

**ACADEMY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES
SECURITY AND CRIME PREVENTION SECTION**

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of the organization shall be the Security and Crime Prevention Section of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, hereafter referred to as the Section.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purposes of the Section are to bring together Academy members with a particular interest in the areas of security and crime prevention; to facilitate and encourage research and theory development related to security and crime prevention; to encourage appropriate and effective teaching techniques and practices for security and crime prevention courses; to serve as a resource network for and encourage interaction among academic, research, practitioner, and policy-making sectors in order to further knowledge about the security and crime prevention; and to encourage the organization of conference sessions related to security and crime prevention.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. The membership of the Section shall be divided into the following categories: (1) regular members and (2) student members.

Section 2. REGULAR MEMBERS: Regular membership shall include any member in good standing of the Academy, who is paying regular membership dues to the Section, and who does not fall within, or falling within, does not choose to be included within, the Student Member category.

Section 3. STUDENT MEMBERS: Student membership shall be open to any undergraduate or graduate student enrolled at an institution of higher education whose enrollment is certified by a regular faculty or administrative official of the institution and who is a student member of the Academy.

Section 4. DUES: Annual dues for all categories of the Section membership shall be set by the Executive Board of the Section, subject to the approval of the Executive Board of the Academy. Dues shall be payable annually in concert with the dues of the Academy.

Section 5. VOTING PRIVILEGES: Members of the Section who have paid dues for the current year shall have voting privileges on all matters presented to the Section membership for a vote.

Section 6. RESIGNATIONS: Resignations of membership shall be submitted in writing to the Section Secretary.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Section shall be a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Immediate Past Chairperson, and three Executive Counselors. These officers shall perform the duties

prescribed by this Constitution and By-Laws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Section, as prescribed in Articles VI and VII.

Section 2. The officers of the Section, who must be regular members eligible to vote, shall be elected in accordance with the Election Code as adopted by the Executive Board of the Section and approved by the Executive Board of the Academy.

Section 3. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson may not serve consecutive terms in the same office. The Executive Counselors may serve two consecutive terms.

Section 4. Officers of the Section shall hold office until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified.

Section 5. The Chairperson shall provide executive direction for the section and preside over Section meetings. The Chairperson shall serve as a liaison with the annual Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences program chairperson to promote the inclusion of panels relating to security and crime prevention in the program. The Chairperson shall prepare an annual report of Section activities for presentation to the Academy Executive Board at the annual meeting.

Section 6. The Vice-Chairperson shall preside over Section meetings in the absence of the Chairperson and shall be empowered to conduct all necessary business of the Section if the office of the Chairperson is vacant or if the Chairperson is disabled. The Vice-Chairperson shall be responsible for the dissemination of Section news in ACJS Today, a Section newsletter, or by other means as may be determined.

Section 7. The Secretary shall keep the records and minutes of the Section. The Secretary shall maintain contact with the Secretary-Treasurer of the Academy who shall maintain a separate account in the Academy treasury for the Section. The Secretary shall make sure the Section is informed of the Section's balance, debts, credits, etc., and financial issues that may arise. The Secretary shall record minutes of each meeting of the Section and shall forward a copy to each member of the Executive Board. The Secretary shall serve as the Chairperson of the Membership committee.

Section 8. Any officer may be suspended from office by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board and may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the Section members present and voting at an annual meeting.

ARTICLE V

Meetings

Section 1. **ANNUAL MEETING:** Annual meetings of the Section shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Academy at the sites selected by the Academy.

Section 2. A quorum of an annual meeting shall be the number of regular Section members present and voting.

ARTICLE VI

The Executive Board

Section 1. The officers of the Section as specified in Article IV Section 1 of this Constitution and By-Laws, and the Immediate Past Chairperson shall constitute the Executive Board.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall form policies for the Section.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall provide advice on and decide the budget for the Section.

Section 4. The Chairperson of the Section shall serve as Chairperson of the Executive Board.

Section 5. Any regular member of the Section may submit a proposed resolution in writing, to the Executive Board, and it shall be mandatory that the Chairperson include it as an agenda item for consideration at the next meeting of the Executive Board. Such a resolution must be received at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled meeting.

Section 6. Minutes shall be kept of all meetings of the Executive Board, and its actions shall be reported to the membership at each annual meeting of the Section.

Section 7. A quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of one-half of the voting members plus one.

ARTICLE VII Committees

Section 1. The Section shall maintain the following Standing Committees:

- A. Award
- B. Program
- C. Membership
- D. Communications
- E. Constitution and By-Laws
- F. Nominations and Elections

Section 2. The Chairperson may establish various ad hoc committees and appoint their members and chairpersons.

Section 3. The Chairperson may establish awards with the concurrence of the Executive Board.

Section 4. The Vice-Chairperson shall serve as the Chairperson of the Communications Committee.

Section 5. The Secretary shall serve as the Chairperson of the Membership Committee.

Section 6. The Chairperson shall appoint the chairpersons of all other committees.

Section 7. The Chairperson of each standing committee shall, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, appoint the members of the Committee he/she chairs.

Section 8. Any member of any Section committee must be a member of the Section.

ARTICLE VIII Section Budget

The budget of the Section, as determined by the Executive Board, shall be a part of the Academy budget and be administered by the Academy. The Executive Board of the Section will submit the Section's budget to the Academy Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee for integration into the Academy's budget.

Expenditures from the budget shall be authorized by the Academy Secretariat in accordance with the approved budget.

ARTICLE IX
Parliamentary Procedure

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Section in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Section or the Academy and any special rules of order the Section or Academy may adopt.

ARTICLE X
Amendment of Constitution and By-Laws

Section 1. Amendments may be proposed at any time by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee of the Section or by any member of the Section. Amendments from Section members must have the written support of a fifth of the Section members in good standing for further action.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall determine which proposed amendments are to be placed on a ballot for consideration by Section members.

Section 3. A qualified proposal for amendment determined qualified by the Executive Board, shall be approved when it receives a two-thirds vote of members in good standing who cast a vote by e-mail ballot.

Section 4. Approved amendments shall take effect two months after the next Annual Meeting of the Academy. Amendments are subject to approval of the Academy Executive Board.

ARTICLE XI
Interpretation of the Constitution

In case of questions on the meaning of any language in this document, the questions shall be referred to the Chairperson, Constitution and By-Laws Committee, for interpretation of the language and/or provision. This interpretation, upon formal filing with the Secretary for inclusion as an appendix to the Constitution and By-Laws, shall be the official interpretation, subject to invalidation by action of the Executive Board of the Section or the Executive Board of the Academy by whatever method they choose.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I **Election Code**

Section 1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Executive Counselors shall be elected by e-mail ballot by a plurality vote of those electors, as specified by Constitution Article III Section 5, casting valid ballots.

Section 2. TERM OF OFFICE - Chairperson: The Chairperson shall serve a two-year term.

Section 3. TERM OF OFFICE - Vice Chairperson: The Vice-Chairperson shall serve a two-year term.

Section 4. TERM OF OFFICE - Secretary: The Secretary shall serve a two-year term.

Section 5. TERM OF OFFICE - Executive Counselors: Executive Counselors shall serve a two-year term.

Section 6. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE:

(1) A Nominations and Elections Committee shall be appointed by the Chairperson to conduct the annual election. The Nominations and Elections Committee shall consist of at least five (5) regular members of the Section, and the Immediate Past Chairperson, who shall serve as chair.

(2) The Nominations and Elections Committee shall canvass the Section membership to obtain suggestions for candidates or may on its own initiative consider possible nominations.

All candidates shall be contacted by the Committee to determine their willingness to serve if elected and to request such materials as the committee requires for the electoral process.

It shall present to the Executive Board, by September 1, a slate of candidates for all offices to be elected, such slate to include whenever possible two (2) and only two (2) nominees for each office. When, in the judgment of the Committee, such inclusion is not possible, the Committee shall explain the inability to the Board for its edification and concurrence.

(3) The slate presented by the Committee shall require approval by the Executive Board; the Board is the final authority on the names of candidates to be on the ballot for each office, except as provided by Section 6 (4) below.

(4) In addition to the candidates approved by the Executive Board, any regular member may have his/her name appear on the official ballot if he/she has the written endorsement of at least ten (10) percent of the members of the Section. Petitions supporting the candidacy of a member must be in the hands of the Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee, no later than August 15th to ensure inclusion on the slate presented to the Executive Board

- A. Upon receipt of petitions in support of a member, the Chair shall examine and judge the authenticity of each petition to determine that the candidacy has the support of at least ten (10) percent of the members.

- B. Upon determining that a member has the required number of qualified endorsements, the Chair shall report the name to the Executive Board for inclusion on the official ballot.
- C. The name of the member shall be included on the ballot, without action or approval by the Board, as an addition to those approved by the Board, as provided in Article I Section 6 (3).
- D. All petitions shall be presented by the Chair of the Committee to the Executive Board and held until such time as the results of the election are officially promulgated.

Section 7. ELECTION PROCEDURES:

(1) At least thirty (30) days shall be allowed for the voting process, i.e., for the receipt of the election materials and the return of marked ballots. In the instructions accompanying the election material, a deadline for receipt of the ballots shall be announced. No ballots received after this date shall be counted.

(2) The ACJS National Office shall then tabulate the results of the election and notify the entire membership of the Section and report the results to the Executive Board.

(3) Candidates receiving the greatest number of votes will be declared winners.

(4) In the event of a tie, a runoff election shall be held. A period not exceeding thirty (30) days shall be allowed for conducting the runoff election. The Chairperson of the Teller's Committee shall retain the ballots and all other election material until the election has been certified at the annual meeting. The Executive Board may authorize the destruction of the ballots and other election material at its annual meeting provided there is no pending contest of the election.

(5) Anyone wishing to contest the election results must submit a formal, written petition to the Executive Board at least one month prior to the annual meeting setting forth all pertinent information. If this matter is not resolved by the Executive Board to the satisfaction of all parties directly concerned, it shall be presented to the membership during the scheduled business session for final disposition.

(6) If an election is held to be null and void by the Executive Board, the Board may authorize an election from the floor of the annual meeting. Article IV Section 4 of the Constitution applies.

Section 8. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS: Voting on amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be handled in a similar fashion to that outlined in Article I Section 7 (1-5, 7,8). The Executive Board will place items on the ballot in accordance with Article IX of the Constitution.

Notes:

(Amended by March 17, 2022)

(Approved by the SCP Section Members on August 31, 2022)

(Approved by ACJS Executive Board on October 2, 2022)

(Effective on October 10, 2022)