

The Board of Directors has voted to support the following amendments to the Ohio Crime Prevention Associations Constitution and Bylaws being voted upon at the Annual Membership meeting in April of 2024.

All amendments become effective on April 25, 2024 unless otherwise noted.

Amendment 1

CODE OF ETHICS

Ohio Crime Prevention Association members to maintain good standing, must affirm and attest adherence to the standards of professional and personal responsibility.

The Associations Code of Ethics is in Appendix III of the Bylaws and may be changed at any time by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors or a majority vote of fifty one [51] percent of the membership attending a membership meeting.

APPENDIX II

CODE OF ETHICS

1. To make an effort to perform my professional duties in accordance with the highest standards and principles.
2. To be exemplary in obeying federal, state and local laws and the Constitution and By-Laws of the Ohio Crime Prevention Association.
3. To ascribe to the belief that reduction of crime can best be achieved through the implementation of effective crime prevention techniques.
4. To be dutiful in service of the crime prevention needs of the community, which is the nucleus of our society.
5. To adhere to the principles of honesty, integrity, and confidentiality.
6. To promote the programs of the OCPA in an effort to raise the standards, improve upon the efficiency, and increase the effectiveness of crime prevention.
7. To do all things necessary and proper to promote crime prevention planning and implementation for our citizens.
8. To maintain membership in good standing with the OCPA according to the constitution and bylaws.
9. Adhere to the Associations Code of Conduct as noted in Appendix II.

10. To recognize that all members of a community deserve the benefit of proper crime prevention teachings and methodology, regardless of:

- Race
- Age
- Ethnicity
- Socioeconomic status
- Disability
- Gender
- Health status
- Religion
- National origin
- Sexual orientation
- Gender identity
- Relationship status

Amendment 2

CODE OF CONDUCT

Ohio Crime Prevention Association members to maintain good standing, must affirm and attest adherence to the following standards of professional and personal responsibility.

The Associations Code of Conduct is in Appendix II of the Bylaws and may be changed at any time by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors or a majority vote of fifty one [51] percent of the membership attending a membership meeting.

APPENDIX III

CODE OF CONDUCT

Members of the organization shall conduct themselves in a way that exemplifies the Code of Ethics, and portrays the Ohio Crime Prevention Association in a positive light.

Members will adhere to a minimum standard of the following conduct:

1. To make kindness and compassion a core component of behavior while representing the organization.
2. To treat others, both within and outside of the organization, with respect.
3. To refrain from disparaging remarks towards others.
4. To work patiently and cooperatively with other members to achieve the mission of the Association.
5. To value and practice honesty.
6. To refrain from making decisions regarding the organization based on personal gain or advantage.
7. To embrace teamwork as a tenant of carrying out the mission of the OCPA.

Amendment 3

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section I. The Ohio Crime Prevention Association was formed for the purpose of performing all things incidental to, or appropriate in, the foregoing specific and primary purposes. The Ohio Crime Prevention Association shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activity or the exercise of any powers which are not in furtherance of its primary non-profit purpose.

Amendment 4

ARTICLE III: MISSION

Established on the foundation that crime can be prevented, the Ohio Crime Prevention Association is committed to the development and advancement of a continuum of educational opportunities in crime prevention and community policing, to ultimately improve the quality of life in Ohio communities and beyond.

Amendment 5

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

2. Membership Application

a. Application Process. Application for all memberships except Honorary shall be made by individually initiated petition or by the recommendation of members of the Board of Directors. All applications shall be automatically approved once membership dues have been paid.

Amendment 6

ARTICLE VIII: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2. The President or any four (4) Board of Directors may call a special meeting of the Board with two (2) days written notice provided to each member of the Board of Directors. The notice shall be served upon each member via hand delivery, regular mail, or email.

3. At each meeting of the Board of Directors or Board, the presence of five (5) people shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business provided the President or Vice President is present and chairs the meeting. If at any time the Board consists of an even number of members and a vote results in a tie, then the vote of the President shall be the deciding vote.
4. Each Board member shall have only one vote. Members of the Board of Directors shall be allowed to vote by written proxy.
5. Board of Directors meetings may take place in person or by electronic medium such as Zoom, Teams or Facetime.
6. Removal Proceedings. When a member of the Board of Directors of the OCPA is reduced in rank or removed from their agency for misconduct, or when said member conducts himself/herself in such a manner as to bring the association into disrepute, the President shall appoint a three-member committee from the Board of Directors to investigate said allegations and report such findings at the next executive meeting. The President shall then convene a special board meeting to review the results of the investigation and ascertain the suitability of such member to remain as a member of the Board of Directors.

Amendment 7

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

1. Election of Officers. Elections for Executive Board positions shall take place at the end of the term for each office, and shall be conducted at the annual meeting, or through the submission of a qualified ballot approved by the board. To be eligible to be nominated for the office of President, the member shall have served at least one year on the Board of Directors..

Amendment 8

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

2. Term - The term length for all positions on the Board of Directors shall be for two [2] years. The maximum number of consecutive of terms for each office shall be two [2].

Amendment 9

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

3. District Nominations. An election shall be held in each of the Associations districts to select their district representative to the Board of Directors and candidates for Executive Board. The even numbered districts will select a two-year representative to serve during the even numbered years and the odd numbered districts shall select a two-year representative to serve during the odd numbered years. This primary election shall be held sixty days prior to the published start of the annual conference or scheduled annual election.

Amendment 10

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

4. Submission. The district representative for each of the districts wishing to enter candidates for office shall submit the candidate's names and the office sought to the Executive Board for certification of membership no later than March 1st or thirty [30] days prior to the election, whichever number of days is greater.

Amendment 11

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

13. Professionalism. Members seeking a board of director position should demonstrate professional respect for incumbents and those seeking the same positions. Professional respect does not preclude honest differences of opinion. It does however; preclude attacking a person's motives or integrity in order to be elected to a position. Members seeking a board of director position must conduct themselves in a manner as to not violate the code of ethics, code of conduct or other bylaws of this organization.

Amendment 12

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

14. Prerequisites. In order to be elected to a position on the Board of Directors, a member must meet the following prerequisites. All nominated and elected executive committee members must be certified as an Ohio Crime Prevention Association Crime Prevention Specialist within the first year of their term.

All members of the Executive Board and Board of Directors must be an Ohio Resident, unless approved by a majority of the Board of Directors.

Effective January 1, 2025

Amendment 13

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

15. Distribution of Ballots. Ballots shall be distributed by email or postal service to all eligible members at least 30 days before the start of the annual meeting and returned to the office by US mail, or a secure electronic medium approved by the Board of Directors.

Amendment 14

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

16. Destruction of Ballots. Unless contested, all ballots shall be destroyed by the secretary no later than 90 days after the election.

Amendment 15

SECTION VIII: VACATED OFFICE + ATTENDANCE

A Board Member who is absent from three [3] consecutive regular meetings of the Board shall be encouraged to reevaluate with the President his/her commitment to the Association. The Board may deem a Board member who has missed three [3] consecutive meetings without such a reevaluation with the President to have resigned from the Board.

Amendment 16

SECTION X: DISTRICT & BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPRESENTATIVE

1. Responsibilities. District representatives are elected by their constituency from one of OCPA's six districts. They are responsible for holding no less than quarterly [4] meetings in their district per year, or the equivalent as the membership or board dictates.

Amendment 17

SECTION XI: ORDER OF BUSINESS

4. Quorum. At each meeting of the Board of Directors or Committees, the presence of five [5] members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If at any time the Board consists of an even number of members and a vote results in a tie, then the vote of the President of the Board shall be the deciding vote. The act of the majority of the Board members serving on the Board or Committees and present at a meeting in which there is a quorum shall be the act of the Board or Committees, unless otherwise provided by these bylaws, or a law specifically requiring otherwise.

Amendment 18

SECTION XII: COMMITTEES

1. Appointive Committees. The President may appoint committees as the need arises. Committees shall consist of not less than three (3) persons. The President and Vice President may not serve on the same appointive committee, and the President may not serve as committee chairperson.

All committee members shall serve at the will and pleasure of the President and appointments are annual, beginning the first day after the annual membership meeting.

Each committee shall keep regular and current minutes of committee proceedings and report the same to the Board of Directors when requested.

Standing Committees are:

Governance Committee - present nominations for new and renewing Board Officers members at the annual conference. Recommendations from the Governance Committee shall be made known to the Board in writing before nominations are made and voted on.

Training Committee: The training committee shall consist of active members, appointed and chaired by the Vice President, one of which shall be the director, and one of which shall be a past President, selected by the council of Presidents. This body shall serve for an ongoing basis, for the purpose of reviewing and developing crime prevention training presented by the OCPA. The crime prevention specialist sub-committee shall be overseen by this committee.

Audit Committee: The Board, at its sole discretion, may create an Audit Committee, which may review any other committee's operations. The Audit Committee shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding the hiring and termination of an auditor, who shall be an independent certified public accountant, and may be authorized by the Board to negotiate the auditor's salary.

It shall also be the responsibility of the Audit Committee to ensure that the auditor's firm adheres to the standards for auditor independence, as set forth in the latest version of generally accepted auditing standards. The membership of the Audit Committee, if created, shall not include the following persons: The President or Treasurer of the Board of Directors.

Amendment 19

SECTION XIII: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The purpose of the Conflict-of-Interest policy is to protect the Associations interest when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of one of its officers, or that might otherwise result in a possible excess benefit transaction.

The Board of Directors will establish a Conflict of Interest Policy no later than September 1, 2024 and review it on a yearly basis.

The Associations Conflict of Interest Policy is in Appendix IV of the Bylaws and may be changed at any time by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors or a majority

Amendment 20

GRAMMATICAL CORRECTION

The Ohio Crime Prevention Association, Constitution and By-Laws amended - April 16, 2018 have certain grammatical and spelling errors. This amendment changes none of the character or intent of the Constitution and By-Laws, rather it eliminates errors and the confusion associated with these errors.

1. Throughout the Constitution and By-Laws capitalize Association
2. Throughout the Constitution and By-Laws capitalize President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary
3. Throughout the Constitution and By-Laws change OCPA to the Ohio Crime Prevention Association
4. Throughout the Constitution and By-Laws correct obvious spelling errors such as FORM instead of FROM or OFFICER instead of OFFICErS or POLICE instead of POLICIES
5. Make the following changes:

Mission Statement

Change From:

The Ohio Crime Prevention Association is a not-for-profit, membership-supported organization representing public and private sector crime prevention partners.

Change To:

The Ohio Crime Prevention Association is a 501c3 non-profit, membership-supported organization representing public and private sector crime prevention partners

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Change From:

f. Student Membership – individuals who are full-time students within an accredited college or university, or school of higher learning and who have a demonstrated interest and concern in the promotion and advancement of crime prevention and community policing in the State of Ohio may be entitles to a Student Membership within the OCPA. Student members have all fo the benefits of a regular members, with exception to voting and holding office. The Executive Board of the OCPA will set the student membership annual dues.

Change To:

f. Student Membership – individuals who are full-time students within an accredited college or university, or school of higher learning and who have a demonstrated interest

and concern in the promotion and advancement of crime prevention and community policing in the State of Ohio may be entitled to a Student Membership within the OCPA. Student members have all of the benefits of regular members, with exception to voting and holding office. The Executive Board of the OCPA will set the student membership annual dues.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

Change From:

The Officers of the Association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting or through the submission of a qualified ballot and shall serve until their respective successors have been duly elected and qualified. In the event that an officer is unable to serve out their term, a replacement will be selected as outlined the Association By-Laws.

Change To:

The Officers of the Association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting or through the submission of a qualified ballot and shall serve until their respective successors have been duly elected and qualified. In the event that an officer is unable to serve out their term, a replacement will be selected as outlined **by** the Association By-Laws

ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Change From:

1. Composition. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers of the association, the immediate Past President, and the Council of President's Representative.

Change To:

1. Composition. The Executive Committee shall be **composed** of the officers of the association, the immediate Past President, and the Council of President's Representative.

ARTICLE VIII: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Change From:

Board Composition. There shall be a board of directors consisting of (6) representatives to be elected, one from each of the (6) districts. The six districts shall consist of counties outlined in appendix I.

Change To:

Board Composition. There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of six (6) representatives to be elected, one from each of the six (6) districts. The districts shall consist of counties outlined in appendix I.

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

Change From:

6. Write In. Any active member having been a member in good standing for sixty days prior to the annual conference may be nominated from the floor. If such nomination receives a second, said nominee shall be eligible for write-in status on the ballot. No other write-in votes will be considered valid in election.

Change To:

6. Write In. Any active member having been a member in good standing for sixty days prior to the annual conference may be nominated from the floor. If such nomination receives a second, said nominee shall be eligible for write-in status on the ballot. No other write-in votes will be considered valid in the election.

Change From:

13. Professionalism. Members seeking a board of director position should demonstrate professional respect for incumbents and those seeking the same positions. Professional respect does not preclude honest differences of opinion. It does however; preclude attaching a person's motives or integrity in order to be elected to a position.

Change To:

13. Professionalism. Members seeking a board of director position should demonstrate professional respect for incumbents and those seeking the same positions. Professional respect does not preclude honest differences of opinion. It does however; preclude attacking a person's motives or integrity in order to be elected to a position.

SECTION I: THE PRESIDENT

Change From:

There president is the chief elected officer of the organization and presides at all regular and special meetings of the association. They appoint members of all standing committee and any other committee as the need arises.

Change To:

The President is the chief elected officer of the organization and presides at all regular and special meetings of the Association. They appoint members of all standing **committees** and any other committee as the need arises.