

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS OFFICIALS**



VERIFIED AS ACCURATE BY THE C&B COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 2013

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ARTICLE I GENERAL

Section 1. Name, Abbreviation, Affiliation and Charter Area

- 1.1 The organization shall be known as the Northern California Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials, Incorporated (No. CA APCO).
- 1.2 This organization shall be a chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc. (APCO).
- 1.3 The Charter area served by No. CA APCO shall be all of Northern California, north of a line drawn at the southern boundaries of Monterey, Kings, Tulare, and Inyo Counties.

Section 2. Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of No. CA APCO shall be to perpetuate and protect the Public-Safety Radio Services by providing an Association, which represents the governmental entities within the jurisdiction of NAPCO in matters before the Federal Communications Commission that may affect their use of the radio spectrum.
- 2.2 No. CA APCO shall provide coordination and advisement in selection of frequencies as allocated by the Federal Communications Commission and make recommendations with regards to communications systems engineering and operating practices.
- 2.3 No. CA APCO shall foster the development and progress of the art of communications.
- 2.4 No. CA APCO shall aid and assist in the methods, systems and/or other media for the rapid and accurate collection, exchange, and dissemination of information relative to matters of public-safety.
- 2.5 No. CA APCO shall promote and encourage Commercial membership and supporting membership participation in No. CA APCO activities.

- 2.6 No. CA APCO shall participate before appropriate agencies in the framing of legislation, regulatory rules, and measures pertaining to public safety communications policy.
- 2.7 No. CA APCO shall lend support to, create interest in, and foster expansion of the parent organization, APCO. No. CA APCO accepts the fundamental concepts and principals of APCO and shall abide by the provisions and the requirements of the Constitution and Bylaws of APCO, which shall take precedence in all matters and questions.

Section 3. Public Safety

- 3.1 Public Safety is defined as that function of government which provides public services concerned with law enforcement, forestry, conservation, fire, highway maintenance, emergency rescue and medical services, emergency management, and other activities supported or endorsed by state and local governments.

ARTICLE II ORGANIZATION

Section 1. General

- 1.1 No. CA APCO is a not -for-profit corporation formed under the laws of the United States of America and the State of California and operating under the laws of the State of California. It is an individual member association unless noted otherwise.

Section 2. Membership

- 2.1 Membership in No. CA APCO shall be open to all persons of good character and/or organizations engaged in public-safety communications who meet the requirements of an applicable membership class as specified in the Bylaws.
- 2.2 The right to vote and hold elected office in No. CA APCO is a privilege of ACTIVE members only.

Section 3. Officers

- 3.1 Officers shall consist of the following:
- 3.2 A President who shall advance from the position of President-Elect,
- 3.3 A President-Elect who shall advance from the position of Vice-President.
- 3.4 Vice-President who shall be elected by the eligible voting membership of No. CA APCO in accordance with requirements of the Bylaws.
- 3.5 An APCO Executive Council Member who shall be elected by the eligible voting membership of No. CA APCO in accordance with requirements of the Bylaws.

Section 4. Board of Directors

- 4.1 There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the following:
 - 4.1.1 President
 - 4.1.2 Immediate Past President
 - 4.1.3 President-Elect
 - 4.1.4 Vice-President
 - 4.1.5 APCO Executive Council Member
 - 4.1.6 Five elected ACTIVE members
- 4.7 The power of the Board of Directors shall not be delegated.

ARTICLE III VOTING

Section 1. Voting Rights

- 1.1 The right to vote within No. CA APCO is a privilege of the Active Member Category of members and of those members granted designation as “Life Member” by the Association and as further described in Article III, of the APCO Constitution.

ARTICLE IV AUTHORITY

Section 1. General

- 1.1 All authority derives from the voting membership of No. CA APCO.

Section 2. The Quorum

- 2.1 The voting membership of No. CA APCO is represented by the Quorum as formed at one or more of the General Business Meetings.
- 2.2 The Quorum shall have sole authority to amend this Constitution and the Bylaws. This authority may not be delegated to the Board of Directors, or any other entity.

Section 3. Board of Directors

- 3.1 The President shall have specific authority to:
- 3.1.1 Carry out the duties of the President
 - 3.1.2 Incur reasonable and proper personal expense in the conduct of No. CA APCO business subject to reimbursement by No. CA APCO.
 - 3.1.3 Authorize reimbursement of reasonable and proper personal expense by others in the conduct of No. CA APCO business.
 - 3.1.4 Poll or call into session the Board of Directors or any committee of No. CA APCO.
 - 3.1.5 Engage and maintain the services of legal counsel for No. CA APCO in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution and Bylaws.
 - 3.1.6 Require, enforce, and rule in matters of parliamentary procedure.
- 3.8 The President-Elect and Vice-President shall have the authority to:
- 3.8.1 Perform the duties assigned to their office.

3.9 The APCO Executive Council Member shall have the authority to:

3.9.1 Perform the duties assigned to his/her office.

3.10 The Immediate Past President and Directors shall have authority to:

3.10.1 Perform committee duties as assigned.

ARTICLE V AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Methods

- 1.1 The Constitution of No. CA APCO may be amended only by a two-thirds affirmative vote of a General Business Meeting Quorum in regular session except as provided under Section 1.2 of this Article.
- 1.2 The Constitution and Bylaws Committee may make non-substantive changes to the Constitution in order to correct errors in grammar, punctuation and spelling and may adjust the numbering of individual sections to maintain proper numerical sequence and to maintain a consistent style and format of section numbering, but not to change the relative order of individual sections. Such non-substantive changes shall require approval by the Board of Directors and ratification by the Board of Directors in accordance with the requirements of Article XIII of the Bylaws.
- 1.3 The Chapter Constitution and Bylaws shall be current, consistent, and not in conflict with those of the Association. The Chapter shall promptly provide the Association Office with a copy of the Chapter Constitution and Bylaws each time they are amended.
- 1.4 The Procedures for submitting and approving amendments as defined in Article XIII of the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI IMPLEMENTATION

Section 1. Continuity

- 1.1 No. CA APCO shall be the continuation of that organization known as the Northern California Police Communication Officers Association, whose original Bylaws were adopted February 18, 1938 and with the last revision on September 2013.

Section 2. Effective Date

- 2.1 The effective date of this Constitution shall be January 1, 2014.

