

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
TEXAS CAPITAL AREA LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of the organization is "TEXAS CAPITAL AREA LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION".

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote the general welfare of all communities within the Texas Capital Area by:

- A. Encouraging the cooperation and the continual and convenient interchange of information among law enforcement agencies;
- B. Conducting ourselves in a manner that will gain the respect of those we serve; and,
- C. Constantly striving to improve the law enforcement profession.

The "Texas Capital Area" as referred to herein is intended to embrace that territory which is covered by Bastrop County, Blanco County, Burnet County, Caldwell County, Hays County, Travis County and Williamson County.

ARTICLE III

LIMITATIONS

This Association shall be noncommercial, nonsectarian and nonpartisan. No commercial enterprise nor any candidate for public office shall be endorsed by it. The name of the Association, or its officers in their official capacities, shall not be used in connection with a commercial concern or with any partisan interest, or for other than the regular purpose and objectives of the Association.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The membership of the Association shall consist of paid members, who are employed by, or retired from, a criminal justice agency, and persons of good standing in the community who actively support law enforcement, and persons duly granted Life Membership in accordance with the provisions of these By-Laws.

Section 2. Life Membership status shall be granted members who have achieved the following qualifications:

- A. Served as President of the Association, or:

- B. Been recommended to, and selected by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors for rendering unusual service to the Association.**

Life Members shall have all rights and privileges of a paid member.

ARTICLE V

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Section 1. The annual dues for Active Members shall be set by the Board of Directors each year.

Section 2. Life Members shall pay no dues.

Section 3. Dues shall become delinquent if not paid at or before the January meeting each year.

Section 4. No member who is in arrears for dues shall vote or hold office, or be entitled to receive reports of the transactions for the Association. Any member whose dues are in arrears after the May meeting of each year shall be dropped from the rolls.

ARTICLE VI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The property and the affairs of the Association shall be managed and controlled by the Board of Directors, which shall consist of the active officers, the immediate past president, and six members elected by the membership.

Section 2. The membership may override the actions of the Board of Directors provided that two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at a regular meeting of the Association vote to override the actions.

Section 3. In the event of any vacancy on the Board of Directors, or in any elective office, the remaining directors at the next regular directors' meeting shall elect an active member to fill the unexpired term.

ARTICLE VII

OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Association shall consist of President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Sergeant-At-Arms, Parliamentarian, and Membership Chairman, all of whom shall hold office for one year. No member shall be nominated for, or hold, more than one office at any one time.

Section 2. The President shall be the leading officer and shall preside at all meetings and business sessions. The President shall have the primary responsibility for the activities and the welfare of this Association.

Section 3. The First Vice-President shall assist the President, and shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the President.

Section 4. The Second Vice-President shall assist the President and the First Vice-President, and shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the President and the First Vice-President.

Section 5. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for giving written notification of all meetings and activities of the Association; issuing all membership cards and certifying as to the status of the members; collecting, recording, depositing and accounting for all dues and other monies received by the Association; issuing checks in payment of rightful obligations of the Association; and, making the financial condition of the Association available to members in good standing.

Section 6. The President may appoint a Chaplain, and any committees appropriate and necessary for the conduct of the affairs of the Association. Persons so appointed shall perform such duties as directed by the President, but shall have no authority to act as a member of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII

ELECTIONS

Section 1. Prior to the November meeting each year, the President shall appoint three members of the Board of Directors whose terms are expiring the immediately following January to serve as a nominating committee to nominate candidates for all elective offices with terms expiring the immediately following January and shall submit nominations to the membership at the November meeting. In addition, nominations may be made from the floor by any member, provided that the person(s) so nominated shall have agreed to serve. Nominations will then be closed, and the members present shall then vote on the nominees.

Section 2. Those persons elected at the November meeting shall be installed in their respective offices by the former Board of Directors at the regular January meeting.

ARTICLE IX

QUORUM

Section 1. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3. After verifying a quorum, the presiding officer shall declare the meeting in session, and shall proceed to carry on the business at hand.

ARTICLE X

MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Section 1. Regular meetings of the Association shall be held during the months of January, March, May, July, September and November. Special meetings may be called by the President. The Secretary -Treasurer shall mail notices of meetings to all members.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall hold meetings at such times as may be determined by the Board.

Section 3. Non-members shall pay two dollars (\$2.00) more than members for meals served at the meetings.

Section 4. The September regular meeting shall be designated as "Past Presidents' Night." The secretary shall mail a special letter of invitation to all known living Past Presidents. Attending Past Presidents will receive a complimentary dinner that evening and shall be individually recognized during the meeting.

ARTICLE XI

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Association by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present, provided that written notice of any proposed amendment shall be mailed to each member prior to such meeting.

Section 2. Each member may cast only one vote, and no vote may be cast by proxy.

ARTICLE XII

RULES OF ORDER

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the procedure of all meetings of the Association.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that written notice of the Association meeting on January 21, 2004, was sent to all members; that a quorum of the membership was present at the said meeting; that the foregoing CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS were approved by at least a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those in attendance; that they became in full force and effect immediately upon their passage by such vote of the members present; and that all By-Laws and amendments previously passed are hereby revoked and annulled.

Bill Pruitt, 1st Vice President