

**VALLEY CHAPTER BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I**

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**SECTION 1. NAME:**

This Chapter shall be known as the Valley Chapter.

**SECTION 2. OBJECTIVES:**

The objective of this Chapter is to unite all persons within its jurisdiction for their economic, professional, and social advancement. It shall be the aim of the Chapter to collect, study, standardize, summarize, and distribute factual data in order to promote the professional qualifications and standing of peace officers, to stimulate mutual cooperation between law enforcement agencies, to secure for all peace officers adequate compensation for the performance of their professional duties and improve conditions of employment.

**SECTION 3. PRINCIPLES:**

This Chapter is founded on the principle that peace officers, united in mutual interest and acting in a spirit of cooperation, may, through the free exercise of their constitutional freedoms of association and self-organization, best promote their own welfare.

**SECTION 4. HEADQUARTERS:**

There shall be neither headquarters nor general offices of this Chapter.

**SECTION 5. MAILING ADDRESS:**

The mailing address for the Chapter shall be as determined by the Chapter officers.

**SECTION 6. WEBSITE AND EMAIL:**

The Chapter shall maintain an Internet website and e-mail contact list of members. The Chapter website and e-mail list shall be used as the primary and official source of information delivery to Chapter member associations. Meeting notifications, minutes, and Chapter actions shall be posted to the Chapter website and delivered to the e-mail contact list of member associations at least ten (10) days prior to the next regularly scheduled Chapter meeting.



**VALLEY CHAPTER BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE III**

**SECTION 1. CHAPTER OFFICERS:**

The Officers of this Chapter shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, or Secretary/Treasurer who shall be elected for two (2) year terms. There shall be a State Director who shall be elected for a two (2) year term. The President, Secretary, and State Director shall be nominated and elected in even-numbered years. The Vice-President and Treasurer shall be nominated and elected in odd-numbered years.

**SECTION 2. The Chapter Officers shall be elected as follows:**

**ARTICLE III**  
**Section 2 (A-E)**  
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- A. No member shall be eligible for election to office unless his/her Association/Organization is in good standing with PORAC and is an active member in accordance with State Bylaws Article II, Section 3.
- B. Nominations shall be made at the Chapter meeting in September, preceding the Annual Conference of Members. Such nominations shall be included in the minutes of that meeting and distributed in accordance with Article I, Section 6 of these Bylaws. The election will be held at the next Chapter meeting held in October by those members in attendance.
- C. At the Chapter meeting held in October, further nominations may be made.
- D. Following the closing of nominations, the election will be held, either by secret ballot or by voice vote, and in accordance with Article X, section 1, and S.R. Article X of the State Bylaws.
- E. The newly elected Chapter officers will take office on January 1st of the following calendar year.

**SECTION 3. VACANCIES:**

- A. A vacancy occurring in any office shall be filled for the remaining unexpired term by an active member of the Chapter, elected by a majority vote of the total members in attendance at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Chapter.
- B. A vacancy can be caused by: resignation of the officer; long term illness; death, or removal from office by the Chapter membership.
- C. A vacancy can be filled, temporarily if desired, by the membership for reasons such as long-term illness, leave of absence, or other reasons agreed upon by the membership. All other vacancies shall be filled, for the length of the unexpired term of the office, on the vote of the membership, after all member Associations/Organizations are notified of such vacancy by notification in the Chapter minutes.

**VALLEY CHAPTER BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE IV**

**SECTION 1. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE:**

- A. Any Officer of the Chapter who becomes negligent in the performance of his/her duties, or guilty of any acts detrimental to the welfare of the Chapter, may be removed from office by a majority vote of the voting membership.
- B. Any member may initiate a petition for the purpose of recalling one or more officers of the Chapter.
- C. The petition must bear the signature of at least twenty-five (25) percent of the total voting associations with the Chapter. The petition shall be signed by the Association/Organization president on behalf of his/her Association /Organization. Said president shall print or type their name beside the signature.
- D. Upon receipt of such a petition, the President or Vice-President if the President is the subject of removal shall notify all Associations/Organizations, in good standing, of the recall vote to take place at the next regularly scheduled Valley Chapter meeting.
- E. A majority vote of all voting members in attendance will suffice for recall.

**ARTICLE V**

**SECTION 1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- A. The Executive Committee of the Chapter shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, or Secretary/Treasurer.

**ARTICLE VI**

**SECTION 1. POWERS:**

- A. Subject to the limitations in these Bylaws, the Executive Committee, shall exercise the power of the Chapter; control its property; and conduct its affairs; except as otherwise provided by law.
- B. The Chapter's general fund shall be under the direct control of the Chapter officers.
- C. Each officer of the Chapter shall be thoroughly familiar with the Bylaws of the Chapter.
- D. A quorum shall consist of fifty percent of the elected officers of the Chapter.

**VALLEY CHAPTER BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE VII**

**DUTIES OF CHAPTER OFFICERS**

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**SECTION 1. THE PRESIDENT SHALL:**

- A. Preside of Chapter meetings.
- B. Appoint all standing and special committees.
- C. Take any and all actions necessary to benefit the members of the Chapter, and to further the aims and purposes of PORAC.

**SECTION 2. THE VICE PRESIDENT SHALL:**

- A. Preside over Chapter meetings in the absence of the President.
- B. Assume all responsibilities of the President in his/her absence.
- C. Act as the Chapter President’s Executive Officer in directing and supervising all standing and special committees.

**SECTION 3. THE SECRETARY SHALL:**

- A. Keep the minutes of all Chapter meetings and disseminate them to all member Associations/Organizations in accordance with Article 1, Section 6 of these by-laws.
- B. Conduct such correspondence as directed, and maintain such files as are necessary.
- C. Shall cause the notice of each meeting date and location to be made not less than ten (10) days prior to such meeting. This notification shall be made in accordance with Article 1, section 6 of these bylaws.

**SECTION 4. THE TREASURER SHALL:**

- A. Keep the financial records of the Chapter and maintain a checking account in the name of the Chapter.
- B. Co-sign, with the Chapter President, all checks drawn on the Chapter checking account.
- C. Submit a quarterly report to the PORAC Treasurer on the finances of the Chapter.

**SECTION 5. THE STATE DIRECTOR SHALL:**

- A. Discharge the duties as set forth in Article VIII of the State Bylaws.

**VALLEY CHAPTER BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE VIII**

**VOTING**

**SECTION 1.** Voting on any matter to come before a Chapter meeting shall be by voice vote unless otherwise requested by any member Association/Organization.

- A. In the event a representative vote is requested, each member Association/Organization shall be entitled to cast one vote as an Association/Organization and one additional vote for each 100 eligible members as set forth in Article X, Section 5, of the State Bylaws.
- B. Proxy voting shall be permitted so that those Associations/Organizations who find it impossible, due to time and distance constraints, to have a representative present at the Chapter meetings shall not be denied a voice in Chapter affairs.
- C. Proxies shall be in writing and shall indicate the name of the Association/Organization granting the proxy, the name of the person to whom granted, the signature of the President or his/her signature, and the date the proxy form is signed.
- D. A proxy will be valid only for the next scheduled meeting after it is given, and must be dated at least four (4) days prior to the meeting date.
  - 1. A proxy will not be valid if a representative of the Association/Organization granting the proxy attends the meeting.
  - 2. A proxy will be valid only for stated agenda items.
  - 3. A proxy, once given, shall not be rescinded except as provided in 2(a) above.

**ARTICLE IX**

**POLITICAL ENDORSEMENTS**

**SECTION 1. ENDORSEMENT PROCEDURES:**

**ARTICLE IX**  
**Section 1(A) &**  
**(B)(1)(a)**  
  
**Chapter Approved:**  
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- A. Political endorsements may be brought before the membership for consideration at any regularly scheduled Chapter meeting by a member of an active member association.
- B. The following shall be required before a candidate may be considered for a Chapter endorsement:
  - 1. An affected active member association in a local election or an active member association in a countywide election, bringing a candidate forward for a Chapter endorsement, shall have officially endorsed the candidate prior to seeking a Chapter position.

VALLEY CHAPTER BYLAWS

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**ARTICLE IX**  
**Section 1(B)(2)(a-c)**

**Chapter Approved:**  
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- a) For the purpose of this section, “prior to seeking a Chapter position” means the act of placing a motion before the Chapter to endorse a candidate.
- 2. Political candidates must complete and submit the appropriate online candidate questionnaire at least seven (7) calendar days before the meeting in which their tabled endorsement will be brought for a vote.
  - a) The Chapter shall not vote on any endorsement motion for a candidate who has failed to submit the approved and adopted candidate questionnaire, as specified in Article IX, Section 1(B)(2)(b)(1) of these bylaws.
  - b) A candidate who fails to submit the required questionnaire by the second meeting, or 63 calendar days (whichever occurs first), following the meeting in which their respective motion to endorse was made and subsequently tabled, shall not be voted on and the motion to endorse shall die.
    - 1. As defined in these bylaws, the required questionnaire for a local election is the Local Candidate Questionnaire, which the Valley Chapter created and adopted. It is only available by hyperlink on its website, <https://vcporac.org>. No other questionnaire will be accepted.
      - a. The affected active member association bringing a local candidate forward for endorsement is solely responsible for ensuring their candidate is provided the link to the approved Local Candidate Questionnaire.
    - c) Should the motion to endorse die, in accordance with Article IX, Section 1(B)(2)(b), the candidate endorsement process may be brought forth again, in accordance with Article IX, Section 1(C) of these bylaws.

**SECTION 2. HOME RULE:**

- A. If an affected member association requests an endorsement, the endorsement shall be approved through a majority vote of member association representatives present at the Chapter meeting.
  - 1. In the event there is a conflict between two or more affected member associations, in a particular political contest, local measure, or state proposition endorsement, the Chapter shall remain neutral and no endorsement shall be made.
  - 2. Should an affected member association still wish to pursue a Chapter endorsement in a conflicted political contest:

**VALLEY CHAPTER BYLAWS**

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a) A motion seeking to temporarily suspend Article IX, Section 2 (1) of these bylaws shall be made and voted upon. It shall require 75% of those votes cast, through a representative vote of those active associations present, to pass.

b) If the temporary motion to suspend Article IX, Section 2 (1) of these bylaws passes, the vote on the contested political race shall be tabled until the next regularly scheduled Chapter meeting. At the time of that meeting, it shall take 75% of those votes cast by a representative roll call of those active member associations present, or by proxy in accordance with Chapter bylaws for a Chapter endorsement to be made.

B. Home rule refers to those member associations whose members are under the employ of the governmental body associated with the office, ballot item, or appointment for which the political endorsement is being sought.

1. Countywide:

a) Refers to any county offices, to include judge, district attorney, or any other countywide elected position, with exception to sheriff or district trustee.

2. Local Elections:

a) County Supervisors

1. For the election of a county supervisor, affected member associations include any member associations that represent employees who are employed by the county in which the candidate is seeking election.

b) Sheriff

1. For the election of a sheriff, affected member associations include any member associations that represent employees who are employed by the sheriff department in which the candidate is seeking election.

c) City Mayor / City Council Member

1. For the election of a city mayor or council member, affected member associations include any member associations that represent employees who are employed by the city in which the candidate is seeking election.

d) District Trustee

1. For the election of district trustees, affected member associations include any member associations that represent employees who are employed by the district in which the candidate is seeking election.

VALLEY CHAPTER BYLAWS

1 SECTION 3. STATEWIDE AND FEDERAL ENDORSEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2 A. The PORAC Board of Directors is charged with making political endorsements in all
- 3 statewide and federal elections.
- 4 B. The Chapter may vote to recommend a statewide or federal endorsement to the
- 5 PORAC Board of Directors.
  - 6 1. In accordance with PORAC rules, to be considered by the Chapter for
  - 7 endorsement recommendation, all candidates seeking a statewide or
  - 8 federal office endorsement shall complete and submit the PORAC
  - 9 questionnaire to the Chapter PAC officer prior the Chapter voting on an
  - 10 endorsement recommendation.
  - 11 2. In primary elections for statewide and federal offices, endorsement
  - 12 recommendations shall be made only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all
  - 13 member association representatives at a regular Chapter meeting.
- 14 C. Endorsement recommendations may be made for opposing party candidates for the
- 15 same office. In general elections, a Chapter endorsement recommendation may be
- 16 made by the majority vote of the Association representatives at a regular Chapter
- 17 meeting.
- 18 D. On votes for endorsement/recommendations made by the State Board, the Chapter
- 19 Director is obligated to vote in accordance with the vote of the Chapter, provided
- 20 that a vote on the Candidate has been taken at a Chapter meeting.
- 21 E. The Chapter shall not make endorsements contrary to that of PORAC (S.R. Article V)
- 22 on State or Federal offices.

24 SECTION 4. POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

- 25 A. For the Chapter to remain fiscally solvent and responsible, political contributions
- 26 shall be limited to the following:
  - 27 1. District Attorney, Sheriff, and Board of Supervisor races shall be capped at a
  - 28 monetary contribution not to exceed \$2000.00 per political campaign.
  - 29 2. The monetary contribution limit for mayoral and City Council races is
  - 30 \$1500.00 per political campaign.
  - 31 3. The monetary contribution limit for trustees of schools, community colleges,
  - 32 and special districts is \$500.00 per political campaign.
  - 33 4. The monetary contribution for all other political offices, including judges,
  - 34 shall be capped at \$500.00 per political campaign.
  - 35 5. In all political campaigns where an endorsed candidate is running
  - 36 unopposed, Chapter contributions shall not exceed \$250.00.
  - 37 6. Local propositions and measures shall be capped at a donation not to exceed
  - 38 \$2500.00.
  - 39 7. Chapter donations may not exceed the contribution limits set by state law
  - 40 or local ordinance, regardless of the political campaign.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**Section 4**  
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**VALLEY CHAPTER BYLAWS**

- B. In a highly-contested race, the capped amounts may only be exceeded with the approval of two-thirds of those in attendance through a roll call vote.

**ARTICLE X**

**SECTION 1.** Portions of the State Bylaws are incorporated by reference into these Bylaws.

**SECTION 2.** If any part of these Bylaws are found to be in conflict with the State Bylaws, that part found to be in conflict shall be invalid, but such invalidity will not affect the balance of these Bylaws.

**ARTICLE XI**

**SECTION 1.** These bylaws may be amended as follows:

- A. Any proposed amendment(s) shall be presented, in writing, at a regularly scheduled Chapter meeting, at which time the proposal may be discussed, but action shall be held over until the next regularly scheduled Chapter meeting.
- B. The text of the proposed amendment(s) shall be included in the minutes of the meeting.
- C. The text of the proposed amendment(s) shall be posted to the Chapter website and e-mailed to the Chapter e-mail contact list at least ten (10) days prior to the next regularly scheduled Chapter meeting, in accordance with Article I, Section 6 of these bylaws.
- D. An official ballot shall be included with the e-mail and available for download from the Chapter website.
  - 1. The official ballot shall contain the following question:
    - a) Do you vote to accept the bylaw amendment(s) as proposed: Yes or No.
- E. Voting on the proposed bylaw amendment(s) shall be conducted by voice and/or ballot through a representative vote, in accordance with Article VIII, Section 1(A) and (B) of these bylaws.
  - 1. To be considered for inclusion, the following shall be required:
    - a) If voting by ballot, it shall be submitted to the Chapter President prior to the official start of the Chapter meeting where voting is to take place.
    - b) Proxies to vote on the proposed bylaw amendment(s) shall be submitted to the Chapter President in accordance with Article VIII, Section 1(B) of these bylaws.

**VALLEY CHAPTER BYLAWS**

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c) Should an association president be unable to attend the meeting, a designation form shall be completed and signed, by the respective member association president, providing the name of the association member who is authorized to cast a voice vote on their behalf.

1. The designation form shall be submitted to the Chapter President prior to the official start of the Chapter meeting where the voting is to take place.

F. The proposed amendment(s) shall be adopted providing two-thirds (2/3) of votes are cast in favor of the amendment(s) and providing that provisions of Subsections A-E of this Article have been complied with.