

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
of the
SALIDA FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

PREAMBLE

SINCE IT IS TRUE that fellowship, trust and goodwill should prevail among those in the Fire Service who work together in united capacity, and among those who may, through the call of duty, hazard their time, their effort, and even their lives together for the benefit of themselves, their fellow citizens and their community,

BE IT KNOWN that we of the SALIDA FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION do propose to promote and encourage these bonds of fellowship, trust, and goodwill among ourselves by promoting, establishing, and maintaining the interest and commitment of good men and women to the traditions of the Fire Service, by actively promoting the awareness and seeking the support and interest of our community and its citizens for a strong and effective Fire Service, and by organizing and promoting such activities which may benefit our district, our community, and ourselves.

AS SUCH, we hold ourselves bound in honor to each other for each one's welfare, and we willingly accept and shall abide by, in every respect, the following Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE I
Organization

Section 1. *Name.* This Association shall be known and designated as THE SALIDA FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, and is incorporated under the laws of the State of California as a Non-Profit Corporation.

ARTICLE II
Membership

Section 1. *Classifications.* The membership of the Association shall consist of the following classifications with their various responsibilities and privileges:

A. *Active Membership.* A Director or properly appointed Firefighter in good standing who is in active service to the Salida Fire Protection District constitutes an Active Member if he/she shall pay seasonal dues. Active Members shall have the right to vote and enter into the regular business of the Association and shall have the full use of all Association facilities as well as other duties, responsibilities, and privileges that may be allowed by the Association.

B. *Associate Membership.* A Retired Director or a Retired Firefighter in good standing of the Salida Fire Protection District constitutes an Associate Member if

he/she shall pay seasonal dues. Associate Members shall have the right to vote and enter into the regular business of the Association and shall have the full use of all Association facilities as well as other duties, responsibilities, and privileges that may be allowed by the Association. If an Associate Member allows his/her dues to lapse for more than one year and then desires to re-instate membership, he/she shall make this request known to the Secretary and a majority ballot of the members present at a regular meeting shall be required to re-admittance into the Association, as well a payment of the current seasonal dues.

C. ***Retired Life Membership.*** Retired Life Membership may be conferred by the Association at their pleasure upon any Active Member at the time of his/her retirement if he/she has served as continuously as an Active Member in good standing for at least five consecutive years immediately preceding retirement. When due to accidental disability, an Active Member may receive a Retired Life Membership at the discretion of the Association. Selection of Retired Life Membership shall be by a majority ballot of the members present at a regular meeting of the Association. The name of a Retired Life Member shall be on the roll until deceased, and he/she shall be allowed all of the social privileges of an Active or an Associate Member. If he/she shall elect to pay seasonal dues, he/she shall then have the right to vote and enter into the regular business of the Association, and shall have the full use of all Association facilities, as well as all other duties, responsibilities, and privileges which may be allowed by the Association.

D. ***Honorary Membership.*** Honorary Membership may be conferred by the Association at their pleasure upon any person who by virtue of interest, loyalty, and good will has contributed significantly to the support, well-being and morale of either the Salida Fire Protection District or the Association. Honorary Members shall not pay dues and shall not have a voice at the regular business meetings of the Association, and shall have the same social privileges as any other member.

Section 2. ***New Firefighters.*** New Firefighters who are beginning their service to the Salida Fire Protection District are encouraged to attend and participate in all functions of the Association as guests of the Association until their appointment to the Department roster by the Chief, at which time they are eligible for acceptance as Active Members. They shall not pay dues and not have a voice at the regular business meetings of the Association until their acceptance as Active Members.

Section 3. ***In Memorial.*** Any Firefighter of the Salida Fire Protection District who has passed on shall have his/her name properly inscribed upon a plaque to be displayed in a place of honor in the chambers of the Association.

Section 4. No member, other than an officer as proscribed in Article III, shall incur any expense or behold the Association without prior approval of the membership or the President.

ARTICLE III

Officers

Section 1. ***Designation.*** The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Sergeant of Arms.

Section 2. ***Duties of the President.*** The President shall preside at the meeting of the Association. The President shall preserve order and conduct the sessions according to his/her best judgment, but in all events, in accordance with the rules of order set up by the Association. In the event there is no established rule of order to cover the situation, the President shall abide by Roberts Rules of Order. The President may appoint any member of the Association to fill in for any absent officer at any Association meeting.

Section 3. ***Duties of the Vice-President.*** In event of the absence of, or the inability or unavailability of the President, the Vice-President shall assume all of the duties, powers, and prerogatives of the President. The Vice-President shall perform other duties as the President may require. The Vice-President shall be responsible for all necessary filings on behalf of the Association with any governmental agency.

Section 4. ***Duties of the Secretary.*** It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a complete record of the proceedings of the Association and the standing committees of which he/she shall be ex-officio a member. The Secretary shall keep a true and correct record of the current status of all Association members. He/she shall cause to be prepared and issued to the members and to all others to whom he/she might be directed by the President, a complete report of each Association meeting. He/she may employ such assistance, as he/she may deem necessary for the proper recording or reporting of any business of the Association. At the request of the President, the Secretary shall present to the Association a written or printed statement of the work of his/her office, and he shall perform such other duties as the President may require.

Section 5. ***Duties of the Treasurer.*** The Treasurer shall collect and account for all money due the Association from all sources, and shall have custody of the funds of the Association. All money, except a total of not more than fifty dollars at one time, which may be kept in possession as cash for incidentals, and belonging to the Association shall be deposited in a chartered bank approved by the Association. Said deposits shall be in the name of the Association. He/she shall keep a true and accurate record of all money received and disbursed, and shall pay no money except by orders of the Association in session. All bills are to be presented by the Treasurer to the Association at regular meetings and approved by the members for payment. After approval, the bills are to be promptly paid by the Treasurer. In the event that payment for Association bills are due before the next scheduled meeting, the Treasurer may pay those bills without prior approval of the membership, providing the total amount does not exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). If the total of bills exceeds said amount, the Treasurer shall obtain authorization from two other Officers prior to payment. All withdrawals of the Association funds from the bank shall bear the signature of the Treasurer, and the co-signature of the President, the Vice-President, or the Secretary. At the request of the

President, the Treasurer shall present to the Association a written or printed statement of the work of his/her office and the general condition of the finances of the Association.

Section 6. Sergeant of Arms. The Sergeant of Arms shall see that the meeting room is set in order for the regular business meetings, shall maintain order at meetings, and shall perform such other duties as directed by the President or other officiating chairperson.

ARTICLE IV Election of Officers

Section 1. All officers of the Association are to be nominated and elected by the members of the Association at the last regular meeting of each and every year. The newly elected officers are to be installed at a regular meeting in January following their election. The term of their office shall be for one year unless re-elected.

ARTICLE V Meetings

Section 1. *Regular Meetings.* The regular meetings of the Association shall be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Six members and a current officer of the Association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 2. *Special Meetings.* A special meeting of the Association may be called at any time by the President, or the President may be requested to call a special meeting by three members of the Association. Such special meetings shall be held at a reasonable hour and after notification of a majority of the active members of the Association.

ARTICLE VI Amendments

Section 1. The Association shall have full powers to alter, amend, or revise this Constitution and By-Laws, provided that Notice of such alteration, amendment, or revision shall be posted at least thirty days prior to the date set for approval. A three-fourths majority ballot of the members entitled to vote who are present at a regular meeting shall be necessary for the adoption of any such alteration, amendment, or revision.

ARTICLE VII Dues

Section 1. The Dues shall be paid annually in an amount as may be determined from time to time by the membership. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be exempt.

ARTICLE VIII
Equipment

Section 1. No equipment or furnishings belonging to the Association shall be removed from the fire station except with the permission and consent of the President, Chief, or their designee.

Section 2. No equipment or furnishings belonging to the Association shall be removed from the fire station except by a member of the Association in good standing.

Section 3. Any member removing equipment or furnishings belong to the Association shall be responsible for its timely and safe return.

ARTICLE IX
Auditing Committee

Section 1. The President shall annually appoint an auditing committee to consist of three members, whose duty it shall be to examine all accounts brought before the Association and to report on the same. They shall examine the books of the Association as of the appointed time and shall submit a written report thereon to membership.

ARTICLE X
Disorderly Conduct or Substance Abuse

Section 1. Any member appearing at any meeting or social function of the Association under the influence of a mind altering substance or behaving in a disorderly manner while the Association is in session shall be fined an amount not to exceed ten dollars, or his/her membership may be terminated as the Association may elect.

ARTICLE XI
Removal

Section 1. If a member shall bring discredit upon the Association or Department by his/her actions, said member may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at a regular meeting. Notice of intention to remove a member must be made 30 days prior to the meeting at which said vote shall occur. A vote to remove a member under this Article shall be by secret ballot.

ARTICLE XII
Dissolution

The Association shall use its funds only to accomplish objectives and purposes specified in these By-Laws, and no part of said funds shall inure, or be distributed, to the members of the Association. On dissolution of the Association any funds remaining shall be distributed to one or more regularly organized and qualified charitable, educational, scientific, or philanthropic organizations to be selected by the membership.

ATTEST

I certify that I am the duly elected and acting Secretary of the Salida Firefighters Association, a California non-profit corporation, that the above By-Law, consisting of six pages, are the By-Laws of this corporation as adopted by the General Membership at the regular meeting on December 18, 2001 and have not been amended or modified since that date.

Executed on December 28, 2001, at Salida, California

Secretary