## COASTAL FLORIDA POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **PREAMBLE**

We, the members of various law enforcement agencies and public employees in Brevard, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Indian River, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Seminole and Volusia counties, Florida, employed by the United States Government, by the State of Florida, its political subdivisions and municipalities do hereby associate ourselves for the following purposes:

To support and defend the constitution of the United States and the State of Florida; to inculcate loyalty and foster the impartial enforcement of law and/order; to improve the individual proficiency of our members in the performance of their duties; to encourage social, charitable and educational activities among our members to create a tradition of esprit de corps, insuring fidelity to duty under all conditions and circumstances; to cultivate a spirit of mutual helpfulness among our membership and the people we serve; to increase the efficiency of the public service and thus more firmly establish the citizens' confidence in the public service that is dedicated to the protection of life and property.

Amended 06-16-03

# **ARTICLE I - NAME**

**Section 1.** This organization shall be known as the COASTAL FLORIDA POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC., chartered by the Florida Police Benevolent Association, Inc., and its offices and meeting places shall be in Volusia County, unless otherwise authorized by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The organization may create divisions, enter into affiliation agreements and otherwise participate and support employee organizations created to serve public employees who are not law enforcement officers and/or may not work for law enforcement agencies or the law enforcement departments of municipal, county or state employers. To serve the needs of the non-sworn public employees, the organization expressly authorizes the creation of the COASTAL FLORIDA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, which may be created as a division within the organization, or if created as a separate corporate entity, may be deemed an affiliate of the COASTAL FLORIDA POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC. This provision does not preclude the organization from creating divisions or entering into affiliation with other employee organizations. The organization, by and through its Board of Directors, may change the name of, or terminate the existence of, a division or affiliation to serve the interest of its members. The division or affiliate shall be governed by its own Constitution and By-laws, which shall be consistent with the policies and goals of the COASTAL FLORIDA POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC., and its parent organization, the FLORIDA POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

#### **ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES**

**Section 1.** The general objectives and purposes of this organization shall be to promote professionalism among law enforcement officers; to influence the youth of our communities in an effort to combat delinquency; to further Police-Community relations by informing the citizens of our community of the day to day stress and problems of their law enforcement officers; and to represent officers and other public employees in the legal, labor, legislative, and political matters which affect the law enforcement profession, and/or the interests and well being of other public employees.

**Section 2.** The Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association, Inc., shall not participate in, nor condone strikes or cessation of duties by law enforcement officers or law enforcement support personnel. Representatives are required to immediately report to the Association President any member who advocates a strike or work stoppage. The Association President shall have the right to immediately revoke the membership status of any such member. An individual whose membership has been revoked pursuant to this provision may petition the Association Board of Directors to have membership reinstated; however, such reinstatement shall only occur after appearance before the Board of Directors and upon its approval of reinstatement.

Amended 06-16-03

#### **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

- **Section 1.** The organization shall consist of memberships as prescribed and approved by the Association Board of Directors, who shall be the judge of their own membership and the qualifications required for membership, subject to the Policies, Constitution, and By-Laws of this Association.
- **Section 2.** The classes of membership in this organization shall be divided into the following classes:
- (A) Active: Those full-time law enforcement officers, local, County, State, or Federal, within the thirteen (13) counties service by Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association, Inc. Specifically: Municipal Police Officers, Deputy Sheriffs, Correctional Officers, Jail Security Investigators, Florida Highway Patrolmen, Military Police of the United States Armed Forces, Bailiffs of the various courts, and investigators for the many State and Federal Agencies, and any other form or type of law enforcement officer or law enforcement support personnel that may be approved by the Board of Directors.
- (B) Associate Membership: Those people within Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Associations service areas that display an active interest in the welfare of law enforcement officers.
- (C) Auxiliary Membership: Those duly appointed members of the various law enforcement auxiliary units, such as part time officer, Special Deputy Sheriffs, Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary, etc.

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- (D) Sustaining Membership: Those businesses within the Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association service areas that contribute financially to further the aims and purposes of this organization.
- (E) Honorary Membership: Those individuals outside of the law enforcement ranks who, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, have performed an outstanding service to this organization, to the police profession, or to the community.
- (F) Retired Membership: Those members who have retired from any agency described in Article III, Section 2 (A) above, regardless of the agency they served.
- (G) Life Membership: Those individuals who are nominated by the Executive Committee and approved by the Board of Directors for outstanding service to the law enforcement profession. A Life member shall have served a minimum of (2) two full consecutive terms on either the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors. Life members shall be active members of the Association for their natural life. There will be no dues for life members.
- (H) Coastal Florida PEA membership: Public employees who are in a collective bargaining unit of the Coastal Florida PEA
- **Section 3.** The By-Laws hereof shall make further provisions for the appointment, regulations, conduct and rights of membership.

Amended 09-17-15

# ARTICLE IV - COMPOSITION OF MEMBERSHIP

The Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association shall be composed of all members described in Article III above, who are in good standing.

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#### ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- **Section 1.** The Officers of this organization shall consist of a President, Senior Vice-President, Vice-President of Membership, Vice President of Legislative Programs, CFPEA Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer.
- **Section 2.** The Officers named above shall be elected by the Board of Directors in a manner prescribed in the By-Laws and shall serve for a term of three (3) years. A member must be employed by an agency that has a Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association Collective Bargaining Unit in existence at the time of their election, except for the CFPEA Vice-President, which must have a CFPEA bargaining unit in existence at the time of their election.
- **Section 3.** The Officers named in Section 1. above shall be known as the Association's Executive Committee and shall have duties and rights as prescribed in the Constitution and By-Laws. Each officer shall have one vote on the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee.

**Section 4.** The Executive Committee shall meet upon the call of the President or upon a majority vote of the officers of the Executive Committee, with the provision that the Executive Committee meet at least once quarterly.

Amended 06-16-03

### **ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- **Section 1.** The Board of Directors shall be composed of the Executive Committee plus those persons who are Membership Representatives or Alternate Representative elected or appointed in a manner prescribed by the By-Laws.
- **Section 2.** The Board of Directors shall meet on the first Tuesday of each month, upon the call of the President or upon a majority vote of the Executive Committee and shall transact such business as comes before it, with the provision that the Board of Directors meet at least once quarterly.
- **Section 3.** The Board of Directors shall be the policy-making body of this Association. The Board shall have the power to make such regulations concerning the policies of the Association and to initiate and cease programs for the mutual benefit of the Association's members as it sees fit.
- **Section 4.** The Board of Directors shall have the authority to adopt policies that shall have the full force and effect of the Association's Constitution and deviation from, or violation of those policies shall be considered a violation of this Constitution.
- **Section 5.** A quorum of the Board of Directors shall be those members responding to the notice of a Board of Directors meeting which shall be notice at least ten (10) days in advance. Unless otherwise stated, a majority vote of the quorum shall constitute proper action on all matters considered by the Board of Directors.
- **Section 6.** The Board of Directors shall have the power to fix the compensation and benefits of the Officers of the Executive Committee and approve their expenses.
- **Section 7.** The Board of Directors shall have the authority to remove from office any Officer or Membership Representative who fails to perform the duties of his office or position as described in this Constitution and By-Laws. Said removal procedures shall not take place until the Officer or Membership Representative concerned has been given the opportunity to appear before the Board. Any Special Meeting called for the removal of an Officer or Membership Representative shall take place upon written notice being filed with the secretary by at least one (1) Membership Representative from a majority of the agencies represented in the Coastal Florida P.B.A. A 3/4 vote of the entire membership constituting the Board of Directors shall be required to remove an Officer at a Special Meeting called for said purpose; a 2/3 vote of the Board members present at a regular meeting shall be required to remove a Membership Representative.
- **Section 8.** The Board of Directors shall order the Treasurer at the end of each calendar year to submit the books of this Association to a Certified Public Accountant of their choice for an audit of said books.
  - **Section 9.** Those persons who are members of the Board of Directors

through their status, as a Membership Representative, shall be elected in a manner prescribed by the By-Laws and shall serve for a term of three (3) years.

**Section 10.** The Board of Directors may delegate any of its powers, authority or responsibilities to the Executive Committee or the President.

**Section 11.** The Board shall set the dues of the Association and shall have the authority to set other fees and assessments of its membership.

**Section 12.** The Board shall have the right to endorse candidates for political office and shall have the exclusive authority to sponsor and endorse local legislation.

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## **ARTICLE VII - PRESIDENT**

The President, or his/her designee, shall preside at all meetings of the Association.

The President shall have the authority to represent the State Association when designated or authorized by the State President or Board of Directors of the Florida Police Benevolent Association.

The President shall be an ex-officio member of all standing and special committees. He/she shall have the power to appoint all standing and special committees and to inquire into the affairs or matters affecting or concerning the organization.

The President shall have the power to call a special meeting of the Board of Directors whenever an emergency arises or upon petition of the majority of the members of the Board of Directors.

The President shall convey to his/her successor all unfinished business of the Association.

The President's signature, along with the Treasurer's and the Executive Director's signature shall be on all banking accounts, including checking and savings accounts.

The President shall be an unpaid position and an active member of this Association as described in Article III. Section 2.

Amended 10-17-17

### <u>ARTICLE VIII - SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT</u>

**Section 1.** The Senior Vice-President shall assist the President in the performance of his/her duties and in the absence of the President; he/she shall exercise the powers and duties of that office.

**Section 2.** The Senior Vice-President shall perform such other duties as may be ordered by the President and the Board of Directors.

**Section 3.** The Senior Vice-President may be assigned portfolios consisting of committees, sub-committees and/or projects by the President and shall be responsible for the functioning of the projects under such portfolios.

#### **ARTICLE IX - OTHER OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

**Section 1.** The other Officers of the Executive Committee and the various Membership Representatives, as Directors on the Board of Directors, shall perform the duties described in the respective offices as set forth in the By-Laws hereof.

Amended 06-16-03

#### **ARTICLE X - PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES**

**Section 1.** Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution and By-Laws or any revision thereof, the "Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised" shall guide the conduct and deliberation of all general membership meetings and of the Board of Directors' meetings.

Amended 06-16-03

#### **ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** The Constitution and By-Laws of this Association may be amended or rescinded by the Board of Directors at any regular meeting of the Board Of Directors in the following manner:

A). Matters, which do not materially alter or change the Constitution or By-Laws, may be accomplished by resolution of a majority of the Board of Directors present at the Board meeting.

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- B). Any amendment materially affecting the Constitution or By-Laws shall be changed in the following manner:
  - 1. Written notice shall be mailed to all members of the Board ten (10) days prior to a regular meeting wherein said amendment(s) shall be voted on.
  - 2. Said amendment(s) or revision(s) of this Constitution or its By-Laws may take place in part or in toto only upon a 2/3 vote of the Board members present at the Board meeting.
  - 3. Notice in the official publication of this organization fulfills this mailing requirement.
- **Section 2**. The term material change and as to what constitutes a material change is in the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Amended 06-16-03

#### ARTICLE XII - COASTAL FLORIDA PEA

The Coastal Florida Public Employees Association (CFPEA) is a division of the Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association. The membership in this Association and the rights given to any and all Coastal Florida PEA members is at the sole discretion of the Coastal Florida PBA Executive Committee. The Coastal Florida PBA Executive Committee reserves the exclusive authority to amend, suspend or revoke the rights and privileges given to the CFPEA members by this Constitution and by the By-Laws of this Association.

Amended 06-16-03

# ARTICLE XIII - FLORIDA POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Coastal Florida PBA as a chartered Association of the Florida Police Benevolent Association, Inc. (Florida PBA) shall abide by the Constitution and By-Laws and policies of the Florida PBA and shall adopt no constitution or by-law provision or policy that is in conflict with those of the Florida PBA and shall give maximum cooperation in carrying out the policies and programs of the Florida PBA.

Amended 06-16-03

# ARTICLE XIV - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director of the Coastal Florida PBA shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive Board/Executive Committee. He/She shall be appointed by a majority vote.

The Executive Director shall have the responsibility and authority of the general management of the business of the Association and shall execute orders and resolutions as assigned by the Executive Board/Executive Committee. He/she shall execute any and all contracts that may be necessary for the operation of the business of the CFPBA.

The Executive Director shall hire and assign all other employees and attorneys of Association and shall fix their compensation and other benefits and approve their expenses. He/she shall be empowered to grant such employees and attorneys binding employment contracts on behalf of the Association, not to exceed five (5) years.

The Executive Director shall have the authority to purchase equipment necessary for the administration of the Association, to maintain the equipment of the Association and to authorize payment for all bills of the Association.

Amended 10-17-17