

*CONSTITUTION*

*&*

*BY-LAWS*

*OF*

*PENNSYLVANIA LODGE*

*FRATERNAL ORDER*

*OF POLICE*

Organized July 24, 1934

Constitution and By-Laws

**Pennsylvania Lodge**

**Fraternal Order of Police**

## Revised at the

45th Biennial Conference

July 30 – August 2, 2018

Hilton Hotel

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Les Neri Joseph Regan

### President Recording Secretary

#### Revised Copy -- 2018

## CONSTITUTION

## PREAMBLE

# WHEREAS:

We, the police officers of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as Representatives and Delegates of the Subordinate Lodges, do hereby associate the Lodges we represent and the members thereof together, for the following purposes:

1. To support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to inculcate loyalty and allegiance to the United States of America; to promote and foster the enforcement of law and order; to improve the individual and collective proficiency of our members in the performance of their duties; to encourage fraternal, educational, charitable and social activities among law enforcement officers; to advocate and strive for uniform application of the civil service merit system for appointment and promotion; to support the improvement of the standard of living and working conditions of the law enforcement profession through every legal and ethical means available; to create and maintain tradition of esprit de corps ensuring fidelity to duty under all conditions and circumstances; to cultivate a spirit of fraternalism and mutual helpfulness among our members and the people we serve; to increase the efficiency of the law enforcement profession and thus more firmly to establish the confidence of the public in the service dedicated to the protection of life and property.
2. We, the members of the various Subordinate Lodges of the Fraternal Order of Police in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, are convinced that in order to promote the above purposes all members of the various Subordinate Lodges of the Commonwealth must unite under the name of the Pennsylvania Lodge Fraternal Order of Police, and to submit and be guided by the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Body of the Fraternal Order of Police.
3. This Constitution shall be the fundamental law of the Order, and together with the By-Laws enacted in conformance therewith, govern the Conduct of the Pennsylvania Lodge and all Subordinate Lodges in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**ARTICLE I**

**Amendments**

**Section 1.** Amendments of this Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the Biennial Conference. The Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary shall then inform all Subordinate Lodges, by special bulletin, of the proposed Amendments at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the Conference. The same shall become Law upon the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Delegates present at the Biennial Conference and shall take effect at the close of the Conference.

**Section 2.** The Constitution of this Order shall be revised the year following the Biennial Conference, and insertions made therewith of all new amendments, and shall be **distributed** to the various Lodges within six (6) months**. (Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

1. Reading Call of Conference.
2. Receive Password.
3. Prayer by Chaplain.
4. Appointment of Credential Committee.
5. Roll Call of Officers.
6. Roll Call of Delegates.
7. Report of Credential Committee.
8. Appointment of Committees (Constitution & By-Laws, Resolution, Judiciary, Legislative, Auditing, Grievance and Ritual. Also, any committees approved by the delegation.
9. Introduction of Resolutions.
10. Reading of Minutes of Last Meeting.
11. Report of Officers and Committees.
12. Unfinished Business.
13. New Business.
14. Good of the Order.
15. Nominations of Officers.
16. Election of Officers.
17. Bids for Next Board of Directors Meeting.
18. Installation of Officers.
19. Bills and Communications.
20. Closing Prayer by Chaplain.
21. Adjournment.

**BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE I**

**Name**

**Section 1.** This Organization shall be known as the Pennsylvania Lodge Fraternal Order of Police and shall consist of such subordinate lodges as are admitted to membership and conforms to its rules and regulations.

**Section 2.** No person may use the name or insignia of the Pennsylvania Lodge FOP except as authorized by the Constitution and By-Laws.

**Section 3.** Unauthorized use or abuse of the name or insignia shall be grounds for discipline.

**ARTICLE II**

**Character**

**Section 1.** The Pennsylvania Lodge Fraternal Order of Police is an Organization of Subordinate Lodges, consisting of law enforcement officers employed in the Commonwealth.

**Section 2.** **The Pennsylvania Lodge Fraternal Order of Police is a fraternal organization composed of professional law enforcement officers who have joined together for their common good. In no event shall the Pennsylvania Fraternal Order of Police join or be controlled by any labor organization, provided, however, that this Section shall not prohibit cooperative efforts by the Pennsylvania Lodge or its subordinate lodges with labor organizations for their common good. (Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**ARTICLE III**

**Membership**

**Section 1.** Any regularly appointedfull time employed law enforcement officer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania shall be eligible for membership in a Subordinate Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Order. No person shall be denied membership on account of Race, Creed, Color, Sex or National Origin.

**Section 2**. Full time employed shall mean law enforcement officers that are engaged in employment as their full-time occupation, taking into account the number of hours worked and income derived from work as a law enforcement officer as judged by the subordinate lodge. **The terms may also include law enforcement officers that are employed with multiple law enforcement agencies and are engaged in such employment as their full-time occupation on average of at least 30 hours per week. (Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**Section 3.** Regularly appointed law enforcement officer shall mean any law enforcement officer who meets the minimum standards and has received the training and education required by the United States, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, political subdivision or agency by which he is appointed, and is granted arrest powers, but shall notinclude corrections officers,constables, dog wardens, or other occupations as determined by the Pennsylvania Lodge**.**

**Section** **4.** Subject to the provisions of this these By-laws, each subordinate lodge shall be the judge of its membership.

**Section 5**. There shall be two(2)classes of membership: Active and Honorary.

a. Active Membership

(1) Shall include actively employed law enforcement officers.

(2) Shall include retired regularly appointed law enforcement officers who have remained in good standing with their subordinate lodges after retirement from their law enforcement agency. In good standing shall mean a member who fulfilled all requirements of membership in good standing in his respective subordinate lodge and for whom appropriate per capita tax has been paid to the Pennsylvania Lodge and the Grand Lodge**.**

(3) Only active members, as herein defined, shall have voice and vote.

b. Honorary Membership

Shall be comprised of individuals recognized by the Grand Lodge, State Lodge or Subordinate Lodges for exceptional service or contribution to the nation, the state, or political subdivision, the law enforcement community or the Fraternal Order of Police.

**Section 6.** Any member who ceases active duty for any reason other than retirement from service or disability may not retain membership in the Fraternal Order of Police. For purposes of this section retirement is deemed to include vested retirement.

**Section 7.** No person shall be a member of more than one state or subordinate lodge at the same time, nor shall any member, who is delinquent, or who has been suspended by a state or subordinate lodge for any reason, be eligible for membership in any other state or subordinate lodge until such suspension has been lifted.

**Section 8.** The Fraternal Order of Police may deny membership to anyone who is, or has been, a member of the Communist Party, or of any party regardless of what name known which advocates the abolition, destruction or violent overthrow of the government of the United States or any state or political subdivision thereof.

**ARTICLE IV**

**Organization**

**Section 1.** The Pennsylvania Lodge Fraternal Order of Police shall consist of the various subordinated lodges of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**Section 2.** The subordinate lodges shall be represented by delegates, which delegates while so serving, shall be in good standing in the subordinate lodge they represent, and must have maintained such good standing at the time of nomination and election for the office of Delegate. No person except delegates, and officers of the Pennsylvania Lodge shall have voice or vote or be eligible to hold office in the Pennsylvania Lodge.

**Section 3.** All delegates must be elected by the subordinate lodges they represent. Any delegate not duly elected shall not be seated or recognized for any purpose.

**Section 4.** The Pennsylvania Lodge shall hold a Conference every two (2) years, in the even numbered years to be known as the Biennial Conference of the Pennsylvania Lodge Fraternal Order of Police. The Conference shall be held in the month of July, August or September and shall be hosted by the Pennsylvania State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police.

**ARTICLE V**

**Officers and Board of Directors**

**Section 1.** The Officers of the Pennsylvania Lodge shall consist of a President, Immediate Past President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Second Vice-President, Sergeant-at-Arms**,** and six (6) Trustees. The Officers of the Pennsylvania Lodge shall be elected at the Biennial Conference.

**Section 2.** The Board of Directors shall be composed of the Officers of the Pennsylvania Lodge Fraternal Order of Police.

The Board of Directors shall have the exercise all administrative powers of the Order during the period between Biennial Conferences.

Any vacancy in any office of the Pennsylvania Lodge, except that of the President **or Vice President**, shall be filled by majority vote of the Board of Directors**. (Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**Section 3.** The term of office of officers, delegates and alternate delegates shall be for two (2) years, or until their successors are elected and qualified.

**Section 4.** The Board of Directors shall meet at least twice a year, in addition to the meetings held at the Biennial Conference and transact such business as may come before it. The Board of Directors shall keep minutes of the meetings and present them to the Biennial Conference for consideration or action thereon.

**Section 5.** The expenses of the members of the Board of Directors attending meetings of the Board of the Biennial Conference shall be paid by the Pennsylvania Lodge.

**Section 6.** Any officer may resign his or her office at any time, by presenting his or her resignation, in writing to the Pennsylvania Lodge Board of Directors. If his or her accounts are found to be true and correct, the Board of Directors may accept his or her resignation providing there are no charges existing against him or her.

**Section 7.** General Legal Counsel shall be retained on a Biennial basis, by the President with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE VI**

**President**

**Section 1.**

1. The President shall be Chief Executive Officer of the Order. He shall preside at the Biennial Conference, of Meetings of the Delegates thereof, and meetings of the Board of Directors. He shall have general management of the Business of the Order and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are carried into effect **(Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**
2. He, together with the Recording Secretary, shall execute any and all contracts that may be authorized by the Board of Directors.
3. He shall be, ex-officio, a member of all Committees.
4. He shall have the power, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, to appoint a majority of any committee or committees to inquire into any affair or matter affecting or concerning the Order.
5. He shall appoint a President Pro-tem of each new lodge at its installation, which Officer shall hold office as President Pro-tem until the next regular election and his successor shall have been elected and qualified.
6. He shall call Special Meetings of the Board of Directors when he deems it necessary, or upon petition of a majority of the Board of Directors. Notice of such special meetings shall be mailed by the Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary to each member of the Board of Directors at least fifteen (15) days prior to each meeting.
7. He shall, at each session of the Board of Directors, submit a full and complete report, in writing, of the official business transacted by him subsequent to the last meeting of the Board, together with such recommendations, as he may deem advisable.
8. He shall convey to his successor all unfinished business of the Order.
9. Together with the Pennsylvania Lodge Financial Secretary, he shall attest all warrants or vouchers for disbursement from any fund of the

Pennsylvania Lodge.

1. He will select the date for the Pennsylvania Police Memorial Day. Said

date shall be any weekday in May that falls before National Police Memorial Day.

1. **At the expiration of his term of office, or termination thereof for any reason, he shall convey to his successor all unfinished Business of the Order. Within ten (10) days thereafter, the President shall deliver to his successor all books, documents, records, paraphernalia, equipment and all other Lodge property in his possession, and shall require and receive a receipt from his successor for same****.** **(Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**ARTICLE VII**

**Immediate Past-President**

The Immediate Past-President shall attend the Biennial Conference and meetings of the Board of Directors. He shall advise and assist the President and the Board of Directors in the performance of their respective duties and shall execute such assignments as he may be ordered by them or either of them.

**ARTICLE VIII**

**Vice-President**

**Section 1.** The Vice-President shall preside at meetings of the Board of Directors in the absence of the President and shall otherwise generally perform the duties of the President during his absence. He shall also perform such other duties as shall be ordered by the Board of Directors. He shall appoint the minority of all Standing Committees.

**Section 2.** In the event of a vacancy in the Office of President, the Vice President shall be declared the President of the Pennsylvania Lodge.

**Section 3.** At the expiration of his term of office, or termination thereof for any reason, he shall convey to his successor all unfinished Business of the Order. Within ten (10) days thereafter, the Vice-President shall deliver to his successor all books, documents, records, paraphernalia, equipment, and all other Lodge property in his possession and shall require and receive a receipt from his successor for same.

**ARTICLE IX**

**Recording Secretary**

**Section 1.** The Recording Secretary shall have custody of books, records, documents, the seal of the Pennsylvania Lodge and office paraphernalia, and equipment, under the general authority and orders of the President and the Board of Directors. He shall take a record and transcribed minutes of the Biennial Conference and meetings of the Board of Directors and shall submit the same for approval or rejection at the next succeeding Conference or Meeting, as the case may be.

**Section 2.** He shall attest under the Seal of the Order, all duly authorized contracts of the Order.

**Section 3.** He shall conduct the general correspondence of the Pennsylvania Lodge.

**Section 4.** He shall be the Official custodian of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Order, which shall be authenticated by the Seal of the Order and the signature of the President. He shall keep a record of the Official Amendments adopted at the Biennial Conference amending the Constitution and By-Laws, duly authenticated by the Seal of the Order and the signatures of the President and Recording Secretary, in a book known as the Book of Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws.

**Section 5.** At the expiration of his office, or termination thereof for any reason, and within ten (10) days thereafter the Recording Secretary shall deliver to his successor the official Seal of the Order, and all books, documents, records, paraphernalia and equipment, and all other lodge property in his possession, and shall require and receive a receipt therefor.

**Section 6.** He shall, at each session of the Board of Directors, submit a full and complete report in writing, of his official business transacted by him subsequent to the last meeting of the Board of Directors or Conference together with such recommendations as he may deem advisable.

**ARTICLE X**

**Financial Secretary**

**Section 1.** The Financial Secretary, together with the President, shall attest all warrants or vouchers for cash disbursement from any fund of the Pennsylvania Lodge.

**Section 2.** He shall attest all Money Orders on the Treasury and record the same in a book known as the Book of Records.

**Section 3.** He shall have general charge of all financial records of the Pennsylvania Lodge, including all books, cards, leaves and papers showing the payment or nonpayment by subordinate lodges of all monies due the Pennsylvania Lodge. All items of income and expenditure shall be first presented to him for record upon the Book of Records. He shall furnish a bond, the amount to be set by the Board of Directors.

**Section 4.** He shall perform such other duties as are usual and incident to the office.

**Section 5.** He shall, at each session of the Board of Directors, submit a full and complete report, in writing, of his official business transacted by him subsequent to the last meeting of the Board of Directors or Conference together with such recommendations as he may deem advisable.

**Section 6.** At the expiration of his term of office, or termination thereof for any reason, and within ten (10) days thereafter, the Financial Secretary shall deliver to his successor the official Seal of the Order and all other lodge property in his possession and shall require and receive a receipt therefor.

**Section 7.** The Financial Secretary shall notify the Recording Secretary of the name and number of each lodge including the number of members that the Per Capita Tax was paid on, so the Recording Secretary can forward sufficient credentials for that particular lodge delegation.

**ARTICLE XI**

**Treasurer**

**Section 1.** The Treasurer shall receive and take charge of all monies belonging to the Pennsylvania Lodge, pay all Orders drawn on him, signed by the President and Financial Secretary, keep up accurate account of monies received and expended and credit each special account with such sums as occurs.

**Section 2.** He shall give to the Auditing Committee correct account of all monies in his possession, together with the books, papers and receipts belonging to his office, and at any time when ordered by the Board of Directors, he shall deliver all monies, books and papers to the Trustees.

**Section 3.** He shall deposit all monies belonging to the Pennsylvania Lodge in the bank to the credit of the lodge. He shall deliver to his successor in office all books and any other property belonging to the Pennsylvania Lodge.

**Section 4.** He shall furnish Bond, the amount to be set by the Board of Directors.

**Section 5.** It shall be compulsory that the Pennsylvania Lodge have its books audited annually as of June 30, by a Certified Public Accountant.

**Section 6.** He shall perform such other duties as are usual and incident to his Office.

**Section 7.** He shall, at each session of the Board of Directors, submit a full and complete report in writing, of his official business transacted by him subsequent to the last meeting of the Board of Directors or Conference together with recommendations as he may deem advisable.

**Section 8.** At the expiration of his term of office, or termination thereof for any reason, he shall convey to his successor all unfinished Business of the Order. Within ten (10) days thereafter, the Treasurer shall deliver to his successor all monies, books, records, paraphernalia, equipment and all other Lodge property in his possession and shall require and receive a receipt for same.

**ARTICLE XII**

**Second Vice-President**

**Section 1.** The **Second Vice President** shall perform such duties as the President may require**. (Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**Section 2. The Second Vice-President shall preside at meetings of the Board of Directors in the absence of the President and the Vice-President and shall otherwise generally perform the duties of the Vice-President during his absence and the duties of the President in the absence of both the President and Vice-President. (Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**Section 3. In the event of a vacancy in the Office of Vice-President, the Second Vice President shall be declared the Vice-President of the Pennsylvania Lodge. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Second Vice President, within 10 days of the vacancy the Board of Directors shall fill the vacancy by appointment for the balance of the term of office. (Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**Section 4. At the expiration of his term of office, or termination thereof for any reason, he shall convey to his successor all unfinished Business of the Order. Within ten (10) days thereafter, the Second Vice-President shall deliver to his successor all monies, books, records, paraphernalia, equipment and all other Lodge property in his possession and shall require a receipt for same. (Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**ARTICLE XIII**

**Sergeant-at-Arms**

The Sergeant-at-Arms shall have charge and control of the Conference Hall or meeting place. He shall permit only qualified persons to enter or remain. He shall assist the Second Vice-Presidentin the execution of such duties as the President may order.

**ARTICLE XIV**

**Trustees**

**Section 1.** The six (6) Trustees shall be responsible for all property of the Order. The Trustees shall:

1. Be responsible for all physical property of the order;
2. Make a complete and itemized inventory;
3. Within thirty (30) days after adjournment of Biennial Conference, file with the Board of Directors a certified copy of such inventory;
4. Recommend to the Board of Directors the amount of Bond to be required of the Financial Secretary and Treasurer, for the faithful performance of their duties;
5. Conduct an audit semi-annually of all funds and Financial Books and records of the Order and make a report thereof to the Board of Directors;
6. Ascertain that all monies received have been allocated to the credit of the proper funds and so deposited in the name and to the credit of the Order;
7. Upon order of the Conference or Board of Directors, purchase any equipment or supplies deemed necessary.

**Section 2.** At the expiration of his term of office, or termination thereof for any reason, and within ten (10) days thereafter, he shall deliver all monies, books, documents, records, paraphernalia and equipment, and all other lodge property in his possession to his successor and require and receive a receipt for same.

**ARTICLE XV**

**Legal Aid**

**Section 1.** Subordinate lodges and members thereof in good standing shall be entitled to apply to the Pennsylvania Lodge for legal aid. Legal aid shall be granted only in circumstances involving legal action against such Lodge members arising out of the performance of duties as law enforcement officers, or wherein some governmental agency, or official thereof is attempting to deprive the said member or members of wages, rights, or privileges to which their positions entitle them. Before legal aid is granted by the Pennsylvania Lodge, the Subordinate Lodge must show that it does not possess sufficient resources to meet the expense of such legal aid.

**Section 2.** Appeals for legal aid shall be submitted, in writing to the FOP State President through the respective Subordinate Lodges. Such appeals shall be acted upon promptly by the President, with the consent of a majority of the Board of Directors.

**Section 3.** Commitments for legal assistance shall be effective and binding against the Pennsylvania Lodge only when made in writing over the signature of the President.

**Section 4.** The President of the State FOP may grant emergency legal aid at his sole discretion. However, a majority of the Board of Directors must approve such grant of legal aid within ten (10) days.

**Section 5.** Legal action may be taken by the State Lodge, in its own right, to protect and defend the right and privileges of police officers.

**ARTICLE XVI**

**Expense and Compensation**

**Of Officers and Members**

**Section 1.** Any Officer of the Board of Directors performing duties of the Pennsylvania Lodge, by its order or upon the order of the President, which compels him or her to cease his or her regular employment, shall be reimbursed in full for all expenses incurred. He or she shall furnish the Pennsylvania Lodge with a detailed itemized statement of said expenses.

**Section 2.** The Financial Secretary and Treasurer each shall be compensated annually by the Pennsylvania Lodge for their services in the amount of Five Hundred ($500.00) Dollars and the Recording Secretary be compensated annually for his services in the amount of One Thousand ($1,000.00) Dollars.

**Section 3.** Upon installation, the President, if an active law enforcement officer, shall be authorized to apply for leave of absence from his regular police duties. When such leave is granted, the President shall be paid bi-weekly a wage in an amount equal to the wage he was being paid for the performance of his regular duties. This wage shall be paid so long as the President remains in office and under leave of absence from his regular duties. Additionally, the President shall receive all reasonable and necessary expenses incident to the proper performances of his duties as President.

**ARTICLE XVII**

**Legislation**

**Section 1.** There shall be established a Committee to be known as the Pennsylvania Lodge Legislative Committee. In addition to the President of the Lodge, who shall sit as a regular and permanent member of this committee, there shall be nine (9) appointed members of this Committee. Appointment and selection of said appointed committee members shall be so limited as to provide that one member shall represent each of the following groups and classifications within the Lodge:

1. Cities of the First Class
2. Cities of the Second Class
3. Cities of the Second A Class
4. Cities of the Third Class
5. Counties and Boroughs
6. Towns and Townships
7. Pennsylvania State Police
8. **Other Commonwealth of** Pennsylvania **Law** Enforcement Officers. **(Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**
9. Pensioned police

The President shall have the right to appoint five (5) of these committee members, and

the Vice-President shall have the right to appoint four (4), with the President determining in which category each shall appoint.

**Section 2.** No subordinate lodge shall appoint any of its members to act on any Pennsylvania Lodge adopted Legislation, which is before the General Assembly, without the authorization of the Pennsylvania Lodge Legislative Committee.

**Section 3.** Any subordinate lodge, which shall have Legislation to be presented to the General Assembly, must have same drawn up and sent to the appointed committee for their approval and consideration. No subordinate lodge, or any member or members can submit any prospective legislation to the General Assembly or the National Congress or any member thereof, in the name of or using the name of the Fraternal Order of Police, without first having the consent of the Pennsylvania Lodge Legislative Committee.

**Section 4.** The Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary shall notify all subordinate lodges that proposed legislation shall be placed in the hands of the Recording Secretary, no later than ninety (90) days prior to the assemblage of the General Assembly. All legislation received by him from the subordinate lodges shall be given to the Pennsylvania Lodge Legislative Committee no later than sixty (60) days prior to the assemblage of the General Assembly.

1. Only one resolution shall be accepted from each representative as part of the Committee Program, providing further:
   1. That in case of emergency the Legislative Committee shall have the power to introduce an emergency or compromise resolution, should the said Committee deem it advisable and necessary, and providing further, that the Legislative Committee shall not accept any resolutions at its general meeting or thereafter except those received within the ninety (90) day period.

**Section 5.** The Pennsylvania Lodge Legislative Committee shall convene sixty (60) days prior to the assemblage of the General Assembly and prepare the proposed Legislation received by them for presentation to the General Assembly. Any legislation which is not presented according to these provisions shall not be considered as this organization’s legislation.

**Section 6.** All expenses of the Legislative Committee shall be paid by the Pennsylvania Lodge. No more than three (3) members of this committee (to be selected by the President) shall attend the Legislative Sessions at the State Capital at any time. Any other members attending shall do so at their own expense.

1. In case of special emergencies, when the presence of more than three (3) members are deemed necessary to the President, then in such cases, the expenses of other members of the Legislative Committee called to the State Capital shall be paid.

**Section 7.** The President, Financial Secretary and Treasurer shall be authorized to pay vouchers approved by the President for the expenses of the Legislative Committee attending the weekly sessions of the General Assembly.

**ARTICLE XVIII**

**Subordinate Lodges**

**Section 1.** Each subordinate lodge in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania shall enact By-Laws, not in conflict with the Constitution and By Laws of the Grand Lodge or the Pennsylvania Lodge.

Each subordinate lodge shall adopt, ratify and make part of their By-Laws the

Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge and the Pennsylvania Lodge.

**Section 2.** A subordinate lodge shall not consist of less than ten (10) members and may prescribe the amount of initiation fee for applicants and regulate the same according to the Laws of the Order.

**Section 3.** No subordinate lodge shall accept for membership any member of a suspended lodge or any member suspended from another lodge.

**Section 4.** Each subordinate lodge must hold at least one meeting each month.

**Section 5.** Each subordinate lodge must hold elections, every four-(4) years or less, of its officers, delegates and alternate delegates. They shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified.

Each subordinate lodge, after installation of officers and before their next regular

meeting must notify the Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary of the place and date of its regular meeting and also give the Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary the full roster of officers. When death occurs to a member of a subordinate lodge, the Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary must be notified of his name.

**Section 6.** Special meetings of the subordinate lodges shall be called by the President or the Vice-President, or by the Pennsylvania Lodge Board of Directors, upon the request of seven (7) members of the lodge, who shall specify the reason for desiring such special meetings, and no other business can be transacted at said special meeting.

**Section 7.** Each subordinate lodge shall receive, at the time of installation, a charter free of cost.

**Section 8.** No subordinate lodge shall be entitled to be reimbursed by the Pennsylvania Lodge for any bills without the written approval of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Lodge.

**Section 9.** No more than one (1) lodge shall be established and maintained in any city, town or other political subdivision. Provided, however, that this shall not prohibit the establishment or maintenance of any subordinate lodge whose jurisdiction may overlap that of another subordinate lodge.

**Section 10.** In the event of any dispute between two or more lodges as to a question of membership in such lodge or as to the territorial jurisdiction thereof, such dispute shall be settled by the Pennsylvania Lodge Board of Directors, with the right of appeal to the Grand Lodge Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE XIX**

**Solicitation**

**Section 1.** No subordinate lodge shall be permitted to solicit ads, sell tickets, sell products, solicit monies, engage in any fund-raising activities, or solicit associate lodge members in the territory of any other subordinate lodge whose jurisdiction in the said territory is primary. A lodge whose jurisdiction is primary is defined as that lodge who provides the majority of police services within the said territory.

1. There shall be established a Committee to be known as the Standing Solicitation Committee. In addition to the President of the State Lodge, who shall sit as a regular and permanent member of this committee, there shall be six (6) appointed members of this Committee. Appointment and selection of said appointed committee members shall be so limited as to provide that one (1) member shall represent each of the following groups and classifications within the Lodge:
   1. Cities of the First Class;
   2. Cities of the Second Class;
   3. Cities of the Third Class;
   4. Towns and Boroughs Association;
   5. Pennsylvania State Police;
   6. State Lodge Board.
2. In the event that a lodge, which is not the primary lodge, desires to solicit in the territory of a primary lodge, it shall request in writing, from the president of the primary lodge, the right to solicit in the territory of the primary lodge. The President shall have the right to reject the request or to grant the solicitation rights of the requesting lodge.
3. In the event the requesting lodge is not satisfied with the response of the primary lodge, it shall have the right to file a grievance with the Standing Solicitation Committee within thirty (30) days of the response from the primary lodge. The Committee shall hold a hearing within thirty (30) days and determine whether the petitioning lodge shall be granted any solicitation rights in the territory of the primary lodge or shall be granted up to sixty (60) days in any calendar year of solicitation within the territory of the primary lodge.
4. If the requesting lodge is not satisfied with the determination of the Standing Solicitation Committee, it shall have the right to petition the State Board for a determination. The State Board may grant either no solicitation or up to a maximum of sixty (60) days of solicitation in any one calendar year. If there is less than three (3) months remaining before the next Board Meeting or State Convention, then the recommendations will be presented at the said State Board meeting or State Convention, then the recommendations will be presented at the said State Board Meeting or State Convention. If there are more than three (3) months remaining until the next State Board Meeting or State Convention, the State Lodge President will poll the State Lodge Board members by telephone and a vote will be taken on the recommendation.
5. At least thirty (30) days prior to commencing any solicitation, a lodge, before signing any contract with a professional fund raiser, must send notification to the Standing Solicitation Committee with a request for approval. Said request for approval shall contain a copy of the proposed contract with the professional fund raiser, the dates of the proposed solicitation, the sales approach to be taken, an established complaint procedure, the purpose of the solicitation, and the specific area proposed to be solicited. At the conclusion of the solicitation, a notification of conclusion must be submitted to the Standing Solicitation Committee with a statement as to the conduct of the solicitation by the professional fund raiser.
6. All members of the Fraternal Order of Police must comply with the specific established solicitation procedures and may not engage in a solicitation under any name other than the Fraternal Order of Police in order to circumvent the established procedures.
7. In the event the above guidelines are not complied with, the statewide Standing Solicitation Committee shall be empowered to bring sanctions against the offending party. Such sanctions may include, but are not limited to, suspension of the privilege to solicit, fines up to one hundred (100%) percent of the proceeds of the solicitation, or a sharing of the proceeds with the complaining lodge.
8. The decision of the State Lodge on the sanctions imposed by the Standing Solicitation Committee or the right of a secondary lodge to solicit shall be final and binding.
9. If any subordinate lodge shall fail to pay any fines so imposed for such violations, said lodge shall be declared suspended, until fines have been paid in full.

**ARTICLE XX**

**Per Capita Tax and Assessments**

**Section 1.**

1. Each subordinate lodge in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania shall collect from its membership and pay the Pennsylvania State Lodge a per capita tax of Nine ($9.00) Dollars per member per year. Commencing for the year 2011, each subordinate lodge shall collect from its membership and pay to the Pennsylvania State Lodge a per-capita tax of Thirty ($30.00) Dollars per member per year. Commencing in each election year for Officers of the Pennsylvania State Lodge, the State Lodge Financial Secretary shall determine the average top patrolman’s hourly rate for the following entities which employ police officers who are members of a Subordinate Lodge:
2. Cities of the First Class;
3. Cities of the Second Class;
4. Cities of the Second-Class A;
5. Cities of the Third Class;
6. Townships;
7. Boroughs;
8. Pennsylvania State Police

The municipalities described in (4), (5), and (6) shall be the municipality in each category with the highest population, as determined by the most recent Unites States Decennial Census, that provide full-time police service. The average hourly rate shall be determined by adding the top patrolman’s rate for each of the entities and dividing that sum by seven (7). The Pennsylvania State Lodge Financial Secretary shall report to the delegates on the first session day at each Pennsylvania State Lodge Conference the amount of the per-capita as determined by this formula. Each Subordinate Lodge shall collect from its membership and pay the Pennsylvania State Lodge the per-capita as determined by this formula for each of the years following each election of the officers, until it is recalculated at the next election.

1. The annual per-capita described in Section 1(A) shall be reduced by fifty

percent (50%) for each member who has maintained their membership in the

FOP for forty (40) years or more.

1. Nothing contained herein shall preclude a Subordinate Lodge from paying all

or part of this per-capita on behalf of its members.

1. For any public solicitation after March 1, 2012, by the Pennsylvania State

Lodge for purposes other than the charitable purposes described below, the Pennsylvania State Lodge shall remit all proceeds generated from such solicitation to the Subordinate Lodges on a per-capita basis.

For purposes of this section “Charitable Purposes” shall be limited to the following:

1. To assist the families and local lodges when members are killed in the line of duty.
2. To assist injured disabled, sick or distressed members.
3. To assist retired and elderly members.
4. The creation and/or maintenance of a State Memorial for Officers killed in the line of duty.

**Section 2.** Subordinate lodges shall be required to pay per capita tax on all members in good standing each year**.** The payment of the per capita shall be payable on the same date and at the same frequency and based upon the same members in good standing as the annual per capita tax paid to the Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police as set forth in its Constitution, and as amended.

The number of subordinate lodge delegates shall be determined by the number of

members on whom per capita tax has been paid on or before the same date as when the Grand Lodge’s second installment of its per capita tax is due of the Pennsylvania Lodge’s Biennial Conference year.

The Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary shall be prohibited from issuing delegates credentials for the Biennial Conference to any subordinate lodge that has not paid its per capita tax, assessments or fines or indebtedness.

**Section 3.** Each subordinate lodge in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania instituted after the month of July shall be exempted from paying per capita tax for that year only. If instituted prior to July 1st, one half of the per capita tax per member shall be paid to the Pennsylvania Lodge for that year only.

**Section 4.** All indebtedness must be paid to the Pennsylvania Lodge, before the semi-annual password can be communicated to the President of the subordinate lodge.

**Section 5.** Each new subordinate lodge shall pay to the Pennsylvania Lodge for its installation, a sum of money to be set by the Pennsylvania Lodge Board of Directors.

**Section 6.** If two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Lodge shall deem it necessary that the Treasury of the Order should be increased to meet an emergency, they shall first determine the amount of assessment per member that would be required to cover estimated expense. The Board of Directors then shall notify each subordinate lodge of their intentions of levying an assessment and a detailed account of probable expenditures. Upon notification by registered mail, the subordinate lodge shall be required to notify the Board of Directors within thirty (30) days of its approval or disapproval of the proposed assessment. Each subordinate lodge shall cast votes equal in number to the number of delegates it was entitled to at the previous Biennial Conference. In the event that the vote of any subordinate lodge fails to arrive at the office of the Pennsylvania Lodge within the prescribed thirty (30) days, the date of the postmark shall be considered prima facie evidence that the vote was filed in accordance with the provisions of the section. To be put into effect, the proposed assessment shall have to be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the vote cast. If so approved, the Board of Directors shall notify each subordinate lodge, by registered mail, of the total votes cast and how each subordinate lodge in the order cast its vote.

**Section 7.** Each lodge of the Pennsylvania State Lodge will be required to pay $50.00 per year, payable with the First Half or Last Half per capita installation of each year. Said payment will be placed in a special fund dedicated to paying all necessary expenses to maintain the Pennsylvania Police Memorial Day Ceremony.

**ARTICLE XXI**

**Discipline**

**Section 1.** This Article shall govern discipline of officers of the Pennsylvania State Lodge and subordinate lodges and their members and shall be interpreted in such a manner as to afford equity and fairness to all affected thereby.

**Section 2.** Discipline shall be initiated by the Pennsylvania State Lodge and imposed on an individual member of a subordinate lodge, a subordinate lodge or state officer only in circumstances where the member, lodge, or state officer has acted or failed to act in respect of a matter of direct and significant import to the Pennsylvania State Lodge, or has violated the Constitution, the By-Laws or the Ritual of the Order.

1. In an investigation of a subordinate lodge, member or members, the President, with the consent of a majority of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a committee of three (3) members from the Board of Directors, to serve as the Investigating Committee for purposes of that particular investigation. They shall review documents, interview all necessary parties, and make a written report as to whether charges should be instituted. In the event the committee feels that charges should not be instituted, the matter shall be closed. If the committee feels that charges are appropriate, they shall draft charges and serve them as specified in these By-Laws.
2. Service shall be made upon the Lodge, member or members, personally, or by registered mail, and shall contain a written copy of a sworn complaint signed by the Chairman of the Investigation Committee, with such specifications of facts as shall enable the lodge, member or members to be placed on defense.
3. Not less than thirty (30) days after the service of a copy of the complaint, a hearing shall be scheduled before the State Lodge Board of Directors.
4. In the hearing, consideration shall be confined to the specified facts set forth in the complaint and charges.
5. In the hearing, the order of procedure shall be as follows:
   * 1. The complainant shall present evidence in support of the

charges and specifications;

* + 1. The charged lodge or member shall then present such

evidence as it may wish to offer in defense;

* + 1. The complainant may offer evidence in rebuttal;
    2. The production of evidence at the hearing and the

determination and decision thereof shall be administered fairly, allowing all positions to be presented without interference. There shall be no interrogation by the parties of each other; however, members of the Board of Directors may ask questions.

1. The hearing shall be held in the location specified by the Board of Directors.
2. Only FOP members may be present during a hearing, however, the FOP State Lodge Counsel may attend.
3. The Investigation Committee, as designated in Section 2 (A) of this Article, shall not participate in the vote as to discipline. The imposition of discipline shall require a majority vote of the Board of Directors, with the exclusion of members of the Board of Directors who have been designated as the Investigation Committee.
4. The burden of proof shall be a preponderance of the evidence.
5. The Board of Directors shall have the right, power and authority to take such action as it may deem fitting and proper, upon proof of facts leading it to the conclusion that any subordinate lodge, officer or members thereof, are guilty of the charges.
6. Immediately upon the suspension of the charter of any subordinate lodge, the Board of Directors, or its duly authorized agent or representative, is authorized and empowered to take possession, control and custody of all books and records and to provide for the supervision, government and administration of such lodge.

**Section 3. Individual Members of Subordinate Lodges**

1. Except as provided herein, individual members shall only be disciplined by their lodge. Each subordinate lodge shall develop and promulgate rules that provide for the fair and appropriate discipline of its members that are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.
2. In the case of discipline imposed upon an individual member involving suspension, expulsion or removal of office by a subordinate lodge, an appeal may be taken by the member to the Pennsylvania State Lodge. An appeal may be taken from the decision of the Pennsylvania State Lodge by the non-prevailing party to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, to the Biennial Conference of the Grand Lodge.
   1. An appeal to the State Lodge may be brought by the filing of a written notice of appeal with the State President, not more than thirty (30) days after the member’s receipt of official notification of his suspension, expulsion, or removal from office. Unless continued or delayed for good cause, such appeal shall be heard by the State Lodge at the next Board meeting following the State Lodge President’s receipt of such notice of appeal and, unless waived in writing by both the appealing member and the responding lodge, a written decision shall be rendered by the Board within ten (10) days after such meeting. Both the appealing member and the lodge from whose action the appeal is brought shall have the right to a hearing at which both parties may be heard and may present witnesses and documents. Such hearing shall be conducted in conformity with this Article XXI.
   2. The State Lodge may sustain, modify or reverse the disciplinary action against the member.
   3. In any case of discipline involving suspension, expulsion or removal from office of an individual member initiated by a State Lodge, or upon the decision of the State Lodge in respect to an appeal from the action of a subordinate lodge, an appeal may be taken to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, to the Biennial Conference.
   4. A party seeking to appeal from the decision of the State Lodge shall give notice of appeal to the National Board by submitting by registered mail within thirty (30) days of the party’s receipt of notice thereof, a written submission consisting of the decision from which the appeal is taken and such other written materials as the appellant deems relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. The appellant shall serve one (1) copy of the notice of appeal (including all written submissions) upon the opposing party (which shall be the state or subordinate lodge secretary where such opposing party is a lodge). Where the appealing party is a subordinate lodge, it shall submit fifty (50) copies thereof and where the appealing party is an individual member, he shall serve one (1) copy thereof upon the National Secretary not less than sixty (60) days prior to the National Board of Trustees meeting at which the appellant seeks to have his appeal heard. The party opposing the appeal shall, within thirty (30) days of his receipt of the notice of appeal, submit a responsive written submission to the National Secretary and the opposing party which responsive submission shall contain such materials as it deems appropriate and relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. In cases in which the responding party is a state or subordinate lodge, such lodge shall submit fifty (50) copies of its responsive submission to the National Secretary. In cases in which the party opposing the appeal is an individual member, he shall submit one (1) copy of his responsive submission to the National Secretary.

**Section 4. Subordinate Lodges**

1. Except as otherwise provided herein, a subordinate lodge shall only be

disciplined by the Pennsylvania State Lodge. Such discipline may be

imposed only upon a showing of good and sufficient cause after a fair

hearing by the State Lodge’s governing body and may include suspension

or revocation of the lodge’s charter. Such hearing shall be conducted in

conformity with this Article XXI.

b. Any subordinate lodge whose charter may be suspended, shall forward through its Recording Secretary to the Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary all books, papers, and records, together with the seal, all of which shall immediately become the property of the Pennsylvania Lodge.

(1) Any subordinate lodge whose charter may be revoked thereupon, said charter will become null and void and the lodge shall forward through its Recording Secretary to the Pennsylvania Lodge, in addition to all books, papers, and records, together with the seal, all assets in the name of the lodge, all of which shall immediately become the property of the Pennsylvania Lodge.

c. Upon the cause of its suspension being removed, a subordinate lodge may

be reinstated by the Pennsylvania Lodge Board of Directors. Upon refusal

of reinstatement by the Board of Directors, a suspended lodge may make a

written request to the Grand Lodge Board of Trustees for a hearing. If the

reinstatement is refused by the Grand Lodge Board of Trustees, the lodge

may submit an appeal at the next National Conference and shall abide by

the decisions of the open Conference.

d. A subordinate lodge may appeal from the imposition of discipline by its respective State Lodge to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, the Biennial Conference.

(1) Such appeal shall be commenced by serving upon the National Secretary and the Secretary of the State Lodge from whose action the appeal is brought, within thirty (30) days of notice of the action appealed from and by certified mail, a notice of appeal. Such notice of appeal shall consist of the decision or ruling appealed from and all relevant written materials believed by the subordinate lodge to be necessary for a fair consideration of the matter by the National Board of Trustees. Fifty (50) copies of said notice of appeal shall be served upon the National Secretary for distribution to the members of the National Board.

**Section 5. State Lodge Officers**

a. State Lodge officers shall be subject to discipline, including censure,

reprimand, and removal from office or expulsion from the Order only

upon proof of good cause.

b. Allegation(s) of misconduct against a State Lodge officer in respect to his duties as a State Lodge officer shall only be brought by a member of the State Lodge Board of Directors. Said allegation(s) shall be in writing and notice thereof shall be served upon the State Lodge officer against whom the allegation(s) are made and the State Lodge Secretary, provided however, that if such allegation(s) are made against the State Lodge Secretary, said allegation(s) shall be served upon the State Lodge President. Said allegation(s) shall specifically describe the nature of the alleged misconduct in sufficient detail for a determination by the State Lodge Board of Directors as to whether there exists good cause to proceed with the inquiry.

c. Upon service of the allegation(s) on the affected State Lodge officer and the State Lodge Secretary (or State Lodge President, as the case may be), copies of the allegation(s) shall be distributed to each member of the State Board of Directors. The State Lodge officer against whom the allegation(s) are made shall, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the allegation(s), prepare a response thereto and serve said response upon the State Lodge Secretary (or State Lodge President, as the case may be), which response shall be distributed to each member of the State Lodge Board of Directors. The State Lodge Secretary or State Lodge President, in the event that the allegations pertain to the State Lodge Secretary, shall forward to each State Lodge officer an anonymous ballot upon which each State Lodge officer shall indicate, after reviewing the allegation(s) and the response thereto whether he believes that there exists good cause to proceed with the inquiry. Said ballots shall be returned to the State Lodge officer from whom they are received and shall be counted, and the results thereof certified to the Secretary of the Pennsylvania State Lodge (unless he is the State Lodge officer against whom the allegations are made, in which case the results shall be certified to the State Lodge President). The ballots shall be retained until the resolution of this matter.

d. Upon receipt by the State Lodge Secretary (or the State Lodge President, as the case may be) of the certified results of the ballot, said State Lodge officer shall determine whether good cause to proceed further with the inquiry was found by the State Lodge Board of Directors. A majority vote of all of the members of the State Lodge Board of Directors shall be necessary for a finding of good cause to proceed further with the inquiry. The President of the State Lodge shall either:

(1) Immediately cause the State Lodge Secretary (or shall himself) distribute to each member of the State Lodge Board of Directors notice that good cause was not found to proceed with the inquiry; or,

(2) Certify to the State Lodge Secretary that good cause has been found to proceed with further inquiry. In that event the State Lodge President shall declare an emergency and call a meeting of the State Lodge Board of Directors with proper notice.

e The emergency meeting of the State Lodge Board of Directors shall be held for the purpose of resolving the charges against the State Lodge officer and there shall be a disciplinary hearing before the State Lodge Board of Directors at which time the charged State Lodge officer shall be entitled to a hearing and the same rights afforded members and lodges herein. The State Lodge President shall preside over such disciplinary hearing and shall resolve all questions of procedures and evidence.

f. No disciplinary action shall be taken upon a State Lodge officer except upon a majority vote of the State Lodge Board of Directors entitled to vote.

g. A State Lodge officer against whom discipline is imposed in accordance herewith shall be entitled to appeal the decision of the State Lodge Board of Directors to the National Board of Trustees in accordance with the same procedure provided in this Article XXI Section 3 a.(4).

**Section 6. Discipline and Hearings**

a. In respect to any disciplinary hearing conducted by any lodge of this Order, the

parties shall be treated fairly in accordance with these By-Laws.

b. In all disciplinary hearings conducted by any lodge of this Order, the body conducting such hearing shall:

(1) Require the complaint, charge or allegation be made under oath and in writing and provide such facts as may enable the charged party to be fairly apprised of the nature of the charge;

(2) Ensure that the party charged is provided with a copy of such complaint, charge or allegation and given sufficient time, which, in any event, shall be not less than thirty (30) days, to prepare a defense;

(3) Conduct a hearing upon the matter during which the trier of fact shall limit the scope of the inquiry to the specific complaint(s), charge(s) or allegation(s) set forth in the written notice thereof; and

(4) Permit the parties thereto to introduce documents and exhibits and the testimony of witnesses.

c. Discipline may be imposed for any violation including, but not limited to, the following;

(1) Violation of the Constitution, By-Laws, Ritual, oath or

obligations of this Order.

(2) Acts of disloyalty to the Fraternal Order of Police, including, but not

limited to, overt attempts to decertify the Fraternal Order of Police where such lodge is the certified bargaining representative of its members, holding office in an organization which encourages members of the Fraternal Order of Police to leave the Order or, where applicable, which attempts to decertify the Order or such other acts as bring disrepute, disgrace or dishonor upon the Fraternal Order of Police.

(3). Distribution or use of the membership list for any reason without the express permission of the State Lodge Board of Directors; and

(4) The unauthorized use or the abuse of the name or insignia of the Fraternal Order of Police or the infringement of a trademark thereof.

**ARTICLE XXII**

**Representatives to the**

**Biennial Conference**

**Section 1.** The Pennsylvania Lodge Biennial Conference shall be composed of delegates and officers elected by their respective subordinate lodges.

**Section 2.** Only elected delegates and officers shall have voice or vote at the Biennial Conference.

**Section 3.** Each subordinate lodge (in good standing) of fifty (50) members or less shall be entitled to one (1) delegate, and one (1) delegate for each additional fifty (50) members, or a greater portion thereof.

**Section 4.** The President, Vice President, and Recording Secretary shall represent the Pennsylvania Lodge as delegates to the National Conference and be compensated as provided in Section 5 below. There shall be two (2) alternates. The first alternate shall be the Financial Secretary. The second alternate shall be the Treasurer. The alternates will attend the National Conference only when the President, Vice President or Recording Secretary are unable to attend the Conference.

**Section 5.** Pennsylvania State Lodge officers shall be reimbursed for the cost of transportation to and from places of State Conferences and Board of Directors Meetings. In addition to transportation costs, Pennsylvania State Lodge officers shall be reimbursed for a maximum of one day’s additional travel expenses and additional expenses incurred as a direct consequence of actual attendance at Conference or Board of Director’s Meetings.

**Section 6.** Any member shall be declared eligible as a candidate for election as a delegate to Biennial Conference, providing;

1. He has been in good standing for one (1) year or more immediately preceding the holding of the election;
2. That he met all other requirements of his subordinate lodge’s By-Laws; and
3. That such subordinate By-Laws have been approved by the Pennsylvania State Lodge.

**Section 7.** The election of delegates shall be held in like manner, as the officers in the lodge, at the same time. Those receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

**Section 8.** Each subordinate lodge shall fill out for each representative and alternate, a credential, upon blanks furnished by the Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary, and shall forward same to the Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary not later than thirty (30) days prior to the Biennial Conference.

**Section 9.** No delegate or alternate shall be admitted or seated in the Biennial Conference until the lodge represented by him shall have paid to the Pennsylvania Lodge all its indebtedness.

**Section 10.** Three (3) State officers and Twenty (20) delegates must be present at the Biennial Conference to Constitute a Quorum.

**Section 11**. Under extenuating circumstances, subordinate lodges that are denied Pennsylvania Lodge Biennial Conference credentials can file an appeal, in writing, to the Recording Secretary, who will forward the appeal and the Recording Secretary’s recommendation to the Board of Directors for a decision. The decision of the Board of Directors will be final.

**ARTICLE XXIII**

**Endorsements**

**Section 1. For all General and Primary Elections, the Pennsylvania Lodge and its subordinate lodges shall follow these procedures in choosing any candidate for political or judicial office to be endorsed by the Pennsylvania Lodge or its subordinate lodges.**

**Section 2. The Pennsylvania Lodge shall have the exclusive power and authority to endorse candidates for political office listed in this Section 2. Except as provided herein, no subordinate lodge may take any public action with respect to the acceptability of any candidate, and no other endorsement of a candidate using the names and marks for the FOP will be allowed. Subordinate lodges are expressly prohibited from endorsing candidates for any of these offices:**

1. **All statewide political and judicial offices, including, but not limited**

**to, governor, lieutenant governor, treasurer, attorney general, auditor general, and the justices and judges of the Supreme, Superior and Commonwealth Courts; and**

**b. United States Senate from Pennsylvania**

**Section 3. The Pennsylvania Lodge shall maintain an Endorsement Committee. The Committee shall consist of six (6) members from the following groups:**

1. **Cities of the First Class;**
2. **Cities of the Second Class;**
3. **Police Group Third Class Cities;**
4. **Towns, Townships and Boroughs Association;**
5. **Pennsylvania State Police;**
6. **Pennsylvania State Lodge Board.**

**Committee votes shall be counted based upon the number of delegate entitlements for each group as determined by the Recording Secretary using the prior year’s per capita report.**

**Section 4. The Committee shall develop a standard questionnaire for each candidate for political office. The Committee shall provide each viable candidate with the questionnaire and a timely opportunity to respond. The Committee will also attempt to conduct interviews with the candidates.**

**Section 5. The Committee shall submit its report to the Delegates at the Biennial Conference or to the Board of Directors at its meeting prior to the election for political or judicial office. The delegates or Board members, as the case may be, shall vote either for a candidate or for “no endorsement”. A candidate must receive a 2/3 majority vote of the delegates or Board members, as the case may be, to receive the endorsement of the Pennsylvania Lodge.**

**(Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**ARTICLE XXIV**

**Official Bulletin or Journal**

**Section 1.** The Official Bulletin or Journal of this Organization shall be the Pennsylvania State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police Journal. The Pennsylvania Lodge does not endorse any other publication in or for this Commonwealth.

**Section 2.** The State Lodge President or his designee shall serve as editor and manager of the Journal.

**ARTICLE XXV**

**Nomination and Election of Officers**

**Section 1. Nominations for each office shall be submitted in writing to the Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the Biennial Conference. The Recording Secretary shall then inform all subordinate lodges of the nominations at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the Conference. The names of all nominees shall appear on a ballot the day of the election. In the event a nominee withdraws or otherwise does not run for office after nominations are closed and no other candidates have been nominated for that office, nominations for that office may be made two (2) days before the election at the Conference as voiced by the delegates. (Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**Section 2.** **Elections shall be at the Conference on the last day of the Conference. (Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**Section 3.** Pennsylvania Lodge Officers shall be elected on the floor of the Conference. Those receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

**Section 4.** There shall be an Election Committee of three (3) appointed, two (2) by the President and one (1) by the Vice-President.

**Section 5.** No subordinate lodge in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania shall be entitled to hold more than one (1) Elective Office at any one time.

**Section 6.** In compliance with Section 5 of this Article, in the event that two (2) or more duly elected delegates from the same subordinate lodge are nominated and elected to difference offices, the Election Committee shall declare elected only the member of said lodge receiving the highest number of votes, irrespective of the office sought or position on the official ballot.

**Section 7.** Voting machines or ballot boxes used in the election shall not leave the Conference floor until all votes are counted, and the election certified by the Election Committee.

**Section 8.** The newly elected officers shall be installed immediately after election.

**Section 9.** Effective at the 2015 Biennial Conference of the National Lodge, there shall be elected by the delegate’s one (1) member to serve as Trustee on the National Board for a term of one (1) year, from the date of his election at the 2015 National Biennial Conference until the 2016 Pennsylvania Lodge Biennial Conference. He shall be selected from the nominees submitted by the Town, Townships, and Boroughs Association.

Effective at the 2016 Pennsylvania Lodge Biennial Conference, and thereafter there shall be elected by the delegates one (1) member to serve as Trustee on the National Board for a term of two (2) years. The procedure for the nomination and election of the National Board Trustee shall be the same as the nomination and election of the officers of the Pennsylvania Lodge, as set forth in this Article XXV. Adoption of this nomination and election procedure does not confer Pennsylvania Lodge officer status upon the position of Trustee on the National Board for any purpose, including but not limited, to Section 5 of this Article XXV.

**ARTICLE XXVI**

**Amendments**

**Section 1.** Amendments to these By-Laws shall be submitted in writing to the Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the Biennial Conference. The Pennsylvania Lodge Recording Secretary shall then inform all subordinate lodges, by special bulletin, of the proposed amendments at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the conference. The same shall become Law upon the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Delegates present at the Biennial Conference and shall take effect at the close of the Conference.

**Section 2.** The By-Laws of this Order shall be revised the year following the Biennial Conference, and insertions made therewith of all new amendments, and shall be **distributed** to the various Lodges within six (6) months**. (Amended August 1, 2018, at the 45th Biennial Conference, Harrisburg, PA)**

**ARTICLE XXVII**

**Associate Lodges**

**Section 1.** The Pennsylvania Lodge Fraternal Order of Police recognizes Associate Lodges. Such Associate Lodges shall be known as the Fraternal Order of Police Associates and may function as Pennsylvania Lodge Associates and Subordinate Lodge Associates. Such Associate Lodges shall be subject to the control and supervision of lodge or lodges with which they are affiliated. They shall conform to, and be governed by, the Grand Lodge, Pennsylvania Lodge and their respective Subordinate Lodge’s Constitution and By-Laws.

**Section 2.** Associate members of Local Subordinate Lodge shall be citizens of high moral standing and who have no criminal record. They shall have no voice or vote nor, shall they be eligible for any office in the said subordinate lodges, but they may attend meetings, only by invitation from the Subordinate Lodge’s Executive Board. Any associate member who is convicted of the commission of a felony or misdemeanor involving an act of moral turpitude shall immediately forfeit his membership in his subordinate lodge.

**ARTICLE XXVIII**

**Auxiliaries**

The Pennsylvania Lodge Fraternal Order of Police recognizes Auxiliaries. Auxiliaries may function as Pennsylvania Lodge Auxiliaries and Subordinate Lodges Auxiliaries. Such Auxiliaries shall be created only by and with the consent of the subordinate lodge with which they shall be affiliated and shall be subject to the control and supervision of said lodge or lodges with which they are affiliated. They shall conform to, and be governed by, a Constitution and By-Laws that they shall adopt, and which shall, at all times, be subject to approval of the Board of Directors of the Grand Lodge, Pennsylvania Lodge and their respective subordinate lodge.

**ARTICLE XXIX**

All points of Law and Order shall be guided by the Constitution and By-Laws, and where the same are silent, by Roberts “Rules of Order” revised.

**- Notes –**