

BYLAWS OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FRAUD INVESTIGATORS' ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I PURPOSE

The bylaws of this Association are promulgated to carry out and maintain the highest intentions of this organization as it strives to improve the methods and procedures in connection with investigation and suppression of fraud offenses. It is to this purpose that these bylaws are established. All responsibilities, powers, duties and rights shall come from, and by virtue of, the Articles of Incorporation of this Association, together with the bylaws of this Association and its Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this Association shall be limited to peace officers, investigators or prosecuting attorneys actively engaged in fraud investigation and prosecution and regularly employed by the federal government, any state government, or the counties and municipal subdivisions of any state, special agents or person in the regular employ of private business in the various states and those individuals engaged in the investigation or prosecution of suspected fraudulent claims including insurance company “integral anti-fraud personnel” who may or may not be directly assigned to an SIU unit but whose duties may include the processing, investigating or litigation pertaining to payment or denial of a claim.

Membership may include former members who have retired from employment as previously described in this paragraph and whose continued membership is desirable to the membership. This continued membership shall be subject to approval by the Board of Directors of this Association.

Life Membership

A. Life Membership in the Southern California Fraud Investigators' Association shall be awarded in the following manner:

1. The requesting member must be fully retired and must submit an application for Life Membership to the Board of Directors for approval;
2. Must have:
 - a. Maintained at least five years as a member in good standing, or
 - b. Have made an outstanding contribution to, or

- c. Have performed an outstanding service to the Association.
3. Life Members will be exempt from all dues and assessments. They will not be exempt from costs of Association sponsored events. Life Members will have voting privileges.

Honorary Membership

Honorary membership in the Southern California Fraud Investigators' Association may be awarded to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution towards the goals of this Association. Honorary members will be exempt from all dues and assessments. Honorary members will not enjoy voting privileges. They will not be exempt from costs of Association sponsored events.

Honorary membership may be subject to unanimous approval by the Board of Directors of this Association.

ARTICLE III ADMITTANCE

Admittance for membership requires the approval of the Board of Directors, acting as a Membership Committee. The Board of Directors shall deem ineligible any member of this organization whose actions or interests conflict with the goals of this Association.

1. Membership in this Association is automatically terminated when the member no longer meets the established requirements set forth in the membership qualifications. Admittance to membership shall be limited to the balance of one calendar year.
2. Application for membership shall be prepared in a fashion deemed most expedient to the Board or Directors.
3. The Board or Directors, upon the finding of any unethical, unlawful or immoral conduct of any members, shall be empowered to suspend forthwith that member, thereby revoking all of his rights and privileges as a member of this Association, for the balance of the membership year. Such suspension can only occur when four members of the Board of Directors vote for such suspension. Such suspension may also serve as grounds for termination of any and all rights of the subject member from the Association.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. Officers

The Association shall have as officers, a President, Vice President, Secretary, and a Treasurer. All of their terms will be for one calendar year commencing January 1st. The nomination and

election of these officers will be by the general membership and shall follow the election procedures contained in these bylaws. The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer may be re-elected to succeed themselves.

1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all the meetings of the Association.
2. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to preside in the absence of the President.
3. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to answer all communications addressed to him/her or submitted to him/her by the President. The secretary shall also be required to maintain all necessary records for the orderly conduct of business of the Association.
4. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies of the Association. He/she shall further take the responsibility of the disbursement of funds with the concurrence of the President or Vice President He/she shall prepare a monthly finance report for the Board of Directors.
5. It shall be the duty of the Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer to perform such functions as delegated by the President.

2. Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall have all the rights and authority for the management of the affairs of the Association unless otherwise provided for in these bylaws.

The Board of Directors shall be comprised of five members who will each serve a two-year term. Three of the five members shall be nominated and elected by the general membership. The other two members may be appointed by the President.

Elections by the general membership shall precede the appointments by the President. The tenure of those being elected and appointed will be specified prior to such elections and appointments. The immediate Past President of the Association shall serve as a non-voting member of the Board of Directors for one year following his term as President.

No member of the Board of Directors will succeed him/herself in office to exceed two elected terms. Should the person be nominated, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify the nominating person, persons, or committee that such nomination is in conflict with existing bylaws.

1. The Board of Directors shall consider and report at each meeting all proposed measures for the benefit of the members and the general welfare of the Association. The Board shall select the location for meetings, adopt ways and means for the purpose of advancement of the Association, designate work to done between sessions, convene at any place and time determined by the President with ten (10) days notice to be given by the Secretary and in every way promote the interest of the Association.

2. A quorum shall consist of three board members and at least one officer. A majority vote shall be necessary to carry all motions including a motion to amend the bylaws. The officers and Board of Directors shall be guided by the rules set forth in Roberts Rules of Order.

3. If a quorum is not reached, the President or highest ranking officer may appoint one of the Association's duly elected officers, excluding the President, to sit as a full Board member at any meeting of the Board.

4. The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, along with the Board of Directors shall have full decision making authority and voting rights for the purpose of managing the affairs of the Association.

ARTICLE V ELECTION & TERMS OF OFFICE-OFFICERS

Election of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be on an annual basis. Such elections shall be held during the last quarter of the calendar year and shall follow the election procedures contained in these bylaws. The nominations for this election will take place during the last quarter of the calendar year.

1. All newly elected Officers shall be installed by the outgoing President at the January meeting following elections, as the first order of business and, upon being installed, will immediately commence the duties of their respective office. Installation procedures will be at the discretion of the installing officer.

2. In the absence of the outgoing President at the installation meeting, installation duties will be assumed in the following order of outgoing officers: Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary.

3. Should any newly elected officer be absent from the January meeting his/her installation will take place at the next meeting.

4. In the event an office is vacated, the President with the concurrence of a majority of the Board of Directors shall appoint an Association member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the elected term.

ARTICLE VI ELECTION & TERMS OF OFFICE - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Election of the Board of Directors shall take place during the last quarter of the calendar year and shall follow the election procedures contained in these bylaws. The nominations for the election shall take place during the last quarter of the calendar year.

1. The newly elected and appointed Board of Directors will be formally installed at the January meeting. They shall forthwith meet with the current Board of Directors and coordinate their activities to assume their new duties.

2. The President, with the concurrence of the Board of Directors, shall select an Association member to fill any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors. Individuals appointed to fill a vacancy in the Board of Directors shall serve for the remainder of the elected term.

ARTICLE VII ELECTION PROCEDURES

Individuals seeking election must be a current member and must have maintained membership in good standing in this Association for a minimum of two years.

Nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and appropriate Board of Directors vacancies must be made in person from the floor during the last quarter of the calendar year. Nominees must know the duties of the office he/she is being nominated to and must have committed him/herself to the nominating member to accept the nomination.

The Secretary will prepare ballots with all the names of the nominees contained thereon and deliver the ballots by United States mail or e-mail to all members in good standing within fourteen (14) calendar days.

All ballots must be returned to the Secretary within fourteen (14) calendar days. The Secretary shall count the ballots and advise the President of the outcome. The President shall announce the results of the election at the December meeting. All the counted ballots will be presented to the Board of Directors upon completion of the vote counting.

ARTICLE VIII NOTIFICATION

The Secretary shall provide e-mail notification to the membership of the time and place of the nominations and elections not less than forty five (45) days prior to the election. It is the sole responsibility of each member to provide the Association with his or her current e-mail address.

ARTICLE IX DUES

Annual dues in an amount determined by the Board of Directors will be assessed to each member and shall be collected by the Treasurer no later than the last day of February of each year. At the time of payment of dues, the member shall submit current e-mail address, home or business address and phone number.

**ARTICLE X
AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**

The bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the officers and Board of Directors of the Association.

If adopted, the amendment(s) to the bylaws shall become effective immediately. The Secretary shall post the amended bylaws on the Association website within fourteen (14) days and shall advise the membership by email that the bylaws have been amended.

**ARTICLE XI
CONFIDENTIALITY OF ASSOCIATION
RECORDS AND INFORMATION**

Membership applications, membership directory, correspondence to, from, and concerning any member or members, newsletters and information discussed at meetings are confidential, and for exclusive use of the Board, officers and members. Information will be released at the discretion of the Board.