

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

NAME - This Association shall be known as the Central Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE - The purpose of the organization is to provide the heads of police organizations throughout Central Massachusetts with a means of meeting as a group to promote the development of effective law enforcement in Central Massachusetts and to aid in the education, professional development and welfare of its members while developing bonds of fraternity. Furthermore, it is the purpose of this organization to develop and foster harmonious relations with all public and private agencies and organizations concerned with law enforcement in Central Massachusetts.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP Section 1 - Active membership - Whoever shall hold the title of Chief of Police or Acting Chief of Police in a municipal Police Department in Massachusetts shall be eligible for active membership with voting privileges. Whoever shall hold the title of Chief of Police or Acting Chief of Police of a college or university, or of a state or federal governmental agency or institution with full police powers shall be eligible for active membership with voting privileges. Each police department or law enforcement agency shall be entitled to one active membership only.

The annual dues shall be set by the Board of Directors and shall be payable in the month of January. Any changes to dues will require one year notice. Any member, who neglects to pay his or her dues within ninety (90) days from the 1st of January, shall be suspended from membership.

Section 2 - Life Membership - Upon retirement, with written request an active member in good standing with the Association after three (3) years, unless waived upon recommendation of the Board of Directors and majority vote of the members, such individual may be eligible for life membership in the Association. A Life Member can take part in the discussion at any meeting, is entitled to vote, and is exempt from the payment of dues. With the exception of the position of Treasurer and designated Life Member Board of Director's position, Life Members may not run for or be appointed to

any office. If a member is holding office in the Association at the time of his or her retirement, that person shall continue to hold said office until his or her term expires. All Chiefs of Police in Central Massachusetts who retired prior to the forming of the Association are eligible for Life Membership.

Section 3 - Associate Membership - Any person actively interested or working in or teaching in law enforcement or security in the private sector or in higher education in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts may be-eligible for Associate Membership. Those individuals who wish to be considered for associate membership must be endorsed by an active or life member of the CMCOPA. Such endorsement must be approved by the majority of the present voting membership at any monthly meeting. Any such member may take part in the discussions that come up at any meeting upon permission of the presiding officer but cannot hold office or be entitled to vote.

The annual dues for Associate Membership shall be, set by the board of directors, payable in the month of January. Any Associate Member who shall neglect to pay his or her dues within ninety (90) days from the 1st of January shall be suspended from membership.

Section 4 - Honorary Membership – The following persons shall hold honorary membership in the Association during their term of office: Worcester County District Attorney, Worcester County Sheriff, Colonel of Massachusetts State Police, Commander Troop C, Worcester County State Police Detective Unit Commander, and the Director of the Municipal Police Training Committee and Director of the local MPTC Regional Academy. In addition, any person of prominence or of marked distinction who has shown an unquestionable interest in the welfare of law enforcement in Massachusetts may be eligible for Honorary Membership. A majority vote by the Board of Directors is required to add additional persons to the Honorary Membership List. Any such member may take part in the discussions at any meeting upon permission of the presiding officer but cannot hold office or vote and shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

Section 5 – Gold Membership - Any person/corporation interested in effective law enforcement who is not an active member of a Police Department and who is endorsed by an active or life member of the Association and thereafter ratified by a majority vote of the current membership may be considered for individual Gold or Corporate Gold membership.

Any such member may take part in discussions that come up at any meeting upon permission of the presiding officer, but cannot hold office or vote, except on issues before their assigned committee during the committee meetings. Dues for a Gold individual or corporate membership shall be set by the Board of Directors.

Section 6 – Member in Good Standing – With a Member “In Good Standing” being a subjective term, a member in good standing should be an active participant in the association by regularly attending association meetings and events. A member should be

free of any questionable incidents or allegations related to an individual member's character that would affect the image and/or mission of this association in a negative way.

Section 7 – Removal of a Member – Any Active or Life Member in good standing can submit a letter to the President requesting that the membership of any individual member or corporation be suspended or terminated for incidents or allegations affecting a member's "In Good Standing" requirement. The President shall forward the request and all information to the Board of Directors for their review and discussion. If the Board of Directors by majority vote decides that the accusations of a member warrants suspension or removal, the Board of Directors may require a special meeting be called for or at the next monthly meeting present the information and their recommendation(s) to only voting members in executive session. After discussion the voting members may vote to take action against the member. Majority vote by the voting members prevails.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - Eligible persons may submit an application for Active, Associate, Individual Gold or Corporate Gold Membership at any regular meeting of the Association.

Applications for Honorary Membership shall be submitted to Board of Directors. No person shall be elected as a Member unless the candidate has been recommended by a Chief of Police in good standing and approved by a majority vote of members present at a regular meeting.

An applicant for Active, Associate Membership, Gold Individual or Gold Corporate, if elected, shall become a member upon payment of the annual dues.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS - The officers of this Association shall consist of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, six (6) directors, Retired Chief's Representative, Ma Chiefs E-Board Representatives (2) and the Ex-Officio.

At the October meeting the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three (3) members, whose duty it shall be to accept nominations of members for the various offices who are to be voted on at the following November meeting.

The officers shall be elected by ballot at the November meeting and shall assume the duties of their respective positions at the annual December meeting. Vacancies may be filled at any regular meeting by a majority vote of the members present. The normal term of office for all officers will be one year, except the Directors, who will have a normal term of three years. Two new Directors will be elected each year. The outgoing President will serve for one year as an Ex-Officio member of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS - Regular meeting of the Association shall be held at such time and place as may be decided upon by the President at the previous meeting. Special meetings may be called at the option of the President. The President shall, when requested by five (5) or more Active Members, call special meetings provided that the request states the business to be acted on.

At any regular or special meeting, seven (7) members, exclusive of officers, constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

The President may schedule an executive meeting or declare an executive session. Should an executive meeting be scheduled, or an executive session is declared during a meeting, such executive meeting or session shall be closed to all persons other than Active and Life Members who are members in good standing and others invited by the President.

Smoking is prohibited at all Association meetings.

ARTICLE VII

OFFICERS' DUTIES - The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association, preserve order and decorum, and decide all questions or order, subject to the body. The President shall have a vote on all questions.

The Vice President shall keep a record of the proceedings and issue notices of upcoming meetings. Prior to the end of the Vice President's term, he/she shall provide a brief outline of notable events that occurred during his/her term as Vice President to the outgoing President. A copy of this outline shall be presented to the membership for approval as any business minutes would. Once approved the outline will be recorded and retained by the incoming Vice President along with the history of the association.

The Treasurer shall attend all meetings of the Association, receive all monies due to the Association, and keep an account between the Association and its members and in December of each year, or more often, submit statement of the financial condition of the Association. In addition, the Treasurer shall mail (by U.S. Postal Service or electronically) to each active member once a year, a financial report and accounting of Association receipts and expenditures.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, or any other provision of these by-laws, the Association may appoint a non-member individual or firm as an assistant to the Treasurer. In such case, the Directors and the Treasurer will determine the specific duties and attendance requirements, if any, that will apply. The executive board will set the compensation for this position and may consider a fair and equitable compensation for the Treasurer's position.

The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be responsible for assuring that all persons present at meetings are members of good standing or guest of members. In addition, the Sergeant-at-Arms shall lead the flag salute and lead the Association in prayer upon the President calling the meeting to order.

ARTICLE VIII

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, immediate past President, Executive Director, six Directors, one Life Member (effective 12/10) and the chiefs representing our association on the E-Board for Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association.

The Board of Directors shall have the control of the management of the association including the ways and means for carrying out the mission of the Association, subject at all times to the wishes of the members present at any regular or special meeting. The day-to-day expenditure of any funds, other than incidental expenses (consistent with any approved budget and at a level authorized by the Board and or majority vote of the Membership) requires the prior approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX

COMMITTEES - Within thirty (30) days of assuming office, the President shall appoint the following committees and such others as he or she deems necessary.

Program - A committee of three (3) members including the 1st Vice President as Chairman, whose duties shall be to make complete arrangements for all regular and special meetings of the Association and together with the Secretary and Treasurer shall provide the program for such meetings.

Legislative Committee - a committee of not less than five (5) members, with the Chairman designated by the President, whose duties shall be to have legislative bills prepared for the Association, to file legislation for and represent the Association before the Great and General Court, and to keep the Association informed of all legislation affecting police.

ARTICLE X

CHANGES AND ADDITIONS IN THE BY-LAWS - These by-laws may be amended, repealed or suspended only by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Association present and voting at a regular meeting or at a special meeting called as herein provided.

Any proposal for such amendment, repeal or suspension of the by-laws shall be in writing, filed with the Secretary at least thirty (30) days previous to such a meeting and shall be signed by the Active or Life Member or Members making such proposal. The Secretary shall send written or electronic notice containing the proposed amendment,

repeal or suspension of the by-laws to each Active and Life Member not less than seven (7) days before the date of said meeting.

ARTICLE XI

STATEMENT OF POLICY The agenda of regular meetings shall include: (1) reading of the minutes and Treasurer's report; (2) reading applications and balloting of new members; (3) report of the Board of Directors; (4) report of any special committee; (5) unfinished business; (6) new business; (7) good of the organization and police problems; (8) appointment of committees; (9) adjournment.

ARTICLE XII

PUBLIC OFFICE ENDORSEMENTS – CMCOPA is a 501 C (3) organization, CMCOPA is forbidden under IRS rule of providing any written or oral endorsements/statements on behalf of, or in opposition to, a candidate for public office.

ARTICLE XIII

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - There shall be an Executive Director who shall be appointed by the Board of Directors from year to year as they shall determine. The Executive Director shall be an Active or Life Member of the Association in good standing. The Executive Director shall perform and carry out all the duties and responsibilities for the position as approved by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director is a non-voting member of the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall be bonded for an appropriate amount as determined by the Board of Directors and shall be entitled to such compensation and reimbursement for their services as the Board of Directors shall from time to time determine. (Approved 10/13/2021)