

# BYLAWS

Revised 8-1-2019

# THIRD WATCH LAW ENFORCEMENT (LE) MOTORCYCLE CLUB (MC)<sup>TM</sup>

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## **Mission Statement/Purpose:**

Our mission is to honor, serve and support our veterans and first responders. THIRD WATCH Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club (TWMC) is a brotherhood of police, fire fighters and military veterans active or honorably discharged. That share common goal of supporting veterans, first responders and their families in our communities. TWMC strives to donate time, financial assistance and physical help where needed as thanks for their service and/or sacrifice. Our members continue to serve with honesty, integrity and loyalty with the same goal of helping our fellow brothers and sisters.

## **Article I: Club**

The nonprofit organization known as “Third Watch Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club” or LE MC Third Watch shall henceforth be referred to as “TWMC” or “Third Watch”.

TWMC was founded in Rowlett, Texas in December 2016 by the ten original members. Third Watch LE MC was decided upon because of it's members serving in official capacity as police officers, fire fighters, and military personnel. TWMC's founding members agreed that each person completes a third of the wheel that looks out for the safety and welfare of our country; the state and the local cities we serve.

## **Article II: Purpose**

The purpose of the TWMC Bylaws is to provide an outline and guidance for the betterment of the club and it's members.

The TWMC Bylaws shall be the fundamental law and founding principles for TWMC to follow.

The Executive Board will reserve the right to periodically review the bylaws, with member input, and amend them as necessary to maintain integrity and validity.

## **Article III: Personal Decorum**

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A member of TWMC is expected to act with respect for themselves and others with regards to property and company in your presence.

Every member of TWMC will act legally and morally while in the presence of the public and as they represent TWMC.

TWMC members will clearly represent the Club truthfully and depict the Club's beliefs with words and actions.

TWMC members will treat all other Clubs with respect, regardless of their opinions and will not use any form of communication to defame or discuss club issues with other clubs in the name or representation of TWMC.

For the safety of our members, photography posted to social media and/or the internet, shall not have any personally identifying information other than the member's riding name or surname.

## **Article IV: Chapter Membership**

### **Membership Process**

#### **Prerequisite for membership**

A complete application will be required. TWMC may conduct a background check through the Texas Commission of Law Enforcement (TCOLE). Any pending charges or prior conviction shall disqualify an applicant for membership.

Qualities that represent the standards of TWMC will also be judged and voted on by current members.

TWMC membership is open to the following active and retired agencies.

- Law Enforcement
- Fire Fighters
- Correction Officers
- Military (active or honorably discharged)
- Wives (associates)

All TWMC primary members must own and operate a motorcycle of 600 cc or above. They must possess a valid motorcycle operator's license, along with current motorcycle insurance. Exceptions can be made by the Board on a case by case basis.

### **Hang Around**

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The “hang around” has a maximum of 180 days (6 months). During the “hang around” period, the candidates are encouraged to attend events and club activities. This allows the members to learn about the candidate and what they have to offer to the club. At any given time during the “hang around” period, members may elect a candidate for prospect status. The “hang around” candidate can apply if he/she is elected to prospect status. To move up to the prospect status the “hang around” must be sponsored by a full patched member. Hang around’s will be voted in to the prospect status by unanimous vote of members at the monthly meeting.

### **Prospect**

The prospect period is a length of time from 0 days to 365 days (12 months). During the prospect period, the club will be looking for effort in making club events and participations.

TWMC is aware that issues may get in the way, military deployments, illnesses and other unforeseen issues during the prospect period. TWMC board members will review the prospect situation and make the necessary changes to extend or remove the prospect position until further notice.

At no time, will club members treat the “prospect” with disrespect or ask the “prospect” to complete any jobs that he/she is not willing to do themselves.

At the end of the prospect period, the individual’s status will be placed to a vote by club membership at the monthly meeting.

Male prospects will be required to purchase a black leather vest of their own. Females can purchase a single color vest of their choice.

Prospects will be assigned a sponsor upon promotion from “hang-around”. Prospects should contact his sponsor first with any questions. The sponsor will be the direct line of communication for the prospect.

Prospect eligibility can be voted and/or terminated at any time during the prospective period.

### **Sponsors**

Selected TWMC member will be assigned to sponsor/mentor each prospect.

Sponsors are to report back to the Board with positive or negative information. This will ensure the safety of the club and its members.

Sponsors must communicate with the Prospect on a regular basis for the opportunities to participate in all club events and rides.

TWMC is family-oriented. Sponsors are encouraged to invite prospects and their family members to family oriented club events and activities.

Sponsors should ensure the safety of the club by informing the prospect with the riding group rules and assisting with additional riding techniques for safety of all members.

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### Membership Vote

A candidate will be voted on by voting members in attendance at the monthly meeting. Not all members are required to vote.

To be considered for full or associate club membership, a candidate must receive a unanimous vote by the attending members at the monthly meeting.

Not all members are required to vote on a prospect for membership. The majority vote of the voting members will determine the prospect acceptance for a full or associate membership.

### Full Membership Fee

Upon voted acceptance of full membership a payment in the amount of \$50.00 shall be paid to the TWMC Treasurer per annum, \$25 per annum for additional family membership.

### Membership Renewal

Membership will continue if the member maintains his/her membership in good standing status.

“Member in good standing” is defined as a member who:

Owns and operates a motorcycle of 600 cc or more.

Has paid his/her dues and any other financial obligations owed to the TWMC.

Has not incurred any disciplinary action that reflects negatively upon TWMC, of a personal or professional nature.

### Chapter V: RULES AND REGULATIONS

Every Club member and to include “Prospective” members will be required to comply with the TWMC Bylaws. Prospective members will receive basic bylaw information from their sponsor.

TWMC members are prohibited from being a member of any other motorcycle club unless approved by the TWMC Executive Board. However, if permission is granted, the member must wear TWMC Colors to any event where TWMC is represented; this may only be waived with approval from Club President and Vice President.

All Members will notify the Club Secretary of any change of address, phone number or email address.

TWMC members may resign by submitting a written request for dismissal to the executive board. The President/Vice President will respond in writing to the resignation request of the executive board’s decision. When resignation request has been approved the resigning member will not be allowed to wear the TWMC colors as representation. Reimbursement cost of patches may be returned and up to total cost of the patches when returned.

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Membership in the Third Watch Motorcycle Club (TWMC) can be terminated by voting board due to disciplinary actions. Upon dismissal for disciplinary actions, TWMC colors will be returned to the Club. Based on the disciplinary action taken TWMC may reimburse up to the total cost of the patches.

A resigned member in good standing may be reinstated to prospect or full patch member on a voting board's decision. Returning member can be reinstated but, cannot be reinstated to an officer position. If one was held prior to resigning. Returning member can run during the next election. Returning member shall be required to pay patch fees if monies were returned upon resigning.

TWMC colors will be uniform and placed on his/her vest as follows:

Third Watch Rockers upper and lowers, skull, le and mc should be attached to the back of the vest/jacket. These are the only patches allowed on the back.

TWMC Patch and rank will be worn on the front as described by policies.

Non-TWMC patches and pins can be placed only on the front of the vest/'jacket.

Non-TWMC patches and pins can be rejected by the President/Vice President.

### **Chapter VI: Member Assistance**

TWMC can provide minimum financial assistance to its members in an emergency and if funds are available. Financial assistance can be required to be paid back to the club within 90 calendar days. Lists of assistance are as follows:



Benevolence fund

Safety and security of a member

Loan



This section does not preclude the ability of the club to award a charity "gift" to a member in need who meets the criteria

### **Chapter VII: Annual Dues/TWMC Monies**

Members of TWMC will be required to pay annual dues as part of their membership to help maintain Club activities and events. Dues are to be paid in the amount of \$50.00 for full membership and \$25.00 for associate members. Dues will be paid to the TWMC treasure in full by February 1<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year.

A \$10.00 meeting fee will be required of each member and \$5.00 from each associate member. The meeting fees can help with the financial assistance of a club member as described in Chapter VI.

All monies collected by TWMC will be placed in the club's bank account that will be reviewed by the Treasurer, President and Vice President monthly.

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TWMC bank statements will be accessible to any TWMC member upon a written request explaining its reasoning why to a board member.

### **Chapter VIII: Meetings/ Participation and Club Decisions**

TWMC will hold a meeting every month, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday to discuss club business. The meeting will begin at 1830 of the meeting day. All members are encouraged to attend.

TWMC club business decisions can be voted on by members of a majority vote, 51%

#### **Meetings**

Meeting participation by club members is essential for club business, decision and growth. Members are encouraged to attend a minimum of 2 scheduled meetings per calendar year.

Members are encouraged to make 1 ride per calendar year.

Members should attend as many club activities possible.

Club business decisions will be voted on by its members. TWMC President, will abstain from all votes. Should a vote come to a tie by its voting members, the President or designated Liaison will have the final vote.

#### **Funds**

All funds to be released from the club will be voted on by its members by a majority vote of 51%. The President, Vice President or Treasurer can release funds during an emergency without membership vote. The release of emergency funds without vote must be reported to the club members at the next scheduled meeting.

### **Chapter IX: Duties of Offices Held**

**President** - Shall preside over all meetings and conduct them with efficiency, honesty, and integrity. The President shall grant a voice to all members attending a meeting and consider all information before making decisions on behalf of the club. Candidates for Presidency must be a member of law enforcement. President may serve a term of two (2) years on the Executive Board beginning February 1<sup>st</sup> and concluding January 31<sup>st</sup>. If re-elected to the same position the following year the member's term will continue until they no longer serve on the Executive Board. A non-law enforcement member of TWMC serving more than five (5) years may run for the president position during an election year.

**Vice-President** - Shall assist the President to oversee the operation of the club and ensure the integrity of the TWMC. The Vice President (VP) shall perform all duties and exercise all power of the President if the President is absent or is otherwise unable to act. The VP is responsible for the formation of the election committee. The position of VP shall be a term of two (2) years. The position of VP must be a member in good standing with TWMC for a minimum of one (1) year.

**Secretary** – Shall keep an accurate record for the following:

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Applications

Background checks

Current licensing and insurance

Member contact information

Meeting minutes

The Secretary will assist with maintaining correspondences pertaining to TWMC events and functions. The Secretary will have a seat on the Board. The Secretary shall notify all members of scheduled meetings and maintain calendar events for the club. The Secretary shall hold a term of two (2) years. The Secretary must be a member or associate in good standing for a minimum of one (1) year with TWMC.

**Treasurer** – Is responsible for all funds of TWMC club. He/she must deposit all funds into the club's designated banking facility and shall maintain adequate ledger of accounts for TWMC funds and business transactions including but not limited to:

Banking documents/ledgers

Receipts/transactions (approved by the President and VP)

The Treasurer is also responsible for notifying the Executive Board of all monies owed to or by the club. The Treasurer may serve a term of two (2) years on the Executive Board beginning February 1<sup>st</sup> and concluding January 31<sup>st</sup>. If re-elected to the same position the following year the member's term will continue until they no longer serve on the Executive Board. The Treasurer must be a member or associate in good standing for a minimum of two (2) years.

**Sergeant-at-Arms** – Is the protector of the club and shall be appointed by the President and approved by a majority vote of voting members. Duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms include but are not limited to:

Maintaining order "always"

Approving applications and background investigations

Duties assigned by the President or Vice-President as needed

The Sergeant-at-Arms shall notify the President and/or VP of any detrimental integrity, protection of life and/or protection of property of its club and members. There is no term limit for the Sergeant-at-Arms position, and will be considered ongoing. The Sergeant-at-Arms is appointed by the President.

**Road Captains** – Shall be responsible for directing the movements of the club while traveling in a group in a safe and lawful manner. The Road Captain shall assist in setting routes for upcoming events and/or rides. He/she has responsibility to note any road hazards or detours during any event or non-event rides. The Road Captain shall consider time restrictions, rest stops, meals and other meeting areas when setting a route, and shall inform the Executive Board of the proposed trip so that members may be



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notified of the ride and any monies necessary may be allocated. The Road Captain is responsible for the safety of the rider; thus, he is expected to take a safety survey of all bikes before a ride to eliminate any noticeable safety issues. The Road Captain is expected to work with other Road Captains to promote efficiency of the ride and maintain tightness of formation. There is no term limit for the Road Captain position, and will be considered ongoing. The Road Captain is Arms is appointed by the President. In the absence of a Road Captain, these responsibilities can be handled by the President, Vice-President, or the Sergeant-at-Arms.

### Board of Directors and Executive Board

Third Watch LE MC Inc. nonprofit organization.

TWMC is a charitable fund-raising club that may support honorable active and non-active members of police, fire, military personnel and to include family members.

### Board of Directors

The Board of Directors establishes policy and provides overall directions for all club activities and votes in the executive board. TWMC holds four (4) board of director's positions. When a board of director's position is vacated the President may assign an interim until the vacated position can be filled during an election year which can be a member or an associate.

### Executive Board of Directors

The Executive Board of Directors determines plan and policies for TWMC club local and regional. TWMC executive board of directors are:

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasure

When an executive board of director's position is vacated prior to its term limit, the President may assign an interim until the vacated position can be filled during an election year. If the President position has been vacated prior to its term limit the Vice President will act as interim President until elections are held. The board of directors will vote in an interim for Vice President if the Vice President must fill the President's position.

Sergeant at Arms does not fall under the board of directors or executive board of directors, but is appointed by the President.

TWMC may elect to create specialized positions not stated herein (including but not limited to: Chaplain, Support Vehicle Driver, etc.) as the need for such positions arise. A Board of Directors or/and Executive Board of Directors can hold a position as a board or specialized member. Specialized positions do not fall under the board of directors (Directors) or executive board of directors.

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## Chapter X: Election Procedures

TWMC will hold elections annually during the year end meeting in December.

Any member seeking an elected position must notify the current Secretary no later than the November meeting of that year. If the running member is not able to attend the November meeting, notification by email or phone will be accepted. Nominations and motions from the floor will also be accepted at the November meeting for any qualified candidate providing that the candidate accepts nomination.

At no time will two or more members of the same household be members on the Board of Directors. A second member of the same household may hold a position within the club up to and including the Executive Board of Directors

At no time will two or more members off the same household be members on the Executive Board of Directors. A second member of the same household may hold a position within the club up to and including the Board of Directors.

Elected position terms begin on February 1<sup>st</sup> and conclude January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

A candidate who is running for Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer can be vetoed by the president. The president must hold a private meeting with the board of directors and the executive board of directors to explain why the candidate is unfit to fulfill the position and its duties. Both boards will then vote after said explanation and discussion to approve the veto or over-ride the veto for the candidate to hold elected position. A majority vote from both boards of seven (7) members will determine the candidate's final position.

Members with concerns of running candidates should contact the current secretary prior to voting day. The secretary can call a meeting with the boards if concerns are valid. The boards will determine if the running candidate must be removed/scratched from the ballot.

## Chapter XI: Third Watch Bank Account Access

The following executive board of director positions will be granted access to all bank accounts and financials:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

The current executive board of directors and positions held:

Brian Wilburn – President

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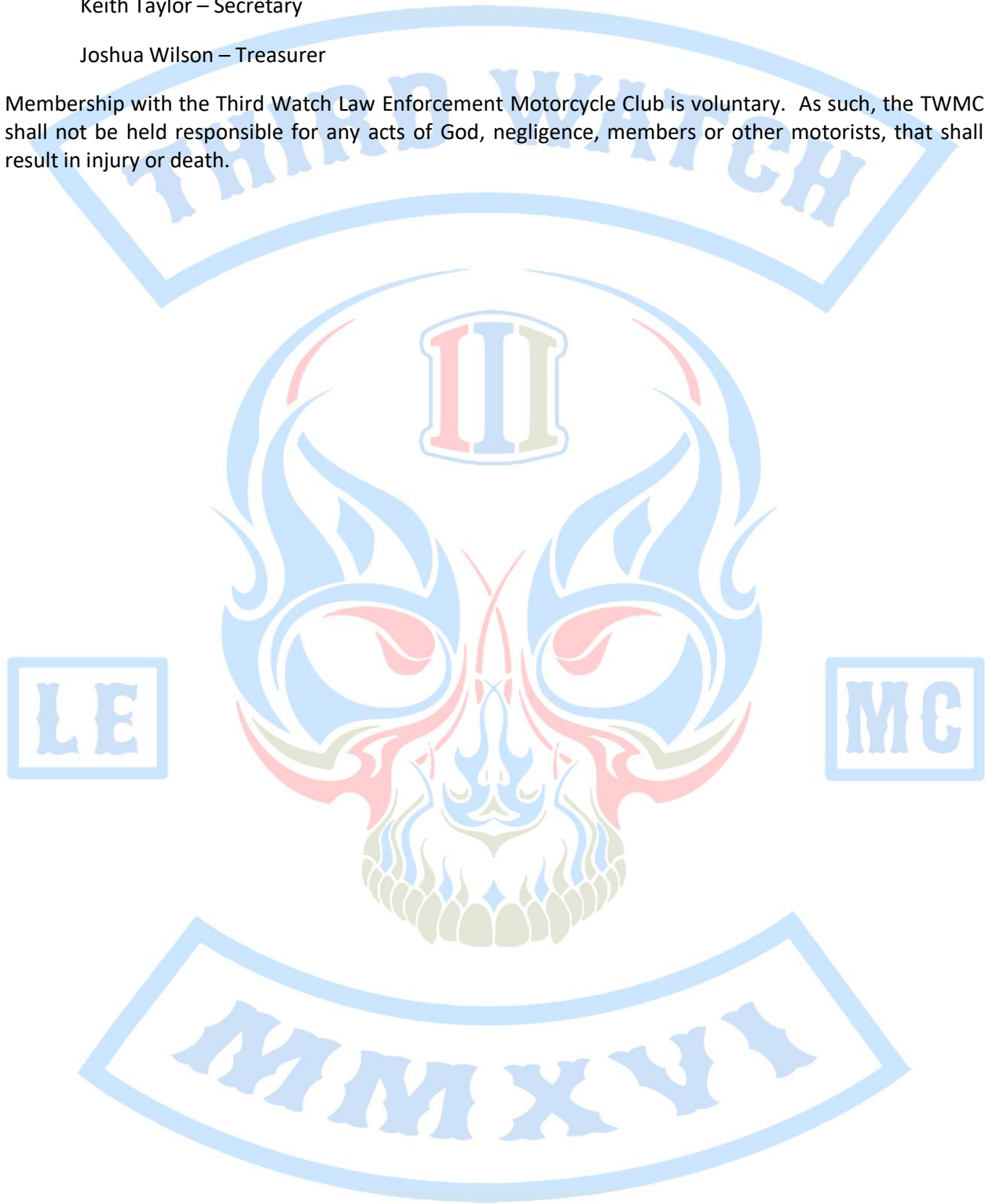
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Barry Morris – Vice President

Keith Taylor – Secretary

Joshua Wilson – Treasurer

Membership with the Third Watch Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club is voluntary. As such, the TWMC shall not be held responsible for any acts of God, negligence, members or other motorists, that shall result in injury or death.



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**Agreed**

This edition of the Third Watch Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club bylaws has been reviewed and agreed to with consideration of input from all officers of the Third Watch Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club of Rowlett Board of Directors and the Executive Board of Directors, as testified by the undersigned:

\_\_\_\_\_ (President)/Date

\_\_\_\_\_ (Vice President)/Date

\_\_\_\_\_ (Secretary)/Date

\_\_\_\_\_ (Treasurer)/Date

\_\_\_\_\_ (Board Member)/Date

\_\_\_\_\_ ( Board Member)/Date

\_\_\_\_\_ ( Board Member)/Date