial Conference held at Baltimore, Maryland, August 6-9, 1985; the 48th Biennial Conference held at Mobile, Alabama, August 11-14, 1987; the 49th Biennial Conference held at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 1-4, 1989; the 50th Biennial Conference held at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 12-15, 1991; the 51st Biennial Conference held at Louisville, Kentucky, August 9-12, 1993; the 52nd Biennial Conference held at Virginia Beach, Virginia, July 31-August 3, 1995; the 53rd Biennial Conference held at Orlando, Florida, August 4-7, 1997; the 54th Biennial Conference held at Mobile, Alabama, August 9-12, 1999; the 55th Biennial Conference held at Phoenix, Arizona, August 13-16, 2001; the 56th Biennial Conference held at Providence, Rhode Island, August 4-7, 2003; the 57th Biennial Conference held at New Orleans, Louisiana, August 1-4, 2005; the 58th Biennial Conference held at Louisville, Kentucky, August 12-16, 2007; the 59th Biennial Conference held at Long Beach, California, August 17-20, 2009; the 60th Biennial Conference held at Salt Lake City, Utah, August 14-18; the 61st Biennial Conference held at Cincinnati, Ohio, August 12-15, 2013; the 62nd Biennial Conference held at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 10-13, 2015, the 63rd Biennial Conference held at Nashville, Tennessee, August 28-31, 2017 and the 63rd Biennial Conference are as follows: Article 3 – Section 1, Article 4 – Section 1, Article 26 – Section 3, Article 31 - Section 1. Amendments made at the 63rd Biennial Conference to the By-Laws are: Article 6 – Section 1. Amendments made at the 64th Biennial Conference held in New Orleans, Louisiana are as follows: Article 4 – Section 7, Article 23 - Section 3, paragraph B, Section 1 and Article 23 - Section 3, paragraph D. Amendments made at the 64th Biennial Conference to the By-Laws are: Article 31 – Section 3, paragraph C. Amendments to the Constitution made at the 65th Biennial Conference held in Indianapolis, Indiana are: Article 5, Section 2 paragraph 2-B; Article 5 added Section C; Article 6, Section D, paragraph 1; Article 8, Section A and added Section E; Article 12, Section 1; Article 12, Section 12; Article 17, Section 5, Article 19, Section 6, paragraph B, Article 19 Section 7 added paragraph F; Article 19, Section 10 added paragraphs C and C-1, Article 30, Section 2. Amendments to the By-Laws made at the 65th Biennial Conference held in Indianapolis, Indiana are: Article 9, Section 3, Article 11, Section 2, Article 12, Section 3, Article 13, Section 2, Article 14, Section 2, Article 15, Section 2, Article 16, Section 3, Article 29, Sections 2 and 3, Article 31, Sections 1 & 2. Amendment to the Constitution and By-laws made at the 65th Biennial Conference held in Indianapolis, Indiana: Change the legal name from Grand Lodge and National Fraternal Order of Police to National Fraternal Order of Police on the C&B and Ritual of the Order. Amendments to the Constitution made at the 66th Biennial Conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada are: Article 4, Section 3 paragraph B, Article 5, Section 2, subsection 4, Article 6, Section 3, A, Article 17, Section 3, C, Article 17, Section 5, and Article 19, Sections 9, 10 and 11. Amendment to the Constitution and By-laws made at the 66th Biennial Conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada: change any and all references, within the entire current National Fraternal Order of Police Constitution and By-Laws and the Ritual, of the wording “he or him” or any other masculine or feminine reference to gender neutral references in the various sections.

Amendments to the Constitution made at the 67th Biennial Conference held in Miami Bach, Florida are: Article 19, Section 6 paragraph C, Article 19, Section 6 paragraph F, Article 19, Section 12, Article 31, Section 1 paragraph B, Article 23, Section 3, paragraph B 1, Article 23, Section 3, paragraph D, Article 23, Section 3, paragraph F, Article 23, Section 4, paragraph B 1, Article 23, Section 3, paragraph B 2, Article 31, Section 1 paragraph A, Article 21, Section 1, Article 5, Section 2, paragraph A 1, Article 5, Section 2, paragraph A 2.

Amendment to the By-laws made at the 67th Biennial Conference held in Miami Beach, Florida is: Article 5, Section 4, paragraph B.

Prior to August 11, 1947, the By-Laws were included in the Constitution. On August 11, 1947, at the 28th Annual Convention, the By-Laws were adopted separately. On August 13, 1991, at the 50th Biennial Conference held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a substantial revision of the Constitution and By-Laws was adopted by the delegates there in attendance. While incorporating many portions of the Constitution and By-Laws then in effect, the revision restructures the Constitution and By-Laws.

This Official Statement, Contents, and Indices are provided for historical purposes and convenience. They are not a part of the Constitution and may not be relied on for any purpose.

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CONSTITUTION

Preamble

We, the law enforcement officers of the United States and of the several states and political subdivisions thereof, as representatives and delegates of state and subordinate lodges, do hereby associate the several lodges we represent and the members thereof for the following purposes:

To support and defend the Constitution of the United States; to inculcate loyalty and allegiance to the United States of America; to promote and foster the enforcement of law and order; to improve the individual and collective proficiency of our members in the performance of their duties; to encourage fraternal, educational, charitable and social activities among law enforcement officers; to advocate and strive for uniform application of the civil service merit system for appointment and promotion; to support the improvement of the standard of living and working conditions of the law enforcement profession through every legal and ethical means available; to create and maintain tradition of esprit de corps insuring fidelity to duty under all conditions and circumstances; to cultivate a spirit of fraternalism and mutual helpfulness among our members and the people we serve; to increase the efficiency of the law enforcement profession and thus more firmly to establish the confidence of the public in the service dedicated to the protection of life and property.

All terms used herein to denominate gender shall be generic and, whenever appropriate, the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular.

ARTICLE 1
Name

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE.

Section 2. The National Board of Trustees shall have the sole and exclusive right to authorize, control, license and restrict the use of the name, insignia or emblem and mark, trademark, or service mark of the National Fraternal Order of Police. The National Secretary shall police the trademark of the Order and shall grant or refuse to grant permission to use the trademark of the Order as hereinafter set forth or as may be, from time to time, prescribed by the National Board of Trustees.

Section 3. State and subordinate lodges, by virtue of their affiliation with the National Fraternal Order of Police, shall have the right to use the name, insignia, emblem and mark, trademark, or service mark of the National Fraternal Order of Police in order to signify or denote their affiliation therewith. In the case of prospective for profit uses of the name, insignia, emblem or mark, trademark or service mark of the National Fraternal Order of Police, or such other use that may place such state or subordinate lodge in competition with the National Fraternal Order of Police, such permission may be withheld by the National Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE 2
Character

Section 1. The National Fraternal Order of Police is an organization consisting of state and subordinate lodges of professional law enforcement officers in the United States and such international affiliate lodges as shall, from time to time, be accepted in accordance herewith.

Section 2. The National Fraternal Order of Police is a fraternal organization composed of professional law enforcement personnel who have joined together for their common good. In no event shall the National Fraternal Order of Police join or be controlled by any labor organization, provided, however, that this Section shall not prohibit cooperative efforts by the National, state, or subordinate lodges of the National Fraternal Order of Police with labor organizations for their common good.

Section 3. The National Fraternal Order of Police shall not strike or by concerted action cause a cessation of the performance of police duties, or induce other members or lodges to do likewise.

Section 4. This Constitution shall be the fundamental law of the Order and, with the Rituals adopted at the National Biennial Conferences, and such By-Laws as may be adopted from time to time, shall govern the conduct of the National Fraternal Order of Police and all state and subordinate lodges.

Section 5. There shall be By-Laws which shall govern the day-to-day operation and administration of the National Fraternal Order of Police. The By-Laws of the Order may only be promulgated, amended, or revised by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates voting at the Biennial Conference.

ARTICLE 3
Definitions

Section 1. As used herein, the following terms, phrases or words shall be defined as follows:

A. "**Elected law enforcement officer**" shall mean for purposes hereof any law enforcement officer who meets the qualifications in Article 4, Section 1, or who by law is exempted from meeting the minimum training standards.

B. "**Full-time**" shall mean law enforcement officers that are engaged in such employment as their full-time occupation as to hours worked and income derived as determined by their lodge. The term may also include law enforcement officers that are employed with multiple law enforcement agencies and are engaged in such employment as their full-time occupation on average of at least 30 hours per week. (Amended 8/17)

C. "**Good Cause**" shall mean nonfeasance, malfeasance, dishonesty, or refusal to carry out the will of the Biennial Conference.

D. "**Lodge in good standing**" shall mean a lodge which is not greater than thirty (30) days in arrears in the payment of all dues, delinquency fees, and assessments due and payable to or for the National Fraternal Order of Police on behalf of its members. Any lodge in arrears of payment of dues or assessments more than thirty (30) days and less than ninety (90) days shall be deemed to be delinquent and not in good standing. Any lodge in arrears of payment of dues or assessments more than eighty-nine (89) days shall be and is hereby automatically suspended from membership in good standing in the Fraternal Order of Police.

E. "**Member in good standing,**" in respect to the National Fraternal Order of Police, shall mean a member who fulfilled all requirements of membership in good standing in their respective subordinate and state lodges and for whom appropriate per capita tax has been paid to the National Fraternal Order of Police. Any member belonging to a state or subordinate lodge that is delinquent or has been suspended shall not be a member in good standing.

F. "**National Board of Trustees**" shall refer to the collective body consisting of the National President, each of the Past National Presidents, the National Vice President, the National Secretary, the National Treasurer, the National Second Vice President, the National Sergeant at Arms, each National Trustee, and the Chairman of the National Trustees.

G. "**National Executive Board**" shall mean and consist of the National President, National Vice President, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Second Vice President, National Sergeant at Arms and the Chairman of the National Trustees.

H. "**National Trustees**" shall mean the individual elected National Trustees or the collective body thereof (excluding the National Executive Board) who may meet from time to time as provided in Article 8 and Article 16 of this Constitution.

I. "**Past National President"** shall be defined as any person elected to the office of National President by a Biennial Conference and who served not less than one (1) full term and was not removed from office.

J. **"Regularly appointed law enforcement officer"** shall mean, for purposes hereof, any law enforcement officer who meets the minimum standards, has received the training and education required by the United States, the state, the political subdivision, or agency by which they are appointed, and is granted arrest powers.

ARTICLE 4
Membership

Section 1. Any regularly appointed or elected and full-time law enforcement officer of the United States, any state or political subdivision thereof, or any agency may be eligible for membership in the National Fraternal Order of Police, subject to the provisions of this Constitution. No person shall be denied membership on account of race, religion, color, creed, sex, age, or national origin. (Amended 8/17)

Section 2. Subject only to the provisions of this Constitution, each state and subordinate lodge shall be the judge of its membership. Each state and subordinate lodge shall establish requirements for membership in good standing of its respective membership, which requirements shall not be inconsistent herewith.

Section 3. There shall be two (2) classes of membership: Active and Honorary.

A. **Active Membership**

1. Shall include regularly appointed or elected full-time law enforcement officers.

2. Shall include retired regularly appointed or elected law enforcement officers who have remained in good standing with their state and subordinate lodges after retirement from their law enforcement agency. In good standing shall mean a member who fulfilled all requirements of membership in good standing in their respective subordinate and state lodges and for whom appropriate per capita tax has been paid to the National Lodge.

3. May include, subject to the approval of the state and subordinate lodges, regularly appointed or elected law enforcement officers who have resigned from their law enforcement duties and who have remained in good standing with their state and subordinate lodges.

4. Only active members, as herein defined, shall have voice and vote.

B. **Honorary Membership** shall be comprised of individuals recognized by the National Lodge, state lodge or subordinate lodges for exceptional service or contribution to the nation, the state, political subdivision, the law enforcement community, or the National Fraternal Order of Police but may not include individuals that qualify for Active Membership. *(Amended 8/23)*

Section 4. No person shall be a member of more than one state or subordinate lodge at the same time nor shall any member who is delinquent, or who has been suspended by a state or subordinate lodge for any reason, be eligible for membership in any other state or subordinate lodge until such suspension has been lifted.

Section 5. The National Fraternal Order of Police may deny membership to anyone who is, or has been, a member of the Communist party, or of any party regardless of what name known which advocates the abolition, destruction, or violent overthrow of the government of the United States or any state or political subdivision thereof.

Section 6. The National Fraternal Order of Police may deny any membership, or continuation of membership, to anyone convicted of a felony crime in any court of the United States, or any state court, once all appeals have been exhausted.

Section 7. The National Fraternal Order of Police may deny membership to anyone who willfully chooses not to be a dues paying member in good standing of their bargaining unit. For this section to apply, the applicable state's constitution must contain similar permissive language. *(Amended 8/19)*

ARTICLE 5
Organization

Section 1. The National Fraternal Order of Police shall consist of the National Fraternal Order of Police and such state and subordinate lodges as may, from time to time, be admitted to membership and which conform to this Constitution and such rules and regulations as may then be applicable.

Section 2. Conference. The National Fraternal Order of Police shall hold a Conference to be known as the Biennial Conference of the National Fraternal Order of Police.

A. The Conference shall be scheduled to commence no earlier than the first Sunday of July nor later than through the third week of October of each odd numbered year.

1. States/ Cities desiring to be considered for selection shall follow the requirements as outlined in the By-laws, Article 5, Section 4. *(Amended 8/25)*

2. The National Board of Trustees may host the Biennial Conference under the direction of the National Executive Board and the National Office, beginning with the 2031 Biennial Conference of the National Fraternal Order of Police. *(Amended 8/25)*

B. **Location**

1. The location of the Biennial Conference shall be determined by the delegates to the Biennial Conference or, in the event the delegates of said Conference fail to do so, by the National Board of Trustees.

2. The location of the Biennial Conference shall be determined by the delegates to the Biennial Conference in the fourth year preceding such Biennial Conference.

3. In the event that a site selected by the delegates, or the National Board of Trustees becomes unavailable, the National Board of Trustees shall select a replacement site at their next regular meeting, a special meeting called for that purpose, by mail or electronic vote, provided that such vote shall not occur except upon ten (10) days' notice. *(Amended 8/21)*

4. For the duration of, and upon conclusion of the voting procedure on the last day of each Conference, no binding business, with the exception of the report of the Election Committee and the motion and approval for adjournment, shall be conducted that would require a vote of the delegates without determining that a sufficient quorum exists. *(Amended 8/2023)*

C. **National Emergency.** If, in the opinion of the National Executive Board, the existence of a national emergency makes the holding of the Biennial National Conference impracticable, the Board may offer a virtual option, postpone, or cancel said meeting. *(Amended 8/21)*

Section 3. The fiscal year of the National Fraternal Order of Police shall be from July 1 to June 30, inclusive, of each calendar year. In addition to an annual audit to be performed by the National Trustees pursuant to Article 8, Section 1(E), of the By-Laws, the National Treasurer shall cause a certified public accountant to conduct an annual audit of the books, records, and accounts of the Order and to report thereon to the National Board of Trustees.

Section 4. There shall be an annual budget of the National Fraternal Order of Police which shall be formulated by the National Executive Board in accordance with such rules and regulations as may, from time to time, be prescribed within the By-Laws and said budget shall be reported to the National Board of Trustees in June of every fiscal year. The budget shall remain in full force and effect for the fiscal year unless revised by emergency action of the National President, formal action taken at a meeting of the National Board of Trustees, or by action of the Biennial Conference.

ARTICLE 6
National Officers

Section 1. The officers of the National Fraternal Order of Police shall consist of the National President, each of the Past National Presidents, the National Vice President, the National Secretary, the National Treasurer, the National Second Vice President, the National Sergeant at Arms and one National Trustee from each State represented by a state lodge. The term of office of each national officer shall be for two (2) years or until their successor is elected and qualified.

Section 2. A national officer (except for a National President who fulfills the requirements set forth in Article 3, Section 1) who resigns from office during any elected term shall relinquish all right to and privilege of that office and shall revert to the status of "member." In the case of a National President as hereinbefore described, they shall assume the position of Past National President. A National Officer who resigns from active police duty for any reason other than to retire on pension, either for length of service or disability, or otherwise becomes ineligible as a member of the National Fraternal Order of Police, shall automatically forfeit their office.

Section 3. Nomination, Election, and Installation

A. **General.** The officers of the National Fraternal Order of Police shall be elected at the Biennial Conference. No more than one of the following officers shall be elected from any one state: National President, National Vice President, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Second Vice President and National Sergeant at Arms. Should two (2) or more candidates who are members of lodges located in the same state receive the greatest number of votes for any two (2) or more of the preceding national offices, then, in that event, the candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for the highest office (in the order set forth herein) shall be declared elected and the other candidate from the same state receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared disqualified by the National President and the candidate for that office receiving the next highest number of votes shall be declared elected. No member shall be nominated for nor elected to national office at a Biennial Conference at which they are not a member in good standing and either a delegate or serving as an incumbent national officer. *(Amended 8/2023)*

B. **Nomination.** Candidates for election to the offices of National President, National Vice President, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Second Vice President and National Sergeant at Arms shall be nominated two (2) days prior to the election of such national officers. Nominations shall be made from the floor of the Biennial Conference and, after being declared closed, such nominations shall not be re-opened. No member shall be nominated or be a candidate for election to more than one national office at the same Biennial Conference. Immediately following the closing of nominations, each candidate (but only the candidate themself) for national office shall be permitted to speak to the delegates of the Biennial Conference for not more than three (3) minutes.

C. **Ballot.** The name and state affiliation of each duly nominated candidate for national office shall be placed on the ballot in an order determined by lottery conducted by the Election Committee.

D. **Election.** Each national officer, except National Trustees, shall be elected by a vote of the qualified delegates on the floor of the Conference.

1. Voting shall be by computer tabulated printed ballots and the expense thereof shall be borne by the National Fraternal Order of Police. In the event that printed ballots are not available or practical the National Board of Trustees, by a two-thirds vote, may select another form of voting. Such other form must provide for multi-factor authentication of vote totals. Ballots shall not be taken from the Biennial Conference site. All information that could be used to identify how the voter voted will be anonymized in all distributions of voting results to all individuals. *(Amended 8/21)*

2. The order by which the delegates of the several states shall vote shall be determined by lottery conducted by the National Secretary. The vote order will be drawn at the Fall Board Meeting prior to the Biennial Conference to assist lodges with travel arrangements. *(Amended 8/15)*

3. The National President shall announce the results of the elections reported by the Election Committee and shall declare elected those candidates receiving a plurality of the votes cast for each respective national office.

E. **Installation.** Officers-elect shall be installed by a National Officer and shall take office in accordance with the regular order of business.

F. **Succession.** A vacancy in any office of the National Fraternal Order of Police, except the office of National President or National Trustee, shall be filled by a majority vote of the National Board of Trustees. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the National President, the National Vice President shall automatically assume the office of National President and complete the unexpired term thereof. The National Board of Trustees shall thereafter elect, by a majority vote and from among its members, a successor National Vice President who shall serve for the unexpired term of the previous National Vice President. Should a vacancy occur in the office of a National Trustee, the vacancy shall be filled by the elected officers of the respective state lodge.

ARTICLE 7
National Executive Board

Section 1. There shall be a National Executive Board which shall be comprised of the National President, National Vice President, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Second Vice President, National Sergeant at Arms and the Chairman of the National Trustees.

Section 2. The National Executive Board shall meet from time to time, as called by the National President, for the purpose of advising the National President in carrying out the administrative business and other affairs of the National Fraternal Order of Police in accordance with this Constitution and the By-Laws. The National President shall preside over the National Executive Board.

ARTICLE 8
National Board of Trustees

Section 1. The National Board of Trustees shall be comprised of the National President; the Immediate Past President; each of the Past National Presidents; the National Vice President; the National Secretary; the National Treasurer; the National Second Vice President; the National Sergeant at Arms and each of the National Trustees.

Section 2. The National Board of Trustees shall meet from time to time to exercise all administrative powers of the Order between Biennial Conferences.

Section 3. The National Board of Trustees shall promulgate such rules and regulations as it deems necessary and appropriate to authorize, control, license and restrict the use of the name, insignia or emblem and mark, trademark or service mark of the National Fraternal Order of Police, provided, however, that such use by state and subordinate lodges for identification purposes which are neither associated with profit-making enterprises nor in competition with the National Fraternal Order of Police shall not be prohibited.

Section 4. Meetings

A. The National Board of Trustees shall meet immediately prior to and after the Biennial Conference,

which meetings shall be known as the Pre-Conference and Post-Conference Board meetings of the National Board of Trustees, respectively. In addition, the National Board of Trustees shall meet at least three times between Biennial Conferences. The National Board of Trustees shall also meet when it is deemed necessary by the National President, upon petition of a majority of the Board of Trustees or upon the finding of probable cause to inquire into charges brought against a national officer. Notice of special meetings shall be prepared and distributed by the National Secretary to each member of the National Board of Trustees not less than ten (10) days prior to such meeting. *(Amended 8/21)*

B. Minutes of each meeting of the National Board of Trustees shall be kept by the National Secretary and shall be presented to such Board and the Biennial Conference, except in the case of the Pre-Conference Board meeting, at the next meeting thereof.

C. The National Fraternal Order of Police shall pay, upon signed voucher therefor, the reasonable expenses of National Trustees attending meetings of the National Board of Trustees and the Biennial Conference.

D. Subordinate lodges of any state in which there is no state lodge shall be entitled to representation at meetings of the Board of Trustees and shall have voice but no vote. Such subordinate lodge or lodges shall assume and pay the expenses of their representative(s) attending such meetings.

E. National Emergency: If, in the opinion of the National Executive Board, the existence of a national emergency makes the holding of the National Board of Trustees Meeting impracticable, the Board may offer a virtual option, postpone, or cancel said meeting. *(Amended 8/21)*

Section 5. Before any subject is opened to discussion at a meeting of the National Board of Trustees, the National President shall have the right to establish reasonable time limitations upon each speaker desiring to speak upon such subject, which time limitations shall be applied uniformly. In establishing time limitations, consideration shall be given to the importance of the subject matter, its complexity, the office held by the speaker and other pertinent factors.

Section 6. A president of a state lodge or any other member in attendance at a meeting of the National Board of Trustees shall have the right to speak upon matters under consideration, subject to the following:

A. The Chair of such meeting shall recognize only other National Officers (including National Trustees).

B. The president of a state lodge wishing to address the National Board of Trustees shall notify their National Trustee of the matter upon which they wish to speak.

C. A National Trustee may seek recognition from the Chair and upon receipt of the floor, shall, after introducing the member and identifying the subject matter upon which they wish to speak, and upon consent of a majority of the members of the National Board of Trustees then present, yield the floor to such member seeking to address the meeting.

ARTICLE 9
National President

Section 1. The National President shall be the chief executive officer of the National Fraternal Order of Police. The National President shall preside at the Biennial Conference and all meetings of the National Board of Trustees and the National Executive Board.

Section 2. The National President shall administer and manage the business of the Order between meetings of the National Board of Trustees. The National President shall ensure that the resolutions and By-Laws of the Biennial Conference and the orders and actions of the National Board of Trustees are carried out. The National President shall execute all contracts into which the Order may enter.

Section 3. The National President shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the National Board of Trustees, a majority of each committee and name the chairman thereof to inquire into any matter affecting or concerning the Order. The National President shall serve as an *ex-officio* member of all committees of the Order.

Section 4. When the National President deems it necessary, or upon petition of a majority of the Board of Trustees, or upon receipt of notice from the National Secretary, that probable cause has been found by the National

Board of Trustees to proceed with an inquiry in respect to charges against a national officer, the National President shall call a special meeting of the National Board of Trustees.

Section 5. The National President shall, together with the National Treasurer, attest to all warrants and vouchers for disbursements from any fund of the National Fraternal Order of Police, provided, however, that the National Secretary and National Treasurer alone shall attest to all warrants and vouchers for the disbursement of funds relating solely to the administrative responsibilities of the National Secretary.

Section 6. The National President shall receive such salary and benefits as shall be determined from time to time by the delegates to the Biennial Conference as set forth in the By-Laws.

Section 7. Within thirty (30) days after the expiration of the National President's term of office, the National President shall convey to their successor all unfinished business and books and records and physical property belonging to the Order.

Section 8. The National President shall select a national password each year.

ARTICLE 10
Immediate Past National President

Section 1. There shall be an office of Immediate Past National President, which office shall be held by the living person who most recently held the office of National President, who completed one (1) full term, and who was not removed from office. The Immediate Past National President shall advise and assist the National President and the National Board of Trustees in the performance of their duties and shall undertake such assignments as may be delegated thereby. The Immediate Past National President shall serve as a member of the National Board of Trustees.

Section 2. All Past National Presidents shall remain life members of the National Board of Trustees with all rights and privileges of voice and vote.

ARTICLE 11
National Vice President

Section 1. The National Vice President shall, in the absence of the National President, preside at the Biennial Conference and meetings of the National Board of Trustees and shall otherwise generally perform the duties of the National President during their absence. The National Vice President shall succeed to the office of the National President in the event of the death, resignation, or other vacation of such office during an unexpired term thereof. The National Vice President shall, with the advice and consent of the National Board of Trustees, appoint a minority of all committees of the Order. The National Vice President shall perform such other duties as shall be ordered by the National President.

Section 2. The National Vice President shall receive such salary and benefits as shall be determined from time to time by the delegates to the Biennial Conference as set forth in the By-Laws. *(Amended 8/01)*

Section 3. Within thirty (30) days after the expiration of their term of office, the National Vice President shall convey to their successor all unfinished business and books and records and physical property belonging to the Order.

ARTICLE 12
National Secretary

Section 1. The National Secretary shall have custody of the books, records, documents, Seal, office, and equipment of the National Fraternal Order of Police under the general authority and orders of the National President and the National Board of Trustees.

Section 2. The National Secretary shall make a record and transcribe minutes of the Biennial Conference and each meeting of the National Board of Trustees and shall submit same (except in respect to the Pre-Conference Board meeting) for approval or rejection at the next Biennial Conference or National Board of Trustees meeting.

Section 3. The National Secretary shall conduct the general correspondence of the National Fraternal Order of

Police.

Section 4. The National Secretary shall furnish a bond for the faithful performance of the duties performed by their office in such form and amount as approved by the National Board of Trustees to be paid for by the National Fraternal Order of Police.

Section 5. All revenues of the National Fraternal Order of Police shall be delivered to the National Secretary, who shall record the same and then forward deposit records of said monies to the National Treasurer for recording in the proper accounts of the Order. *(Amended 8/15)*

Section 6. The National Secretary shall, together with the National Treasurer, attest to all warrants and vouchers in respect to the disbursement of funds relating to the administration of the office of the National Secretary.

Section 7. The National Secretary shall attest, under the Seal of the Order, to all duly authorized contracts of the Order.

Section 8. The National Secretary shall be the official custodian of this Constitution and the By-Laws of the Order and amendments thereto, each of which shall be authenticated by the Seal of the Order and the signatures of the National President and the National Secretary.

A. The National Secretary shall maintain a book of amendments to this Constitution and a like volume in respect to amendments to the By-Laws.

B. The National Secretary shall be responsible for preparation of amendments to this Constitution and the By-Laws prior to presentation thereof to the Biennial Conference and shall ensure that each said amendment conforms to the document it seeks to amend in respect to form, placement, and syntax.

C. The National Secretary shall be responsible for the publication of this Constitution and the By-Laws of the Order, as amended, and shall include therein notations or history denoting the date of each amendment and the content thereof.

Section 9. The National Secretary shall be responsible for the purchase, inventory, and sale of all merchandise of the National Fraternal Order of Police.

Section 10. The National Secretary shall police the use of the name, insignia or emblem and mark, trademark, or service mark of the Fraternal Order of Police in order to protect the same.

Section 11. The National Secretary shall maintain the official list of membership of the Order and shall not release the same unless specifically authorized or directed to do so by the National Board of Trustees. Such direction or authorization shall be entered in the minutes of the meeting wherein such authorization is granted and notice thereof shall be given to the members by publication of same in the official publication of the Order.

Section 12. The National Secretary shall distribute to each member of the National Board of Trustees notice of special meetings thereof not less than ten (10) days prior to such meeting. *(Amended 8/21)*

Section 13. The National Secretary shall receive such salary and benefits as shall be determined from time to time by the delegates to the Biennial Conference as set forth in the By-Laws.

Section 14. Within thirty (30) days after the expiration of their term of office, the National Secretary shall deliver to their successor the Seal of the Order and the books, records, documents, equipment, merchandise, and all other property of the Order in their possession and shall require and receive a receipt therefor.

ARTICLE 13
National Treasurer

Section 1. The National Treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of the National Fraternal Order of Police. They shall furnish a bond in an amount and form approved by the National Board of Trustees which shall be paid for by the National Fraternal Order of Police.

Section 2. The National Treasurer shall, together with the National President, attest to all warrants and

vouchers for disbursement from any fund of the National Fraternal Order of Police which do not relate to the administrative responsibility of the Secretary and shall, together with the National Secretary, attest to all warrants and vouchers for the disbursement of funds relating to the administrative responsibilities of the National Secretary.

Section 3. The National Treasurer shall keep an itemized accounting of all receipts and disbursements and may engage certified public accountants to assist them therewith.

Section 4. The National Treasurer shall record deposit records of the funds of the Order in a financial institution approved by the National Board of Trustees in such instruments of deposit as shall ensure their safety and shall retain in their office, for the purpose of paying emergency current expenses, a contingency fund established by the By-Laws. *(Amended 8/15)*

Section 5. The National Treasurer shall establish such special accounts as shall become necessary and allocate to each the amounts collected or appropriated therefor.

Section 6. The National Treasurer shall make monthly reports to the National Board of Trustees of the financial condition of the National Fraternal Order of Police.

Section 7. The National Treasurer shall perform such other duties as are usual and incident to the office of the Treasurer or as shall be delegated by the National President or National Board of Trustees.

Section 8. The National Treasurer shall receive such salary and benefits as shall be determined from time to time by the delegates to the Biennial Conference as set forth in the By-Laws.

Section 9. Within thirty (30) days after the expiration of their term of office, the National Treasurer shall deliver to their successor all monies, record books, books of accounts, documents, records, paraphernalia, and equipment in their possession and shall require and receive a receipt therefor.

ARTICLE 14
National Second Vice President

Section 1. The National Second Vice President shall examine dues cards of officers, delegates and other members at Biennial Conferences and meetings and determine that all are in good standing and shall take up the password and report to the National President. They shall perform such other duties as the National President may require.

Section 2. The National Second Vice President shall receive such salary and benefits as shall be determined from time to time by the delegates to the Biennial Conference as set forth in the By-Laws. *(Amended 8/01)*

ARTICLE 15
National Sergeant at Arms

Section 1. The National Sergeant at Arms shall have charge and control of the Biennial Conference Hall or meeting place. They shall permit only qualified persons to enter or remain. They shall assist the National Second Vice President in the execution of such duties as the National President may order.

Section 2. The National Sergeant at Arms shall receive such salary and benefits as shall be determined from time to time by the delegates to the Biennial Conference as set forth in the By-Laws. *(Amended 8/01)*

ARTICLE 16
National Trustee

Section 1. Each state lodge shall be entitled to elect one National Trustee in the manner provided herein. Such National Trustee shall represent the National Fraternal Order of Police in the state by which they are elected and shall serve as that state's representative upon the National Board of Trustees.

Section 2. The National Trustee shall attend meetings of the National Board of Trustees and shall have voice and vote. The National Trustee shall serve upon the committees to which they may be appointed by the National

President or the National Vice President.

Section 3. There shall be a Chairman of the National Trustees who shall be elected by and from a majority of the National Trustees at the Post Conference Board meeting, by a voice vote, show of hands or by secret ballot, as they shall determine, and who shall discharge those responsibilities set forth in this Constitution.

Section 4. The Chairman of the Trustees shall receive such salary and benefits as shall be determined from time to time by the delegates to the Biennial Conferences as set forth in the By-Laws. *(Amended 8/01)*

Section 5. Each National Trustee will be elected at either the National Biennial Conference or the state conference. Voting delegates at either conference for the office of National Trustee will be according to the Constitution Article 17: Entitlement.

A. States choosing to have the election at a state conference must have an appropriate article in their state constitution. Any National Trustee elected at a State Conference will be installed to the office at the first scheduled meeting of the National Board of Trustees following the State Conference, all National Trustees elected at the National Biennial Conference will take office at the installation of officers at the close of the National Biennial Conference. *(8/09)*

Section 6. When a National Trustee is unable to attend any meeting or function called by the National President, the president of the state lodge which the National Trustee represents shall be permitted to attend the meeting or function in the place of the National Trustee. If neither the National Trustee nor the state president is able to attend the meeting or function, the State President shall, in their discretion, appoint a member to attend in their place from within the State Executive Board of the state lodge. The state officer attending in lieu of the National Trustee shall have voice and vote for that meeting or function only and shall be reimbursed in the same manner as would be the National Trustee.

Section 7. The National Trustees shall have and exercise the powers as prescribed by Article 16 of the By-Laws.

ARTICLE 17
Delegates

Section 1. State and subordinate lodges shall have delegates, each of which, in order to serve and while so serving, must be in good standing in and with the respective lodge they represent and must have maintained such good standing at the time of their nomination for and election to the said office of delegate. Only a duly elected delegate or officer of the National Fraternal Order of Police shall have voice or vote or be eligible to hold office in the National Fraternal Order of Police subject to Article 6, Section 2 of this Constitution. Such delegates shall be in such number and shall be elected as provided in this Constitution.

Section 2. Entitlement. Every state and subordinate lodge shall be entitled to one or more delegates to the Biennial Conference as set forth herein.

A. The Board of Trustees or the Executive Board of each state lodge shall be entitled to three (3) delegates to the National Biennial Conference, each of whom shall be chosen from among the membership of such Board of Trustees or State Executive Board, as shall be determined by the Constitution of the respective state.

B. Each subordinate lodge of a state lodge and each subordinate lodge in states having no state lodge shall be entitled to one (1) delegate for each fifty (50) active members or major portion thereof, provided, however, that every lodge shall be entitled to not less than one (1) delegate. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the number of delegates to the Biennial Conference to which each subordinate lodge shall be entitled shall be determined by reference to the number of active members on the first of April for whom all indebtedness then owing has been fully paid or postmarked to the National Fraternal Order of Police by the first day of July of the year in which the Biennial Conference is held. New Lodges forming after April 1st and before July 1st shall be entitled to delegates in number as stated above. Number of credentials issued to new lodge will be based on the total member count on date of charter. *(Amended 8/15)*

C. Under extenuating circumstances local lodges that are denied National Conference credentials can appeal, in writing, to the National Secretary, who will forward the appeal and recommendation to the Executive Board for a decision. The local lodge can appeal the decision of the Executive Board to the Board of Trustees at the Pre-Conference Board Meeting. The local lodge can appeal the Board of Trustees' decision to the floor of the National Conference in question. The decision of the delegates will be final. *(Added 8/11)*

Section 3. Nomination and Election

A. Nominations and elections of delegates to the Biennial Conference shall be held not later than June 30th. Qualified candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

B. Delegates to the Biennial Conference shall be elected in the manner and method and subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the By-Laws, and the Ritual.

C. A subordinate lodge may designate members of their elected Board as delegates to the Biennial Conference, by virtue of election to their respective office, however the number of delegates a subordinate lodge is entitled is defined in Article 17, section 2 of this Constitution. (Amended 8/2023)

Section 4. Term. The term of office of each delegate and alternate delegate shall commence with the assembling of the Biennial Conference and terminate upon the election and qualification of each successor.

Section 5. Credentials. The National Secretary shall prescribe such rules, forms and/or procedures as are necessary to enable verifiable credentials to be issued to all delegates. Each delegate shall have available for inspection a verifiable image of their Biennial Conference credential, and government issued photo identification, at all times while within or when seeking admission to the Biennial Conference Hall. *(Amended 8/23)*

Section 6. No Delegate or Alternate representing any state or subordinate lodge which is delinquent in the payment of per capita taxes, delinquency fees, assessments, or any other indebtedness due and payable to the National Fraternal Order of Police or any state lodge, shall be permitted to, or seated in, the Biennial Conference or National Board meeting.

ARTICLE 18
General Counsel

Section 1. There shall be a General Counsel and, when necessary, Associate Counsel, designated by the National President. The General Counsel and such Associate Counsel shall serve as legal representatives to the National Fraternal Order of Police in all legal matters.

ARTICLE 19
State and Subordinate Lodges

Section 1. The National Board of Trustees of the National Fraternal Order of Police shall charter each state lodge and any subordinate lodge in a state having no state lodge.

Section 2. For purposes of this Constitution, the District of Columbia shall be considered a state and the Jerrard F. Young Lodge 1 shall be recognized and may function as both a state and subordinate lodge and is entitled to elect a National Trustee to represent its interests on the National Board of Trustees in such manner as is provided in Article 16.

A. For the purpose of this Constitution, the National Secretary, with the approval of the National Board of Trustees, shall grant a charter within a sparsely populated state to a state-wide Lodge where the membership shall be open to all law enforcement officers in that state. Such state-wide lodge shall be recognized as and may function both as a state and subordinate lodge and is entitled to elect a National Trustee to represent its interests on the National Board of Trustees in such manner as is provided in Article 16.

B. The status of the charter of the state-wide lodge shall be reviewed by the National Board of Trustees at each Biennial Post-Conference Board meeting. The charter may be withdrawn if expansion efforts are being hindered by its existence or the current members vote to separate into individual lodges.

Section 3. Those federal lodges located outside the District of Columbia and created after August 26, 1983, shall function under the jurisdiction of the state lodge of the state in which they are located. The determination as to whether a federal lodge located outside the District of Columbia shall be chartered shall be made by the affected state lodge.

Section 4. A subordinate lodge shall consist of not less than ten (10) members. A state lodge shall consist of not less than three (3) subordinate lodges.

Section 5. Officers

A. Every state and subordinate lodge shall provide for the establishment of officers similar in kind, title and duties as set forth herein which officers shall constitute the Board of Trustees or the Executive Board, and for such other officers as may be required by applicable law and shall prescribe the time, method, and manner of election of such officers.

B. Each state and subordinate lodge shall provide for the filling of vacancies among its officers occasioned by death, resignation or otherwise.

C. No member shall be nominated, or be a candidate, for more than one office at the same election. No officer-elect shall be a candidate for any other office.

D. In order to be eligible for election to any office, including delegate to the National Biennial Conference, a member shall be and remain in good standing and shall meet all other requirements of the Constitution and By-Laws of the lodge of which they seek to be an officer, provided said Constitution and By-Laws have been approved by the state or National Fraternal Order of Police, whichever is applicable. Any member not so qualified shall be ineligible for election to any office.

Section 6. Constitutions

A. Each state and subordinate lodge shall adopt a Constitution and such By-Laws as it deems necessary for the governance thereof, provided, however, that such Constitution shall not be in conflict herewith.

B. Each state lodge and each subordinate lodge in those states where there is no state lodge shall submit for approval to the National Fraternal Order of Police an electronic copy of its Constitution and, if any, its By-Laws, and each and every revision thereto. The National Board of Trustees shall, prior to approval thereof, determine that such Constitution and By-Laws, if any, and any revisions thereto are not in conflict herewith. *(Amended 8/21)*

C. Each subordinate lodge in those states where there is a state lodge shall submit for approval two (2) copies of its Constitution and By-Laws, or an electronic copy, if any, and any revisions thereto to its respective state lodge and said state lodge shall, prior to approval thereof, determine that said Constitution and By-Laws, if any, are not in conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of that state lodge or the National Fraternal Order of Police. *(Amended 8/25)*

D. In the event a subordinate lodge submits a Constitution or By-Laws, or amendments or revisions thereto, to a state lodge for approval and approval is denied in whole or in part, the subordinate lodge or the proponents of the disapproved proposal shall have the right to appeal such ruling to the National Board of Trustees. Such appeal shall be entered by providing written notice thereof not less than sixty (60) days prior to the next meeting of the National Board of Trustees to the National Secretary and the secretary of the state lodge from whose ruling such appeal is taken. Such notice shall include a copy of the proposed Constitution or revision thereto, the state Constitution, the written ruling, if any, denying approval of said Constitution or revision thereto and a statement of the basis upon which appeal is taken. The state lodge from who's ruling the appeal is taken shall provide to the National Secretary, not less than thirty (30) days prior to the next meeting of the National Board of Trustees, a written statement setting forth the basis for its denial of approval. The National Board of Trustees may permit representatives of the parties to the appeal to address the National Board or may decide the matter solely upon the written submissions thereof, at its sole discretion. *(Amended 8/97)*

E. The decision of the National Board of Trustees may be appealed to the Biennial Conference by either party by serving notice upon the National Secretary and the secretary of the opposing party. Such notice of appeal to the Biennial Conference and associated written materials shall be forwarded to the National President who shall deliver them to a committee of the Conference which shall consider the matter and report thereon to the Conference prior to a vote by the delegates. By their acceptance of the charter of the National Fraternal Order of Police, each subordinate and state lodge specifically acknowledge and agrees that the decision of the Conference shall be final.

F. Any amendments that have been adopted by the delegates at the National Biennial Conference which apply to each state and subordinate lodges and their membership thereof, shall automatically become part of the state and subordinate lodge's Constitution and/or By-laws, and are not subject to the provisions requiring notice and adoption as it pertains to proposed amendments. State and local lodges failing to make the necessary adjustments to

their Constitution and / or By-Laws will default to the National Constitution and By-Laws. All state and subordinate lodges will be notified of any such changes from the National Secretary's Office. *(Amended 8/25)*

Section 7. New Lodges

A. Each subordinate lodge hereafter established in a state having no state lodge shall pay to the National Fraternal Order of Police an initiation fee established by the National Board of Trustees. In states where there is a state lodge, the initiation fee shall be determined by and paid to the state lodge.

B. Each lodge hereafter established and installed shall be entitled to receive, at cost, such necessary supplies, equipment, and other paraphernalia as may be prescribed by the National Board of Trustees.

C. No more than one lodge shall be established and maintained in any city, town, or other political subdivision. Upon application by a state lodge, the National President may grant an exception for good cause shown, mandated by applicable law. This Section shall not prohibit the establishment or maintenance of any subordinate lodge whose jurisdiction may overlap that of another subordinate lodge.

D. In the event of a dispute between two or more lodges in respect to questions of membership in such lodges or as to the territorial jurisdiction thereof, such dispute(s) shall be resolved by the state lodge, if any, or, in the absence thereof, by the National Board of Trustees, subject to a final appeal to the Biennial Conference.

E. Upon chartering, lodges shall pay a pro-rated amount of per capita based on the month chartered. To determine the amount to be paid per member, per capita will be determined by dividing the half year per capita amount by six. That amount will be multiplied by the number of months remaining in the one-half year per capita cycle. *(Amended 8/13)*

F. Each State and subordinate lodge shall provide to the National Secretary an active email address which shall be used for official communications. The National Fraternal Order of Police shall issue an email address to lodges upon request. *(Amended 8/21)*

Section 8. A subordinate lodge shall not solicit funds or anything of value for any reason whatsoever in the territory of another subordinate lodge without the written permission of the subordinate lodge in whose territory the solicitation is to be made. Said written permission shall be signed by the president and secretary of the subordinate lodge granting permission and shall certify that permission was given by the subordinate lodge at a regular meeting, or a special meeting called for that specific purpose.

Section 9. Notwithstanding with state Lodge directives regarding political endorsements, no lodge domiciled in one state, can make an endorsement for a candidate for political office or referendum in another state without written approval by their state lodge and the state lodge of which the endorsement occurs. (Amended 8/2023)

Section 10. Receivership

A. The president of any state or subordinate lodge that shall become insolvent shall provide written notice thereof to the National President. In such event, the National Fraternal Order of Police may, but shall not be required to, assume control of such insolvent state or subordinate lodge for a period of six (6) months, during which period the insolvent lodge shall be operated under the supervision of the National President or their designee. Extensions in increments of six (6) months may be granted at the request of the state or subordinate lodge president and with the approval of the National President.

B. Upon written request therefor made by two-thirds (2/3) of the governing board of a state or subordinate lodge to the National President, the National Fraternal Order of Police may, but shall not be required to, assume control of such lodge. In such case, the lodge shall be operated for a period not to exceed six (6) months under the supervision of the National President or their designee.

C. In the event the National Fraternal Order of Police becomes aware of malfeasance and/or misfeasance in the operation of a State or Subordinate lodge, which is not being appropriately addressed, the National Secretary shall make notification to the National President, the Chairman of Trustees, and the National Executive Board. The National President shall authorize the General Counsel, along with an assigned committee, the duty of investigating this malfeasance and/or misfeasance and the General Counsel may freeze the assets and records in order to preserve

evidence and protect membership property from loss, with a majority vote of the Board of Trustees. This action shall not extend more than 1 year or until the Lodge function can be made whole. If more time is needed the National Board of Trustees may extend this time limit by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. *(Amended 8/21)*

1. Any discipline imposed by either the State Lodge or National Lodge will be in accordance with Article 23 of the National Lodge Constitution.

Section 11. Any lodge that is suspended or delinquent as defined in Article 3, Section 1(D), hereof, may be reinstated and restored to good standing by payment of all amounts due, including all delinquency fees.

Section 12. Any Lodge that surrenders its charter voluntarily or is in arrears for payment of dues or assessments more than 89 days, shall immediately surrender all books, records, and assets to the appropriate chartering lodge. In the case of a subordinate lodge, to the state lodge that issued their charter and in the case of a state lodge or a subordinate lodge chartered by the National Lodge, to the National Board of Trustees in accordance with the applicable state law of the charting lodge. *(Amended 8/25)*

ARTICLE 20
Associate Lodges

Section 1. The National Fraternal Order of Police recognizes, acknowledges, and validates Associate Lodges of the National Fraternal Order of Police, state lodges and subordinate lodges. Such Associate Lodges shall be known as National Fraternal Order of Police Associates and may function as National Fraternal Order of Police Associates, State Lodge Associates and Subordinate Lodge Associates. Such Associate lodges shall be subject to the control and supervision of the lodge or lodges with which they are affiliated.

Section 2. Associate membership is a privilege. Associate membership may be permitted, denied, or revoked at the pleasure of the governing body of the lodge with which an Associate Lodge is directly affiliated.

Section 3. Associate lodges shall conform to and be governed by a Constitution and such By-Laws as they shall adopt and which shall, at all times, be consistent with this Constitution and subject to approval of the governing body of the lodge with which they are affiliated and, ultimately, the National Fraternal Order of Police.

ARTICLE 21
Auxiliaries

Section 1. The National Fraternal Order of Police recognizes, acknowledges, and validates Auxiliaries of the National Fraternal Order of Police, state lodges and subordinate lodges. Such Auxiliaries may function as National Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary, State Lodge Auxiliaries and Subordinate Lodge Auxiliaries. Such Auxiliaries shall be subject to the control and supervision of the lodge or lodges with which they are affiliated. They shall conform to and be governed by a Constitution and such By-Laws as they shall adopt and which shall, at all times, be subject to approval of the governing body of the lodge with which they are affiliated and, ultimately, the National Fraternal Order of Police and may not be in conflict with the National Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary Constitution and By-laws. Each State and Subordinate Auxiliary shall be chartered by the Board of Trustees of the National Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary. *(Amended 8/25)*

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ARTICLE 22
International Affiliate Lodges and Membership

Section 1. The National Fraternal Order of Police recognizes, acknowledges, and validates international affiliate lodges of the National Fraternal Order of Police. International affiliate lodges shall be formed under the direction of the National Secretary with the approval of the National Board of Trustees and shall conform to this Constitution and the National Fraternal Order of Police By-Laws and be subject to the control of the National Board of Trustees. They shall promulgate a Constitution and such By-Laws, as they deem appropriate, which shall not be inconsistent herewith. They shall report their activities to the National Secretary.

Section 2. International affiliate membership shall be comprised of those full-time law enforcement officers with arrest powers in their respective jurisdictions or political subdivisions thereof. Dues will be established by the National Secretary, subject to approval of the National Board of Trustees. International affiliate members shall receive an annual international affiliate membership card, a subscription to the official publication of the Order, the right to purchase National Fraternal Order of Police merchandise, access to local and state lodge facilities, access to state conferences and access to the Biennial Conference. They shall have no voting rights outside their respective international affiliate lodges.

Section 3. A member of an international affiliate lodge shall not be eligible to hold office in the National Fraternal Order of Police, state lodge or subordinate lodge.

ARTICLE 23
Discipline

Section 1. This Article shall govern discipline of officers and members of subordinate lodges, state lodges and the National Fraternal Order of Police and shall be interpreted in such manner as to afford equity and fairness to all affected thereby.

Section 2. Discipline shall be initiated by the National Fraternal Order of Police and imposed upon an individual member, a subordinate or a state lodge or a national officer only in extraordinary circumstances where the member, lodge or national officer has acted or failed to act in respect to a matter of direct and significant import to the National Fraternal Order of Police or has violated this Constitution, the By-Laws, or the Ritual of the Order.

Section 3. Individual Members

A. Except as otherwise provided herein, individual members shall only be disciplined by the subordinate or state lodge of which they are members or by the National Fraternal Order of Police in the absence of a state lodge, and each subordinate and state lodge shall develop and promulgate rules that provide for the fair and appropriate discipline of its members and are not inconsistent with this Constitution.

B. In the case of discipline imposed upon an individual member involving suspension, expulsion, or removal from office by a subordinate lodge, an appeal may be taken by the member to the state lodge and an appeal may be taken from the decision of the state lodge by the non-prevailing party to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, to the Biennial Conference.

1. An appeal to the state lodge may be brought by the filing of a written notice of appeal with the state president not more than thirty (30) days after the member's receipt of official notification of the member's suspension, expulsion, or removal from office. Unless continued or delayed for good cause, such appeal shall be heard by the state lodge at the next board meeting following the state lodge president's receipt of such notice of appeal and, unless waived in writing by both the appealing member and responding lodge, a written decision shall be rendered by the board within ten (10) days after such meeting. Both the appealing member and the lodge from whose action the appeal is brought shall have the right to a hearing at which both parties may be heard and may present witnesses and documents. Such hearing shall be conducted in conformity with Article 23 of the By-Laws. The parties to the appeal shall receive notice of the date of the hearing by certified mail not less than ten (10) days before such hearing. *(Amended 8/25)*

2. The state lodge may sustain, modify, or reverse the disciplinary action against the member.

3. In states having no state lodge, an appeal may be brought directly to the National Board of Trustees in the same manner as is prescribed for appeal to the state lodge officers.

C. In any case of discipline involving suspension, expulsion, or removal from office of an individual member initiated by a state lodge, or upon the decision of the state lodge in respect to an appeal from the action of a subordinate lodge, an appeal may be taken to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, to the Biennial Conference.

D. A party seeking to appeal from the decision of the state lodge shall give notice of appeal to the National Board of Trustees by submitting by certified mail within thirty (30) days of the party's receipt of notice thereof, a written submission consisting of the decision from which the appeal is taken and such other written materials as the appellant

deems relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. The appellant shall serve one (1) copy (written or electronically) of the notice of appeal (including all written submissions) upon the opposing party (which shall be the state or subordinate lodge secretary where such opposing party is a lodge). Where the appealing party is a subordinate lodge, it shall submit one (1) copy electronically thereof upon the National Secretary not less than sixty (60) days prior to the National Board of Trustees meeting at which the appellant seeks to have their appeal heard. The party opposing the appeal shall, within thirty (30) days of their receipt of the notice of appeal, submit a responsive written submission (electronically) to the National Secretary and the opposing party, which responsive submission shall contain such materials as it deems appropriate and relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. In cases in which the responding party is a state or subordinate lodge, such lodge shall submit one (1) copy electronically of its responsive submission to the National Secretary. In cases in which the party opposing the appeal is an individual member, they shall submit one (1) copy electronically of their responsive submission to the National Secretary. *(Amended 8/25)*

E. Except in the case of discipline initiated thereby, the National Board of Trustees shall review appeals of disciplinary matters solely to ensure that the parties were afforded due process and that the decision was consistent with this Constitution, the By-Laws, and Ritual of the National Fraternal Order of Police.

1. Those appeals received by the National Secretary after the Biennial Conference but before the next National Board of Trustees meeting shall be considered by the National Board of Trustees. The National President may appoint a special committee which shall meet, gather, and review facts and arguments of the parties, consult with all interested parties in attendance and make a full report, including its recommendation, to the Board prior to its adjournment.

2. Following the report of the special committee, interested parties, if any, may appear before the entire Board which shall decide the matter by majority vote.

F. An appeal to the Biennial Conference may be taken by either party from the decision of the National Board of Trustees respecting any appeal of disciplinary action imposed upon an individual member by a subordinate lodge, a state lodge or discipline imposed by the National Board of Trustees.

A party seeking to appeal a decision of the National Board of Trustees to the Biennial Conference shall serve notice thereof upon the National Secretary and the opposing party by certified mail within 30 days of the rendered decision of the National Board of Trustees. Such notice of appeal shall consist of a concise statement describing the act or failure to act upon which the appeal is based, the basis for such appeal, the decision appealed from, and those written materials electronically the appellant deems appropriate and relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. The opposing party may respond in writing electronically to such notice of appeal with such materials as it deems necessary and shall submit a copy of such response to the National Secretary and the appealing party. Said notice of appeal and any responsive submissions shall be forwarded by the National Secretary to the National President who shall deliver said materials to a committee of the Conference which shall consider the matter and report thereon to the Conference prior to a vote thereon by the delegates. By their taking of the oath or their acceptance of the charter of the National Fraternal Order of Police, each member and each lodge specifically acknowledges and agrees that the decision of the Conference shall be final. *(Amended 8/25)*

G. Discipline may be initiated by the National Fraternal Order of Police and imposed upon an individual member only in extraordinary circumstances, in which case such member shall be afforded a hearing of which they will be given notice, at which they will be permitted to present witnesses and documents, and in which process they shall be afforded the same protections set forth in respect to discipline imposed by a local lodge.

Section 4. Subordinate and State Lodges

A. Except as otherwise provided herein, a subordinate lodge shall only be disciplined by the state lodge of which it is a member. A state lodge shall only be disciplined by the National Fraternal Order of Police. Such discipline may be imposed only upon a showing of good and sufficient cause after a fair hearing by the state lodge's governing body (in respect to subordinate lodges) or the National Board of Trustees (in respect to state lodges) and may include suspension or revocation of a lodge's charter. Such hearing shall be conducted in conformity with Article 23 of the By-Laws.

B. A subordinate lodge may appeal from the imposition of discipline by its respective state lodge to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, the Biennial Conference.

1. Such appeal shall be commenced by serving upon the National Secretary and the secretary of the state lodge from whose action the appeal is brought, within thirty (30) days of notice of the action appealed from and by certified mail, a notice of appeal. Such notice of appeal shall consist of the decision or ruling appealed from and all relevant written materials (electronically) believed by the subordinate lodge to be necessary for a fair consideration of the matter by the National Board of Trustees. One (1) copy electronically of said notice of appeal shall be served upon the National Secretary for distribution to the members of the National Board. *(Amended 8/25)*

2. Not more than thirty (30) days after receipt of the subordinate lodge's notice of appeal, the state secretary shall serve one (1) copy electronically upon the National Secretary and one (1) copy electronically upon the opposing party, of its statement of position and/or response to the appeal of the subordinate lodge which submission shall, in any case, include a copy of the minutes reflecting the action from which the appeal is taken and such other materials as the state lodge deems appropriate. *(Amended 8/25)*

3. Those appeals received by the National Secretary after the Biennial Conference shall be considered by the National Board of Trustees at its next meeting. The National President may appoint a special committee which shall meet, gather, and review facts and arguments of the parties, consult with all interested parties in attendance and make a full report, including its recommendation, to the Board prior to its adjournment.

4. Following the report of the special committee, interested parties may appear before the entire Board which shall consider the matter and render its decision, provided, however, that a charter of a state or subordinate lodge shall not be revoked or suspended except upon a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the National Board of Trustees. The decision of the National Board of Trustees shall be final unless, by a majority vote of those members of the Board present, further investigation is deemed necessary, in which event the National President shall direct the special committee to investigate the matter further and make a final report at the next Biennial Conference or upon the appeal of the non-prevailing party to the Biennial Conference. By their acceptance of the charter of the National Fraternal Order of Police, each lodge specifically acknowledges and agrees that the decision of the Conference shall be final.

5. Except in the case of discipline initiated thereby, the National Board of Trustees shall review appeals of disciplinary matters solely to ensure that the parties thereto were afforded due process and that the decision appealed from was consistent with this Constitution and the By-Laws and Ritual.

C. In the event that the charter of a state lodge or a subordinate lodge in a state that has no state lodge is suspended, the National Board of Trustees is authorized and empowered to take such steps as are necessary to take possession, control and custody of all books, records, and assets and to provide for the supervision, government, and administration of such lodge.

D. Upon final resolution of the matter, the National Board of Trustees shall either return all properties previously impounded to said lodge, or, if said matter results in the revocation or cancellation of the charter of said lodge, dispose of the books, records, and assets of said lodge in accordance with both the law of the state wherein said lodge is located and the Constitution of that state lodge, provided, however, that should the charter of a state lodge be canceled or revoked, disposition of the books, records and assets of said lodge shall be in accordance with state law and the direction of the National Board of Trustees.

Section 5. National Fraternal Order of Police National Officers

A. National officers shall be subject to discipline, including censure, reprimand, removal from office or expulsion from the Order only upon proof of good cause.

B. Allegation(s) of misconduct against a national officer in respect to their duties as a national officer shall only be brought by a member of the National Board of Trustees. Said allegation(s) shall be in writing and notice thereof shall be served upon the national officer against whom the allegation(s) are made and the National Secretary, provided, however, that if such allegation(s) are made against the National Secretary, said allegation(s) shall be served upon the National President. Said allegation(s) shall specifically describe the nature of the alleged misconduct in sufficient detail for a determination by the National Board of Trustees as to whether there exists good cause to proceed with the inquiry.

C. Upon service of the allegation(s) on the affected national officer and the National Secretary (or National President, as the case may be), copies of the allegation(s) shall be distributed to each member of the National Board of Trustees. The national officer against whom the allegation(s) are made shall, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the allegation(s), prepare a response thereto and serve said response upon the National Secretary (or National President, as the case may be), which response shall be distributed to each member of the National Board of Trustees. The National Secretary or National President, in the event that the allegation(s) pertain to the National Secretary, shall forward to each National Trustee an anonymous ballot upon which each National Trustee shall indicate, after reviewing the allegation(s) and the response thereto, whether they believe that there exists good cause to proceed with the inquiry. Said ballots shall be returned to the national officer from whom they are received and shall be counted, and the results thereof certified to the Chairman of the National Trustees (unless they are the national officer against whom the allegations are made, in which case the results shall be certified to the National President). The ballots shall be retained until the resolution of the matter.

D. Upon receipt by the Chairman of the National Trustees (or the National President, as the case may be) of the certified results of the ballot, said national officer shall determine whether good cause to proceed further with the inquiry was found by the National Board of Trustees. A majority vote of all of the members of the National Board of Trustees shall be necessary for a finding of good cause to proceed further with the inquiry. The Chairman of the National Trustees shall either (i) immediately cause the National Secretary to (or shall themself) distribute to each member of the National Board of Trustees notice that good cause was not found to proceed with an inquiry, or (ii) certify to the National President (or to the National Vice President in the event that the allegations are made against the National President) that good cause has been found to proceed with further inquiry. The National President (or National Vice President) shall declare an emergency, call a meeting of the National Board of Trustees, and ensure that notice thereof is given in accordance with Article 8 of this Constitution within forty-five (45) days of said notice.

E. The emergency meeting of the National Board of Trustees shall be held for the purpose of resolving the charges against the national officer and there shall occur a disciplinary hearing thereon before the National Board of Trustees at which the charged national officer shall be entitled to counsel and shall be afforded due process to the same extent afforded members and lodges herein. The Chairman of the National Trustees (or the National President if the charges have been brought against the Chairman) shall preside over such disciplinary hearing and shall resolve all questions of procedure and evidence.

F. No disciplinary action shall be taken upon a national officer except upon three-fourths (3/4) vote of the National Board of Trustees entitled to vote.

G. A national officer against whom discipline is imposed in accordance herewith shall be entitled to appeal the decision of the National Board of Trustees to the next Biennial Conference. By taking the oath of office, each national officer acknowledges and agrees that until and unless reversed by the Biennial Conference, however, the decision of the National Board of Trustees shall be final.

1. An appeal by a national officer shall be made by filing notice thereof with the National Secretary within thirty (30) days of the decision of the National Board of Trustees.

2. The national officer taking the appeal shall be permitted to address the Biennial Conference for such time as the Chair shall deem appropriate and the Chairman of the National Trustees (or the National President, as the case may be) shall be permitted an equal amount of time to respond thereto.

H. Any member of the National Board of Trustees who brings an allegation against another national officer which allegation is found to be brought frivolously or for personal gain shall, themself, be subject to discipline by the National Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE 24
Legal Aid

Upon such terms and in accordance with procedures established in Article 24 of the By-Laws, a member, subordinate lodge, or state lodge may request and be granted legal assistance or financial aid.

ARTICLE 25
Resolutions

Resolutions may be submitted for vote upon by the delegates of the Biennial Conference. Such proposed resolutions may be submitted at any time between or during the Biennial Conferences, provided, however, that each resolution shall be submitted not later than the recess of the next to last business session of the Biennial Conference. All proposed resolutions shall be in writing, shall state the basis for the resolution, and shall be submitted to the National Secretary who shall review same for grammar, clarity and meaning.

ARTICLE 26
Official Journal

Section 1. There shall be an official publication of the Order, the name of which shall be determined by the National Board of Trustees. The National Board of Trustees shall, through the National Secretary, manage, supervise, and control the official publication.

Section 2. All revenue derived from the operation of the official publication of the Order shall be forwarded to the National Secretary, who shall forward the deposit records to the National Treasurer for recording the credit of the general fund. *(Amended 8/15)*

Section 3. The outsourced National Fraternal Order of Police Journal is available to all National Fraternal Order of Police Active Members via mailed hardcopy and/or electronically. *(Amended 8/17)*

ARTICLE 27
Official Order of Business

The Order of Business shall be:

1. Reading call for Conference.
2. Roll call of officers.
3. Appointment of Committee on Credentials.
4. Report of Committee on Credentials.
5. Roll call of delegates.
6. Appointment of other Committees.
7. Reading of rough minutes of previous meeting.
8. Introduction of Resolutions.
9. Report of Board of Directors.
10. Report of Board of Trustees.
11. Reports of officers.
12. Bill and Communications.
13. Reports of Committees.
14. Unfinished Business.
15. New Business.
16. Nomination of officers and meeting of next succeeding Conference.
17. Good of the Order.
18. Election of officers and selection of next succeeding Conference.
19. Installation of officers.
20. Adjournment.

ARTICLE 28
Parliamentary Procedure

Except as provided in this Constitution and the By-Laws, the latest edition of "Roberts' Rules of Order" shall govern the conduct and deliberations of the Biennial Conference, meetings of the National Board of Trustees and committees of the Order.

ARTICLE 29
Official Ritual

Section 1. There shall be an official Ritual of the Order which shall be known as the National Fraternal Order of Police Ritual.

Section 2. Revisions to the National Fraternal Order of Police Ritual shall be made in the same manner as amendments to this Constitution.

ARTICLE 30
Constitutional Amendments

Section 1. Only a subordinate lodge, state lodge, or a majority of the National Board of Trustees may propose an amendment to this Constitution which proposed amendment shall be submitted for consideration and vote at an announced time certain by the Biennial Conference. No proposed amendment shall become a part of this Constitution except upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the registered Biennial Conference delegates who are present on the floor at the time of the vote. *(Amended 8/97)*

Section 2. A proposed amendment to this Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the National Secretary not less than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the Biennial Conference at which it is to be considered. Such proposed amendment shall be attested to by the secretary and shall bear the official seal of the lodge submitting same or of the National Secretary if proposed by the National Board of Trustees and shall state the date of the meeting at which it was agreed that the proposal would be submitted for consideration by the Biennial Conference. The National Secretary shall distribute such proposed amendment and any related materials to each member of the National Board of Trustees, each state and subordinate lodge secretary, and the Chairman of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee not less than sixty (60) days prior to the next Biennial Conference. *(Amended 8/21)*

Section 3. A proposed amendment shall contain the precise language of the proposed amendment, shall specifically set forth the language to be added, deleted and/or revised, and shall identify each and every Article and Section of this Constitution affected thereby. Proposed amendments shall not be set forth in resolution form but shall be accompanied by a statement, not to exceed one (1) page in length, setting forth the basis for the proposed amendment.

Section 4. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee shall receive proposed amendments to this Constitution and shall review same for form, grammar, placement within this Constitution and substance and shall report to the Biennial Conference its conclusions and recommendations thereon.

ARTICLE 31
Dues, Assessments and Administrative Fees

Section 1. Dues

A. Each Subordinate Lodge shall pay through their respective State Lodge and, where there is no State Lodge directly to the National Fraternal Order of Police, an annual per capita tax of eleven dollars and fifty cents ($11.50) beginning the first half of Per Capita for the year 2018, for each member thereof with $1.00 of that amount going to the NFOP Foundation. Then fourteen dollars and fifty cents ($14.50) beginning the first half of per capita for the year 2027 for each member thereof with $1.00 of that amount going to the NFOP Foundation. The annual per capita tax for the year 2030 shall be seventeen dollars and fifty cents ($17.50) for each member thereof with $1.00 of that amount going to the NFOP Foundation. (Amended 8/25)

B. Each state lodge, and, in states having no state lodge, each subordinate lodge, shall collect and transmit to the National Secretary per capita taxes and assessments as established herein together with all member roster changes electronically. *(Amended 8/25)*

C. The annual per capita tax shall be paid in either full year or half year installments. Supplemental per capita shall be paid on each new member joining between per capita cycles. *(Amended 8/15)*

1. The first installment shall be paid in respect to all members in good standing on October 1st of each year and shall become due and payable on November 1st of the same year. Said installment shall maintain a lodge's good standing for the six (6) month period commencing on January 1st of the following year.

2. The last half installment shall be paid in respect to members in good standing on April 1st of each year and shall become due and payable on May 1st of the same year. Said installment will maintain a lodge's good standing for the six (6) month period commencing on July 1st of the same year. *(Amended 8/15)*

D. Reinstatement of any lodge suspended by reason of failure to pay per capita shall be conditioned upon full payment of outstanding per capita and the yearly Administrative fee. *(Amended 8/17)*

Section 2. Assessments

In the event that the National Board of Trustees determines by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of its members that an emergency exists and only in accordance with the procedure set in the By-Laws, there may be assessed upon each subordinate lodge an assessment in such amount as is determined to be required by the National Board of Trustees. No assessment shall become effective except upon a vote of two thirds (2/3) of the subordinate lodges voting in accordance with the provisions of the By-Laws.

Section 3. Administrative Fees

A. Each subordinate lodge shall pay through their respective state lodge and where there is no state lodge, directly to the National Fraternal Order of Police, a lodge administrative fee in the amount of twenty-five dollars ($25.00).

B. The lodge administrative fee shall become due and payable on November 1st of each year. Local Lodges will not receive dues cards for active members until this fee is paid to the National Fraternal Order of Police. *(Amended 8/15)*

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1
Name and Insignia

Section 1. No member or state or local lodge shall use the name or insignia of the National Fraternal Order of Police except as authorized by the Constitution, the National Board of Trustees or set forth herein.

Section 2. The unauthorized use or the abuse of the name or insignia of the National Fraternal Order of Police or the infringement of a trademark thereof by a member, local lodge, or state lodge, shall be grounds for discipline, including suspension, expulsion, removal from office, or revocation of lodge charter.

Section 3. The National Secretary shall promulgate such rules as they deem necessary to protect, police, regulate and license the trademarks of the Order and to ensure that the name and insignia of the Order is used only for the purposes established by and in accordance with the authority granted by the National Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE 2
Character

Section 1. The National Fraternal Order of Police shall take cognizance of all matters of nation-wide and interstate scope and concern affecting the welfare and interests of law enforcement officers and their dependents. The National Board of Trustees or, in case of emergency, the National President, shall take such immediate action as shall be

necessary to safeguard their welfare or interests by providing aid and such other services as shall be required.

Section 2. In matters of purely intrastate scope and concern, the National Board of Trustees, or the National President, as the case may be, may provide such legal or technical advisory services as may be appropriate.

ARTICLE 3
[RESERVED]

ARTICLE 4
[RESERVED]

ARTICLE 5
Organization

Section 1. There shall be established such committees of the Order as the National Board of Trustees, or the National President shall prescribe.

Section 2. The National President and National Vice President shall appoint members to committees in accordance with the provisions of Article 9 and Article 11 of the Constitution.

Section 3. Legislative Committee

A. There shall be a five (5) member National Legislative Committee, three (3) members of which shall be appointed by the National President and two (2) members of which shall be appointed by the National Vice President. A Chairman shall be named by the National President and no more than one (1) member shall be appointed from any one (1) state.

B. Qualified lobbyist(s) may be employed by the National President, subject to the advice and consent of the National Board of Trustees. Remuneration of such lobbyist(s) shall be determined by the National Board of Trustees. The lobbyist(s) shall perform such duties as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the National Board of Trustees. Said lobbyist(s) shall report on the status of legislation to the National President and the Legislative Committee in such frequency as they shall prescribe. A report of the lobbyist(s) shall be published by the National Secretary in each issue of the official publication of the Order. The lobbyist(s) shall submit a written report of expenses and activities not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Biennial Conference and any meeting of the National Board of Trustees.

Section 4. Biennial Conference Site Review Committee

A. There shall be a Biennial Conference Site Review Committee appointed by the National President at the conclusion of each Biennial Conference. The National Secretary shall be an *ex officio* member of said committee.

B. States/Cities desiring to have the Biennial Conference site held in their location shall submit in writing to the National Secretary their intention no later than March 1 of the even year prior to the site selection. The committee shall review such proposed sites and shall report to the National Board of Trustees no later than the third required National Board Meeting. The National Board of Trustees may vote to remove a site from consideration should it fail to meet the established criteria and instruct the National Secretary to seek RFP's from other locations. *(Amended 8/25)*

Any site denied consideration by the National Board may appeal to the delegates of the conference. *(Amended 8/99)*

C. Said committee shall promulgate criteria by which each site shall be evaluated, which criteria shall include availability of appropriate number of hotel accommodations, meeting rooms, transportation facilities and such other criteria as the committee shall deem appropriate.

D. Said committee shall report its findings to the Biennial Conference prior to the vote of the delegates in respect to the site of the Biennial Conference.

Section 5. Election Committee

A. There shall be a standing Election Committee which shall be comprised of not less than seven (7)

members, appointed by the National President and National Vice President in accordance with the provisions of Article 9, Section 3 and Article 11, Section 1, respectively, of the Constitution, who shall distribute the ballots and canvass the votes.

B. The Election Committee shall adopt rules and regulations for conduct of elections subject to the approval of the Conference.

C. After the polls have been declared closed, the Election Committee shall count the votes, determine how many have been cast for each candidate and report the results to the National President and the Biennial Conference.

Section 6. Constitution and By-Laws Committee

A. There shall be a standing committee known as the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, the members and chairman of which shall be appointed by the National President and National Vice President in accordance with Article 9, Section 3 and Article 11, Section 1, respectively, of the Constitution.

B. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee shall receive and consider proposed amendments to this Constitution and By-Laws and shall report thereon to the Biennial Conference prior to its consideration thereof.

C. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee shall meet from time to time as deemed appropriate by the National President in order to consider amendments to this Constitution and By-Laws deemed necessary by the National Board of Trustees and shall, with the assistance of the General Counsel, advise the National President in respect to questions of constitutional interpretation that may arise from time to time.

Section 7. Legal Assistance and Financial Aid Committee. There shall be a standing committee known as the Legal Assistance and Financial Aid Committee, the members and chairman of which shall be appointed by the National President and National Vice President in accordance with Article 9, Section 3 and Article 11, Section 1, respectively, of the Constitution. The Legal Assistance and Financial Aid Committee shall consider all requests for legal aid or assistance submitted pursuant to Article 24 of the Constitution and Article 22 hereof.

Section 8. The chairman of each committee created by the National Board of Trustees, or the National President shall submit a written report of the activities of the committee to the National Secretary not less than thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of the Biennial Conference.

ARTICLE 6

National Officers

Section 1. Any officer, committee member, or member performing the duties of or service for the National Fraternal Order of Police, whether by order of the National Board of Trustees or the National President, shall receive a per diem allowance of not less than $60.00 per day, nor more than $125.00 per day, as shall be determined by the National Board of Trustees. Each member seeking compensation from or reimbursement by the National Fraternal Order of Police shall furnish to the President a voucher which shall provide a detailed statement of expenses incurred and paid by them in the service of the National Fraternal Order of Police, which voucher shall be approved or rejected by the President. *(Amended 8/17)*

ARTICLE 7
National Executive Board

Section 1. The National Executive Board shall issue a report within sixty (60) days of each meeting thereof through the office of the National Secretary to each member of the National Board of Trustees.

Section 2. The National Executive Board shall meet each year to establish a budget of line items in respect to each and every financial activity of the National Fraternal Order of Police for the next following fiscal year and shall submit same to each member of the National Board of Trustees within thirty (30) days thereof or no later than June each year in order that said budget shall be approved at the next meeting of the Board. *(Amended 8/15)*

ARTICLE 8
National Trustees

Section 1. Except as otherwise provided, the National Trustees shall have charge of and be responsible for all property of the Order. The National Trustees, by the body as a whole or by delegation, shall:

A. Have ultimate responsibility for the physical property of the Order.

B. Make a complete and itemized inventory and reconcile the same to the books and records of the Order.

C. Within sixty (60) days after adjournment of the Biennial Conference, through the Chairman, file with the National Board of Trustees a certified copy of such inventory.

D. Prescribe the amount and form of bond to be required of national officers from whom such bond may be required for the faithful performance of their duties.

E. Conduct an annual audit of the financial books and records of the Order and, through the Chairman, report thereon to the National Board of Trustees.

F. Ascertain that all monies received have been allocated to and deposited in the proper accounts of and in the name and to the credit of the Order.

G. Upon order of the Biennial Conference or National Board of Trustees, order the National Treasurer to invest the surplus funds of the Order in such securities or other financial instruments as shall be secure and earn the highest interest practicable.

H. Biennially make a full and complete report to the Biennial Conference of all business transacted since the last Biennial Conference.

ARTICLE 9
National President

Section 1. The National President shall submit a written report to the National Secretary not less than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Biennial Conference.

Section 2. At each meeting of the National Board of Trustees, the National President shall submit a full and complete written report in respect to the business transacted by them since the last meeting of the National Board of Trustees together with such recommendations as they may deem advisable.

Section 3. The National President shall receive an annual base salary of $115,762.50. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National President shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. Subject to the approval of the National Board of Trustees, the National President shall be provided a car which may be purchased or leased, and which shall be properly insured at the expense of the National Fraternal Order of Police and a family health plan (in the event no other insurance is provided to the National President) costing the same as the family health plan then being paid by the home agency of the President. The National President is authorized to retain a secretary of their choosing who shall be paid an annual salary as determined by the National Board of Trustees. *(Amended 8/25)*

ARTICLE 10
Past National Presidents

Section 1. Each Past National President who shall serve upon the National Board of Trustees shall submit a report in writing to the National Secretary thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Biennial Conference covering the period during which they served.

ARTICLE 11
National Vice President

Section 1. The National Vice President shall submit a report in writing to the National Secretary thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Biennial Conference.

Section 2. The National Vice President shall receive an annual base salary of $46,305.00. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Vice President shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. *(Amended 8/25)*

ARTICLE 12
National Secretary

Section 1. The National Secretary shall compile all officer, committee and related reports and make available to each delegate in attendance at the Conference, and any subordinate lodge who may not be represented at the Conference. *(Amended 8/21)*

Section 2. The National Secretary shall notify each state and subordinate lodge of the number of eligible delegates to which such lodge may be entitled. Such delegate credential list shall be completed by the Secretary of the state or subordinate lodge certifying the election of such delegates and shall be authorized by the President and Secretary of the lodge and shall be forwarded to the National Secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening date of the Biennial Conference.

Section 3. The National Secretary shall receive an annual base salary of $86,821.94. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Secretary shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. *(Amended 8/25)*

Section 4. A petty cash fund in the amount of Five Hundred dollars ($500.00) shall be allowed to the National Secretary for the purpose of paying emergency current expenses.

Section 5. The National Secretary shall be responsible for the compilation and distribution of the Constitutions and these By-Laws.

Section 6. The National Secretary shall be an *ex officio* member of the Biennial Conference Site Review Committee.

ARTICLE 13

National Treasurer

Section 1. The National Treasurer shall submit a written report to the National Secretary not less than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Biennial Conference.

Section 2. The National Treasurer shall receive an annual base salary of $86,821.94. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Treasurer shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. The National Treasurer is authorized to retain a secretary of their choosing who shall be paid an annual salary as determined by the National Board of Trustees. *(Amended 8/25)*

Section 3. The National Treasurer shall cause an annual audit of the accounts, books, and records of the Order to be conducted by a certified public accountant pursuant to the Constitution, Article 5, Section 3.

ARTICLE 14
National Second Vice President

Section 1. The National Second Vice President shall submit a written report to the National Secretary not less than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Biennial Conference.

Section 2. The National Second Vice President shall receive an annual base salary of $46,305.00. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Second Vice President shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. *(Amended 8/25)*

ARTICLE 15
National Sergeant at Arms

Section 1. The National Sergeant at Arms shall submit a written report to the National Secretary not less than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Biennial Conference.

Section 2. The National Sergeant at Arms shall receive an annual base salary pf $46,305.00. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Sergeant at Arms shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. *(Amended 8/25)*

ARTICLE 16
National Trustee

Section 1. Each National Trustee shall submit a written report to the National Secretary not less than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Biennial Conference.

Section 2. The National Trustees shall meet as a whole prior to the opening of any meeting of the National Board of Trustees to discuss any business it deems necessary and to formulate recommendations to the full National Board of Trustees.

Section 3. The Chairman of the National Trustees shall receive an annual base salary of $46,305.00. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Chairman of the Trustees shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. *(Amended 8/25)*

ARTICLE 17
Delegates
[RESERVED]

ARTICLE 18
General Counsel

Section 1. The General Counsel shall report to the National Board of Trustees at each meeting thereof upon any legal matter of significance to the Order. They shall submit a report in writing to the National Secretary not less than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Biennial Conference.

ARTICLE 19
State and Subordinate Lodges

Section 1. Each state lodge of the Order shall maintain a bond or insurance in respect to the fidelity of those officers or members having access to or control over the funds of the lodge. Each subordinate lodge shall provide proof

of such bond or insurance to the state lodge with which it is affiliated, and each state lodge shall provide proof of such bond or insurance to the National Fraternal Order of Police. No state or subordinate lodge shall be eligible for financial aid or assistance from another lodge or the National Fraternal Order of Police except upon proof of maintenance of such bond or insurance.

ARTICLE 20
Associate Lodges

Section 1. The National Fraternal Order of Police Associates shall provide a current Constitution and By-Laws to the National Fraternal Order of Police by November 1st each year. *(Amended 8/15)*

ARTICLE 21
Auxiliaries

Section 1. The National Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary shall provide a current Constitution and By-Laws to the National Fraternal Order of Police by November 1st each year. *(Amended 8/15)*

ARTICLE 22
International Affiliate Lodges and Membership

[RESERVED]

ARTICLE 23
Discipline and Hearings

Section 1. In respect to any disciplinary hearing conducted by any lodge of the Order, due process shall be afforded the parties thereto.

Section 2. In all disciplinary hearings conducted by any lodge of the Order, the body conducting such hearing shall:

A. Require the complaint(s), charge(s) or allegation(s) be made under oath and in writing and provide such facts as may enable the charged party to be fairly apprised of the nature of the charge;

B. Ensure that the party charged is provided with a copy of such complaint, charge or allegation and given sufficient time, which in any event shall be not less than thirty (30) days, to prepare a defense, if any, thereto;

C. Conduct a hearing upon the matter during which the trier of fact shall limit the scope of the inquiry to the specific complaint(s), charge(s) or allegation(s) set forth in the written notice thereof;

D. Adhere to an order of procedure which places the burden of proof upon the party charging the member, lodge or national officer;

E. Permit the parties thereto to introduce documents and exhibits and the testimony of witnesses in accordance with such rules of evidence as may be determined and applied uniformly by such body.

Section 3. Discipline may be imposed upon a member or lodge for any violation of the good of the Order, including, but not limited to, the following:

A. Violation of the Constitution, these By-Laws, the Ritual, oath, or obligations of the Order;

B. Acts of disloyalty to the National Fraternal Order of Police, including, but not limited to, overt attempts to decertify the National Fraternal Order of Police where such lodge is the certified bargaining representative of its members, holding office in an organization which encourages members of the National Fraternal Order of Police to leave the Order or, where applicable, which attempts to decertify the Order or such other acts as bring disrepute, disgrace or dishonor upon the National Fraternal Order of Police;

C. Distribution or use of the national membership list for any reason without the express permission of the National Board of Trustees or the National Secretary; and,

D. The unauthorized use or the abuse of the name or insignia of the National Fraternal Order of Police or the infringement of a trademark thereof.

ARTICLE 24
Legal Aid

Section 1. Requests for legal assistance or financial aid shall be made in the following manner:

A. A written request for aid or assistance setting forth the specific aid or assistance requested, and the reasons therefor shall first be made to the appropriate subordinate lodge.

B. In the event that the subordinate lodge is unable to provide all or a part of the requested aid or assistance, the subordinate lodge may request such aid or assistance from the appropriate state lodge. The request of the subordinate lodge shall include the original request and a statement of the action taken thereon by the subordinate lodge.

C. In the event that the subordinate lodge and the state lodge, together or separately, are unable to provide all or some part of the requested aid or assistance, the subordinate lodge may request such aid or assistance from the National Fraternal Order of Police. The request of the subordinate lodge shall include the original request and a statement of the action taken thereon by the subordinate lodge and the state lodge.

D. A subordinate lodge in a state having no state lodge may request such aid or assistance directly from the National Fraternal Order of Police. The appeal and all of the facts must be in written form.

E. Requests for legal assistance or financial aid shall be made to the National Fraternal Order of Police in writing, shall include all appropriate and relevant documentation and materials, and forwarded to the National Secretary who shall forward copies of same to the Chairman of the Legal Assistance and Financial Aid Committee and the National President.

Section 2. The Legal Assistance and Financial Aid Committee shall meet and confer (in person or telephonically) in respect to each request and shall determine whether the requesting member or lodge has complied with the provisions of this Article. In the event that the request has followed the procedures set forth herein, the committee shall further review the request, conduct such investigation as it deems necessary or appropriate, and make its recommendation to the National Board of Trustees, which recommendation shall be in writing.

Section 3. All requests for legal assistance or financial aid shall be heard at the next meeting of the National Board of Trustees. In the case of an extreme emergency where time is of the essence and the delay caused by waiting for the next meeting of the National Board of Trustees could cause irreparable injury, a direct request may be made to the National President, which request shall be in the same form as otherwise provided herein for request made to the National Board of Trustees. The National President and the National Executive Board shall consider the matter and, upon majority vote thereof, may grant the legal aid requested.

Section 4. No member, subordinate lodge or state lodge shall allege, represent, or promise that the National Fraternal Order of Police will assume any payment or provide any assistance or aid nor shall the National Fraternal Order of Police, or any officer, employee, agent or representative provide or promise to provide any legal assistance or financial aid except in conformity herewith. Any provision of such legal assistance or financial aid shall be specifically authorized by the National Fraternal Order of Police, memorialized by a writing signed by the National President and National Secretary under the National Lodge Seal.

ARTICLE 25
Resolutions

Resolutions submitted for inclusion in the materials to be distributed at the commencement of the Biennial Conference shall be accompanied by a statement, not to exceed one (1) page in length, setting forth the specific basis for the proposed resolution.

ARTICLE 26
Official Journal

The official publication of the Order shall be known as the *National Fraternal Order of Police Journal*.

ARTICLE 27
Official Order of Business
[RESERVED]

ARTICLE 28
Parliamentary Procedure
[RESERVED]

ARTICLE 29
Annual Budget

Section 1. The annual budget of the National Fraternal Order of Police shall include an estimate of anticipated revenue, anticipated expenditures, and line item estimates of the needs of the administrative and operational functions of the National Fraternal Order of Police. Line items shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

A. Biennial Conference and/or National Board Meetings

B. Office of the National President

C. Office of the National Secretary

D. Office of the National Treasurer

E. The offices of other National Officers

F. The National Trustees

G. Committees of the National Fraternal Order of Police

H. Legal Expense

I. Contingency Fund

Section 2. Unappropriated funds plus any surplus funds collected above appropriated revenues shall be invested by the National Treasurer into the Contingency Fund and shall be subject to appropriation to any accounts with a shortfall, by the National President with approval of a majority of the Executive Board. The National President shall notify the National Board of Trustees of the reason for adding funds in respect to a particular account. *(Amended 8/21)*

Section 3. Any other provision of these By-Laws notwithstanding, the National President shall not approve any warrant or voucher in excess of the budgeted amount for any particular line item, or sub-line-item account without the approval of a majority of the Executive Board. Each national officer, committee chairman, advisor, sub-contractor, and employee will cooperate in the institution of and compliance with the annual budget of the National Fraternal Order of Police and will, upon request therefor, submit an itemized budget with respect to anticipated revenues and expenses in their area of control or interest for the next fiscal year. *(Amended 8/21)*

ARTICLE 30
By-Law Amendments

Section 1. In order to amend these By-Laws, a subordinate lodge, state lodge, or a majority of the National Board of Trustees shall submit the proposed amendment to the National Secretary not less than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the Biennial Conference at which the proposed amendment is to be considered. The National Secretary shall distribute such proposed amendment and any related materials to each state and subordinate lodge secretary and each national officer not less than sixty (60) days prior to the Biennial Conference at which such proposed amendment

is to be considered. Upon adoption by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the registered Conference delegates who are present on the floor at the time of the vote, the proposed amendment shall become a part of these By-Laws. *(Amended 8/99)*

Section 2. A proposed amendment shall contain the precise language of the proposed amendment, shall specifically set forth the language to be added, deleted and/or revised and shall identify each and every Article and Section of these By-Laws affected thereby. Proposed amendments shall not be set forth in resolution form but shall be accompanied by a statement, not to exceed one (1) page in length, setting forth the basis for the proposed amendment.

Section 3. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee shall receive proposed amendments to these By-Laws and shall review same for form, grammar, placement within these By-Laws and substance, and shall report its conclusions and recommendations thereon to the Biennial Conference.

ARTICLE 31
Dues, Assessments and Administrative Fees

Section 1. The National Secretary shall transmit all deposit records for funds collected in respect to per capita taxes and assessments to the National Treasurer for recording of deposit in the proper accounts. Upon receipt of all dues and assessments owing from each lodge, the National Secretary shall furnish such lodge the Password and a membership card for each member for whom payment is made. *(Amended 8/21)*

Section 2. The official membership card of the National Fraternal Order of Police shall be printed or electronic and may interface with other functions of the Order. No state lodge, subordinate lodge or member thereof shall print or cause to be printed or create electronically a replica of the official membership card of the National Fraternal Order of Police nor shall any member use any other membership card for Active Members. *(Amended 8/21)*

Section 3. Assessments. In the event of an emergency, as determined by the National Board of Trustees in accordance with Article 31 of the Constitution, the National Board of Trustees shall first determine the amount of assessment required from each member in order to meet the emergency.

A. The National Board of Trustees shall then notify each subordinate lodge by certified mail of its intent to levy an assessment upon the membership, setting forth the reason for the assessment and a detailed account of probable expenditures.

B. Each subordinate lodge shall notify the National Board of Trustees within thirty (30) days of its receipt of notice of its intent to levy an assessment of its approval or disapproval of the proposed assessment. Each subordinate lodge shall be entitled to cast votes equal in number to the number of delegates to which it was entitled at the immediately preceding Biennial Conference. In the event that the vote of any subordinate lodge fails to arrive at the office of the National Fraternal Order of Police within the prescribed thirty (30) days, the date of the Postmark shall be considered as prima-facie evidence that the vote was filed in accordance with the provisions of this section.

C. If approved, the National Board of Trustees shall notify each subordinate lodge by certified mail of the total votes cast and how each subordinate lodge in the Order cast its votes. *(Amended 8/19)*

Section 4. Administrative Fees

A. Each subordinate lodge shall pay through their respective state lodge and where there is no state lodge, directly to the National Fraternal Order of Police, a lodge administrative fee in the amount of twenty-five dollars ($25.00).

B. The lodge administrative fees shall become due and payable on November 1st of each year.