

**RESTORATIVE AND COMMUNITY JUSTICE SECTION  
OF  
ACADEMY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES  
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

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For Final Submission to the ACJS Board**

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**  
**RESTORATIVE AND COMMUNITY JUSTICE SECTION:**  
**ACADEMY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES**

**CONSTITUTION**

Article I

Title of Organization

The title of this organization shall be the Restorative and Community Justice Section: Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.

Article II

Mission and Purposes

The Restorative and Community Justice Section (Section) shall be a constituent unit of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (Academy) and shall function in accordance with the Constitution and By-laws and policies of the Academy. The mission of the organization is to provide a professional association academics, educators, justice agency practitioners, victim advocates, victim services interested in developing restorative and community justice theory; conduct policy relevant research on restorative and community justice practices; and educate individuals, organizations, institutions, and governmental entities about restorative and community justice principles and practices. The purposes of the section are:

- Cultivate professional development of those involved in restorative and community justice research, education and practice.
- Promote discussion, research and dissemination which gives focus, direction and integration of fields related to restorative and community justice education and practices.
- Provide opportunities for dialogue and encouragement for academics and practitioners interested in restorative and community justice related principles.
- Expose members to interdisciplinary issues related to our mission.
- Advance cross-cultural and international restorative and community justice research, education and practice.
- Develop essential knowledge, attitude and skill competencies for educators, practitioners and researchers working in the field of restorative and community justice.
- Promote on-going education and professional development of members in the fields of restorative and community justice.
- Integrate evidence based practices and models into the field and promote evaluation, research and policy.

Article III

Membership

Section 1

Membership in the Section shall be divided into the following categories: (a) Regular Members and (b) Student Members.

Section 2

Regular membership shall be open to all Regular members of the Academy in good standing. Student membership shall be open to all Student members of the Academy in good standing.

Article IV  
Officers

Section 1

The Officers of the Section shall be the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Executive Counselors (three), and the Immediate Past-Chairperson.

Section 2

All candidates for elective office must be Regular Members of the Academy and the Section in good standing.

Section 3

Section officers, with the exception of the Secretary, shall be elected according to the procedures indicated in Article V of the By-laws. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Board and shall serve in that office until he/she is replaced or resigns.

Section 4

Section officers shall be installed at the Annual Meeting of the Academy under procedures stated in Article V of the By-laws. Officers shall remain in office until their successors have been duly installed.

**COMMUNITY AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SECTION:**  
**ACADEMY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES**

**BY-LAWS**

Article I  
Dues

Section 1

Annual dues for the Section shall be determined by its Executive Board, subject to the approval of the Executive Board of the Academy.

Section 2

Regular Members must pay annual dues and comply with the Academy and Section Constitution to be considered members in good standing. Student Members will not be required to pay dues.

Article II  
Voting

Regular and Student Members in good standing are eligible to vote on motions of business before the Section including the election of officers. Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws will be voted on by Regular Members.

Article III  
Parliamentary Procedure

Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution or these By-Laws, shall be the standard for parliamentary procedure in the sessions of the Section.

Article IV  
Duties of Officers

Section 1

The Chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the Section and the Executive Board, reporting its activities to the general membership. The Chairperson shall appoint all committees and exercise such additional powers provided by the By-Laws or by resolution of the Executive Board. As chief executive officer of the Section, the Chairperson shall be responsible for seeing that all meetings are held and that the objectives of the Section are furthered.

Section 2

The Vice-Chairperson shall have and exercise all powers of the Chairperson during his or her absence or disability, serve as an ex-officio member of all committees, and shall perform such other duties as assigned by the Chairperson.

### Section 3

The Secretary shall make and preserve, in records belonging to the Section, records of all its meetings and those of the Executive Board, and shall attend to the preparation and distribution of designated correspondence and notices of meetings, where notice is required. The Secretary shall also maintain liaison with the Secretary and Treasurer of the Academy.

### Section 4

The Executive Counselors and the Immediate Past-Chairperson will assist the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and the Secretary with the administration and operations of the Section and will perform specific duties as delegated by the Chairperson and/or the Executive Board.

### Section 5

The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Executive Counselors shall serve two-year terms. In the 2015 election, one Executive Counselor position will serve for one-year and the other two Executive Counselor positions will serve the entire two-year term. This is being done to ensure that the election of Executive Counselors is staggered. The three candidates elected in 2015 for the Executive Counselor will draw cards and the one with the lowest card will serve a one-year term and the other two will serve a two-year term. In the 2016 election and forward, all three Executive Counselor positions will serve two-year terms. The Vice-Chairperson will succeed the Chairperson at the end of his/her term in office. The Chairperson will become the Immediate Past-Chairperson and a member of the Executive Board upon completion of his/her term, and serve in that position for two years.

### Section 6

The Executive Board shall consist of the above officers and a member-at-large designated by the President of the Academy.

## Article V Election of Officers

### Section 1

The Chairperson, with the advice of the Executive Board, shall establish procedures for the election of officers. He or she shall establish a Nominations and Election Committee to supervise this process. Announcements of elections and solicitations of nominations shall be distributed to the membership. All candidates for office must be Regular Members in good standing of the Academy and the Section. The Nominations and Election Committee shall have the responsibility to seek when possible a slate of at least two candidates for each office. The candidates for each office with a plurality of votes will be considered elected. Members may be candidates for only one office in an election year.

### Section 2

The Nominations and Election Committee shall mail printed ballots and “secret ballot” envelopes to all Section Members qualified to vote. This mailing will include a candidate statement. Properly prepared and timely returned ballots shall be counted at the Academy Secretariat and the results of the vote reported to the Section Executive Board. The final results of the voting shall be certified and announced by the Section Executive Board.

Section 3

Newly elected officers will assume their duties at the Annual Meeting following their election upon being duly installed.

#### Section 4

The Section Executive Board shall fill all offices vacated between installations.

### Article VI Amendments

#### Section 1

Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws may be proposed by the Section Executive Board or by a majority of members attending a general membership meeting.

#### Section 2

Ballots on proposed amendments will be distributed to each Regular member in good standing and must be returned to the Academy Secretariat within the time lines established by the Section Executive Board where they will be counted. At least fifty percent of the membership in good standing who return their ballots must be in support for the amendment to be approved.

#### Section 3

Amendments approved by the Section are subject to approval by the Academy's Executive Board. They shall take effect two months after such approval.

### Article VII Meetings

#### Section 1

The Annual General Membership Meeting of the Section shall be scheduled during the Annual Meeting of the Academy at a time and place indicated in the ACJS Annual Meeting Program. A quorum for a General Membership Meeting will be fifteen members in good standing.

#### Section 2

The Chairperson may schedule an Executive Board Meeting(s), as necessary, at any time between Annual Meetings. A quorum for such meetings shall be a majority plus one of the members of the Board.