BYLAWS OF THE
CALIFORNIA DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION
A Nonprofit Corporation
(Amended September 2019)

Article I
Offices

The corporation, hereinafter referred to as “Association,” shall establish such offices within the State of California as the Board of Directors may determine, or as the affairs of the Association may require from time to time. Insofar as possible, and when multiple office locations exist, those offices shall be equally distributed within the three Groups described in Article IX, below.

Article II
Membership

A. The membership of the Association shall be classified as follows: (1) District Attorney Members, Attorney General Member, City Attorney Members; (2) Deputy District Attorney Members, Deputy City Attorney Members, Deputy Attorney General Members; (3) Honorary Members; (4) Associate Members; (5) Special Category Associate Members; and (6) Auxiliary Members.

Except for Honorary Members whose membership shall be indefinite until revoked by action of the Board of Directors or otherwise lapsed, the membership year shall run from January 1 through December 31 of the same year.

B. All persons admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the State of California in good standing and who are (1) duly elected or appointed District Attorneys of any county in the State of California or (2) the duly elected Attorney General of the State of California or (3) who are the duly elected or appointed City Attorneys principally engaged in the prosecution of criminal cases of any city in the State of California, are eligible for membership in this Association as District Attorney Members, Attorney General Member, or City Attorney Members. Only District Attorney Members, Attorney General Members, and City Attorney Members may vote for and hold positions to be occupied by elected or appointed District Attorneys, the Attorney General, or City Attorneys as provided in these Bylaws. District Attorney Members, the Attorney General Member, and City Attorney Members shall pay to the Association on or before January 1 of each membership year annual dues as set forth below:

1. **Range 1** (Counties or Cities not exceeding a population of 50,000) (Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Inyo, Lassen, Mariposa, Modoc, Mono, Plumas, Sierra, Siskiyou, and Trinity; City of Hermosa Beach): Two Thousand, Two Hundred, and Ninety-Seven Dollars ($2,297);
2. **Range 2** (Counties or Cities with a population of 50,000, but no more than 100,000) (Lake, Mendocino, Nevada, San Benito, Sutter, Tehama, Tuolumne, and Yuba; City of Santa Monica): Two Thousand, Four Hundred, and Nintey-Four Dollars ($2,494);

3. **Range 3** (Counties or Cities with a population of 100,000, but no more than 250,000) (Butte, El Dorado, Humboldt, Imperial, Kings, Madera, Napa, Shasta, and Yolo; Cities of Burbank, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Pasadena, and Torrance): Three Thousand, Eight Hundred, and One Dollars ($3,801);

4. **Range 4** (Counties or Cities with a population of 250,000, but no more than 500,000) (Marin, Merced, Monterey, Placer, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, and Tulare; Cities of Anaheim and Long Beach): Four Thousand, One Hundred, and Four Dollars ($4,104);

5. **Range 5** (Counties or Cities with a population of 500,000, but no more than 1,000,000) (Fresno, Kern, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Stanislaus, and Ventura): Seven Thousand, Two Hundred, and Seven Dollars ($7,207);

6. **Range 6** (Counties or Cities with a population of 1,000,000, but no more than 2,000,000) (Alameda, Contra Costa, Sacramento, and Santa Clara; City of San Diego): Seven Thousand, Seven Hundred, and Thirty-Seven Dollars ($7,737); and

7. **Range 7** (Counties or Cities with a population of 2,000,000, or more) (Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego; City of Los Angeles): Eight Thousand, Two Hundred, and Eighty-Six Dollars ($8,286).

C. Except for District Attorneys, the Attorney General, and City Attorneys principally engaged in the prosecution of criminal cases, all persons admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the State of California in good standing and who are attorneys employed in the office of a District Attorney or City Attorney principally engaged in the prosecution of criminal cases, or any deputy employed in the office of the California Attorney General are eligible for membership in this Association as Deputy District Attorney Members, Deputy City Attorney Members, or Deputy Attorney General Members. Only Deputy District Attorney Members, Deputy City Attorney Members, and Deputy Attorney General Members may vote for and hold positions to be occupied by Deputy District Attorneys, Deputy City Attorneys, and Deputies Attorney General as provided in these Bylaws. Deputy District Attorneys, Deputy City Attorneys, and Deputies Attorney General shall pay to the Association on or before January 1 of each membership year annual dues in the amount of One Hundred and Eight Dollars ($180).
D. Former elected District Attorneys and persons distinguished for public service or eminence in law, may be elected to honorary membership by vote of the Board of Directors. Honorary Members shall not pay dues, hold office, or vote, but shall have all other rights and privileges of membership.

E. All persons who are attorneys employed in any office of a United States Attorney located in California, any office of a military Judge Advocate General located in California, a State Inspector General, or any office of a California state agency engaged in regulatory activities involving civil or criminal enforcement; law clerks employed in the Office of the Attorney General, United States Attorney, State Inspector General, Judge Advocate General, or any District Attorney or City Attorney; faculty directly connected with courses on criminal law or administration of justice at California colleges and universities; peace officers; and victim-witness employees of any District Attorney are eligible for membership in this Association as Associate Members. Associate Members shall pay to the Association on or before January 1 of each membership year annual dues in the amount of Forty-Four Dollars ($44).

United States Attorneys, State Inspectors General, and Judge Advocates General who desire to be Associate Members, shall pay to the Association on or before January 1 of each membership year annual dues in the amount of One Thousand, Five Hundred, Forty Dollars ($1,540).

Associate Members shall be subject to the following limitations and privileges:

1. Associate Members shall not be entitled to vote in any Association election;
2. Associate Members shall not be entitled to hold any office in the Association;
3. Associate Members may attend Association seminars;
4. Associate Members may purchase Association publications at the discretion of the Board of Directors;
5. Associate Members shall not, nor allow any other person to, reproduce any Association publications or materials; and
6. Associate Members may receive notice of all Association publications, seminars, and activities.

F. All persons who are employed as administrators, victim-witness supervisors, or investigators in the office of any District Attorney or City Attorney are eligible for membership in this Association as Auxiliary Members. Such Auxiliary Members shall pay to the Association on or before January 1 of each membership year annual dues in the amount of Eighty-Eight Dollars ($88).

Auxiliary Members may not hold office or vote as members of the Association and shall be subject to the same limitations and privileges as Associate Members, with the
following exception: Auxiliary Members may participate as voting members of Association committees.

G. All persons who are ex-District Attorneys or ex-City Attorneys formerly engaged principally in the prosecution of criminal cases, ex-Deputy District Attorneys, ex-Deputy City Attorneys, or ex-Deputies Attorney General are eligible for membership in this Association as Special Category Associate Members. Special Category Associate Members shall pay to the association on or before January 1 of each membership year annual dues in the amount of Forty-Four Dollars ($44)

Special Category Associate Members may not hold office or vote and shall be entitled only to the following privileges: Special Category Associate Members may receive notice of all and purchase Association publications, and/or may attend seminars and activities.

H. Membership in CDAA is intended for those individuals who work in the field of criminal prosecution. Individuals who, with or without compensation, are employed or affiliated with an agency or entity that is directly or indirectly involved in criminal law defense or advocacy activity are ineligible for membership in the Association.

Should any member cease to be the duly elected or appointed District Attorney, City Attorney, or a Deputy District Attorney, Deputy City Attorney, or Deputy Attorney General, or to be employed in an office and capacity that allowed the person eligibility of membership, he/she shall then cease to be a member and to hold office in this Association. The name of any member who is in arrears two consecutive years for nonpayment of dues shall be dropped from the roll of membership upon written notice.

A member may be suspended or terminated for cause by a 2/3 vote of the Board. Cause shall include a failure, in serious degree, to observe the Association’s rules of conduct as prescribed by the Board in these Bylaws or by policy, or conduct, which the board shall deem in its sole discretion harmful to the best interests of the Association. The Board shall determine whether cause exists and determine the appropriate action, if any. The Board’s action shall occur only after the member has been given a fifteen-day (15-day) prior written notice of the proposed action and the reasons therefore. The notice shall also advise the member of the member’s opportunity to be heard by the Board, orally or in writing, not less than five (5) days before the effective date of the action by the Board.

I. Each member, except Honorary, Associate, and Special Category Associate Members, shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members.
Article III
Meetings of Members

A. A regular annual meeting of the members shall be held at such time and place as may be determined by the Board of Directors for the transaction of such business as may be appropriate.

B. Special meetings of the members may be called by the President or by a majority of the Board of Directors. No business except that for which notice has been given shall be transacted at any special meeting.

C. Notice of the time, place, and purpose of any meeting of the members shall be noticed at the direction of the President, to each member of the Association not later than fifteen (15) days before the time of such meeting.

D. Any number of members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Association.

E. Resolutions adopted by the members at an annual meeting, or at any special meeting, or votes taken from District Attorneys, shall be advisory to the Board of Directors.

Article IV
Board of Directors

A. There shall be a Board of Directors of seventeen (17) persons consisting of the President, two Vice-Presidents, the Secretary-Treasurer, the Sergeant-at-Arms, Immediate Past President, and eleven (11) other members of the Association selected in accordance with Sections G, and H below. The Chief Executive Officer shall serve the Board of Directors in an advisory non-voting capacity.

B. The Board of Directors shall have full power and authority, during the intervals between meetings of the Association, to do all acts and perform all functions that the Association might do or perform, except that it shall have no power to amend the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws, provided, however, that it shall have the power to raise or lower annual membership dues and it shall have the power to admit to regular membership status or associate membership status classes of attorneys within California at its discretion. Notification of any changes in the annual dues shall be made to all members affected as soon as is practicable and reasonable after the decision to adjust the dues is made by the Board of Directors but at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of any such adjustment. The Board of Directors shall direct the expenditure of the funds of the Association but may not direct expenditure of funds in excess of the current balance of the accounts of the Association, as determined by the Secretary-Treasurer.
C. The Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the President and at such times and places as the majority may determine.

D. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, with the following exceptions:

1. If the office of any director (for any reason) shall become vacant, a majority of the remaining directors, even if such majority is less than a quorum, may elect a successor to hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of the officer or director and until his/her successor shall have been duly chosen. Each new or successor director shall be elected only by the vote of the Members of the Board of Directors of the membership class to be filled and each new or successor director shall belong to the membership class of his/her predecessor and, in the case of Deputy District Attorney directors, shall be from the same Group (1, 2, or 3) of California except as provided in Section H, below.

2. In order for the Board of Directors to support, oppose, or endorse any initiative proposed for statewide public vote, or any candidate for State Legislative office, a two-thirds vote of those directors voting shall be required.

E. At the time the Articles of Incorporation of the Association take effect, the terms of the officers as members of the Board of Directors shall not be affected by the provisions of Section H, below.

F. The seventeen (17) members of the current Board of Directors of the Association shall continue to serve as the directors of the Association, five (5) of whom shall serve as officers of the Association. Those five officers are the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and the Sergeant-at-Arms. With respect to the twelve (12) non-officer members of the Board of Directors, four (4) shall be District Attorney Members, seven (7) shall be Deputy District Attorney Members, and one (1) shall be the Immediate Past President. Of the seven (7) Deputy District Attorney Members who shall serve on the Board of Directors, two (2) shall be from Group 1, two (2) shall be from Group 2, two (2) shall be from Group 3, and one (1) shall be at large. Each of the said seven (7) Deputy District Attorney Members shall be employed in the office of different District Attorneys.

G. At the expiration of the terms of said non-officer directors, their successors shall be elected for terms of two (2) years. Each successor Deputy District Attorney Director shall belong to the same Group as his/her predecessor.
H. Should a director cease to be a District Attorney, City Attorney, Deputy District Attorney, his/her position in the Association shall be vacated upon the effective date of his/her change in status.

J. Violation of these Association Bylaws may constitute sufficient cause for that member’s removal from his/her position upon a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

Article V
Officers

A. The officers of this Association shall be a President, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Secretary-Treasurer, and a Sergeant-at-Arms, which persons shall also serve as directors of the Association.

B. Each officer of this Association shall be a District Attorney Member. The Board of Directors shall establish policies and procedures to guide the nomination of officers.

The nomination process guidelines shall expressly permit any District Attorney Member to nominate any other District Attorney Member for the Sergeant-at-Arms position. The guidelines shall also expressly permit any District Attorney Member to nominate themselves for the Sergeant-at-Arms position.

The nominating committee, as appointed by the President, shall retain ultimate authority for the nomination of a Sergeant-at-Arms candidate.

Considerations for the nomination of a Sergeant-at-Arms shall include, but not be limited to, whether the nominee has exhibited longstanding commitment, dedication, participation, and leadership in the Association; the nominee’s tenure as a District Attorney; and the value of personal, geographic, and demographic diversity.

C. Each officer of the Association shall hold office for a term of one year or until his/her successor is elected.

D. The officers of this Association shall be elected annually by ballot by the vote of a majority of the District Attorney Members voting.

E. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors, appoint committee chairs, and perform the duties usually performed by the President of an organization. The President shall not vote unless his/her vote is required to break a tie vote. When any question of parliamentary procedure shall arise that is not expressly or impliedly provided for by the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of the Association, the presiding officer shall be guided in his/her decision by the provisions of the most recent edition of “Robert’s Rules of Order.”
F. The First Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President during the latter’s absence or inability to act and during the period of any vacancy in the office of President and shall serve as the parliamentarian and as chair of the Finance Committee.

G. The Second Vice President shall perform the duties of the First Vice President in the absence of the First Vice President or whenever the President may direct and shall serve as the chair of the conference planning committee.

H. The Secretary-Treasurer shall review minutes of the proceedings of each meeting.

I. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall preserve order at each meeting of the Association and perform such other duties as may be assigned to him/her by the President of the Board of Directors.

J. It shall be the responsibility of the Association President or the Chief Executive Officer to notify, or cause to be notified, the appropriate person of the outcome of the issues acted upon by the Board of Directors.

K. Board members of the Association are prohibited from identifying their affiliation with the Association in public pronouncements of individual support or opposition to ballot measures or legislative issues unless their position is in support of the position adopted by the Association.

L. The President or acting President are prohibited from making any public pronouncements of individual support or opposition to statewide ballot measures or legislative issues that come before the Board of Directors or that are likely to come before the Board unless his/her position is in support of the position adopted by the Association.

Article VI
Chief Executive Officer/Assistant Chief Executive Officer

A. Authorization for Appointment – Chief Executive Officer and Assistant Chief Executive Officer. The Board of Directors is authorized to employ a Chief Executive Officer and an Assistant Chief Executive Officer of the Association. The Board of Directors shall determine the method and conditions of employment.

B. Duties of Chief Executive Officer – Under the direction of the President, the Chief Executive Officer shall serve as General Manager and CEO of the Association, as well as direct the hiring and management of any staff of the Association through the Assistant Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer is authorized to conduct transactions, sign contracts, maintain records, disburse funds, manage paid staff, volunteers, and contract personnel in support of the Association, and in the name of the
Association carry out such other duties and may be authorized by the Board of Directors and as outlined in the employment contract if so employed and Association policies. The Chief Executive Officer shall prepare or cause to be prepared an annual report within 120 days after the close of the Association’s fiscal year pursuant to the requirements of California Corporations Code section 8321, and to notify each member of the Association of the member’s right to receive the report.

C. Duties of the Assistant Chief Executive Officer – Under the direction of the Chief Executive Officer, the Assistant Chief Executive Officer shall operate and manage the offices of the Association as well as direct the hiring and day-to-day management of any staff of the Association. In the absence of the Chief Executive Officer, and subject to the direction of the President, the Assistant Chief Executive Officer shall have all of the powers and authority of the Chief Executive Officer. If the office of Chief Executive Officer should at any time become vacant, the Assistant Chief Executive Officer shall act on an interim basis as Chief Executive Officer.

Article VII
Elections

A. The Association shall hold an annual election to choose officers and directors of the Association. The first Tuesday after the first Monday in June of each year is hereby declared to be Election Day.

B. At least sixty (60) days prior to Election Day the President shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of seven (7) members of the Association—four (4) District Attorney Members, and three (3) Deputy District Attorney Members. The President shall serve as the Chairperson of the Committee. Within ten (10) days of appointment, the committee shall meet and propose one (1) candidate for each office and one (1) candidate for each vacant position on the Board of Directors. Nominations for positions that are to be occupied by District Attorney Members may be made and voted upon only by those members of the committee who are District Attorney Members; nominations for positions to be occupied by Deputies District Attorney, may be made and voted upon only by those members of the committee who are Deputy District Attorney Members. The Secretary-Treasurer shall ratify the slate of nominees selected by the nominating committee no less than forty-five (45) days prior to Election Day.

C. Except as provided in Article V, Section B, of these Bylaws, any District Attorney Member may also be nominated for any position to be occupied by a District Attorney Member by filing with the Secretary-Treasurer no less than forty-six (46) days prior to Election Day, a written nomination signed by at least ten (10) District Attorney Members of the Association.
D. Any Deputy District Attorney Member may also be nominated for any position to be occupied by a Deputy District Attorney Member by filing with the Secretary-Treasurer no less than forty-six (46) days prior to election day, a written nomination signed by at least ten (10) Deputy District Attorney Members of the Association; provided, however, that such Deputy District Attorney Member nominated shall be from Group 1, 2, or 3, in conformance with Article IV, Section G, of these Bylaws.

E. A ballot containing the names of the nominees for each office and directorship shall be provided to each member eligible to vote not more than twenty-five (25) nor less than fifteen (15) days prior to Election Day. The ballot shall designate the name and current assignment of each nominee and shall be in such form and shall contain such instructions as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

F. Only District Attorney Members may vote for District Attorney nominees. Only Deputy District Attorney Members may vote for Deputy District Attorney nominees. Only members who are current in their membership dues obligation to the Association may be nominated, hold office, and vote.

G. Ballots shall be returned to the Association not later than 5:00 p.m. on Election Day in accordance with the instructions on or furnished with the ballot.

H. Immediately upon the close of the polls, the votes shall be counted by a committee of at least three (3) members to be appointed by the President. No nominee shall be eligible to serve on this committee. The election result shall be reported to the President in writing.

I. The nominee for officer positions receiving the largest number of votes is elected. Those nominees for directorship positions in number equal to the number of positions within each class of nominee to be filled at the election who shall receive the largest number of votes are elected. If two or more nominees for one position receive an equal number of votes, an election between such nominees shall be conducted by the then sitting board of directors at a special meeting of the board of directors called for the sole purpose of breaking the election tie.

J. Officers and directors who have been elected to fill vacant positions in the annual election shall be installed in office at the annual meeting.

K. Officers and directors shall subscribe to an oath of office as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.
Article VIII
Committees

A. The Association shall have standing committees to be known by the names and to have the functions as are hereinafter set forth. The Board of Directors may designate other standing committees, either in lieu of or in addition to those hereinafter provided in Section I of this Article, and may direct the disbandment and discontinuance of any standing or special committee, and may establish sections of the Association and delegate to any committee or section all or any of the functions any standing or special committee of the Association.

B. No committee shall be authorized to obligate the funds of the Association except with prior specific approval of the Board of Directors.

C. Unless these bylaws identify a chairperson, the President shall annually appoint the Chairperson of each committee as soon as practicable after his/her installation, and when there is a vacancy in the Chairpersonship of a committee, the President of the Association shall select a new Chairperson.

D. The Chairperson of a committee shall appoint the committee members except for the Legislation and Finance Committees. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of any committee shall be filled by appointment by the Chairperson of the committee for the unexpired term. Membership of each committee shall be limited to District Attorney, Deputy District Attorney, Honorary, Special Category, or Auxiliary members in good standing of the Association. The President of the Association shall appoint the committee members of the Finance Committees.

E. The term of office of committee Chairperson and the committee members expires at the annual meeting next after the appointment and upon the appointment of successors.

F. Each committee shall meet at such times and places as the majority of the members shall determine or upon the call of the Chairperson.

G. Each committee may fix rules for its own governance and course of proceedings consistent with the Articles of Incorporation of the Association, these Bylaws, and any other policy adopted by the Board of Directors of the Association.

H. Each committee shall report on its proceedings to the Board of Directors.
I. The standing committees shall be as follows:

1. Legislation Committee

   (a) There shall be a Legislation Committee consisting of members from Groups 1, 2, and 3 selected by the Chairperson and the President.

   (b) The Legislation Committee shall consider proposed legislation affecting criminal law and procedure that, in its judgment, would be beneficial or harmful not only to the members of the Association but to the people of California and the proper enforcement of the criminal laws of the state; and:

       (1) make recommendations to the Association concerning such legislation, and

       (2) upon the approval of the President advise any committee of the legislature on behalf of the Association concerning such legislation.

   All legislation proposed to the Association concerning criminal law and procedure shall be referred to the Legislation Committee for investigation and recommendations.

   (c) The President of the Association, the Chief Executive Officer, and the Chairperson of the committee, are authorized to advise any committee of the Legislature on behalf of the Association regarding urgent legislative matters affecting the criminal laws of this State when it is deemed impracticable by the Chairperson of the committee to poll the Legislation Committee for its views on said matters.

2. Training, Education, and Publications Committee

   (a) There shall be a Training, Education, and Publications Committee consisting of members selected from Groups 1, 2, and 3.

   (b) The Training, Education, and Publications Committee shall consider and make recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning the training of Deputy District Attorneys, the education of persons engaged in the practice of criminal law, and the education of the general public regarding the administration of criminal justice.
(c) The Training, Education, and Publications Committee shall, subject to the direction of the Board of Directors or the Chief Executive Officer, assist in the preparation and administration of grant projects and other programs relating to the training and education of Deputy District Attorneys, practitioners in criminal law, and the general public.

3. Appellate Committee

(a) There shall be an Appellate Committee consisting of members selected from Groups 1, 2, and 3. The Appellate Committee shall:

(1) exchange information and briefs regarding pending cases relating to areas of law chosen by the Appellate Committee or the Association for statewide coordination and coordinate the efforts of District Attorneys’ offices in such areas with the office of the Attorney General; and

(2) When appropriate, prepare amicus curiae briefs on behalf of the California District Attorneys Association.

(b) All briefs prepared by the Appellate Committee shall indicate that they were prepared by the Appellate Committee of the California District Attorneys Association and shall specify the particular District Attorney’s Office that prepared the brief by utilizing the following form:

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the California District Attorneys Association.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF __________ COUNTY

By ________________
Deputy District Attorney
Attorney for Amicus Curiae

4. Endorsement Committee

(a) There shall be an Endorsement Committee consisting of nine (9) members, all of whom are members of CDAA in good standing.

(1) The committee shall include a Chairperson selected by the President.
(2) The remaining members shall be selected by the Chairperson and the President.

(3) The Chief Executive Officer and Legislation Director shall serve as ex-officio, advisory, non-voting members of the Endorsement Committee.

(4) In appointing members to the Endorsement Committee, consideration should be given to the size and geographical location of the member’s county and reflect a reasonable composition of CDAA at large, include CDAA’s commitment to promoting diversity in prosecution offices.

(b) The Endorsement Committee shall review and consider requests for endorsement from candidates for legislative office or organizers of a proposed ballot initiative that, in its judgment, would affect not only members of CDAA, but the people of California and the proper enforcement of the Constitution and statutes of the state; and

(1) Establish rules and procedures for the solicitation or receipt of requests for endorsement of a ballot initiative or candidate for legislative office;

(2) Research, investigate, interview, or otherwise evaluate, ballot initiatives or candidates for legislative office, consistent with those rules and procedures;

(3) Make recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning such endorsements.

5. Finance Committee

(a) The members of the Finance Committee shall consist of the First Vice President, Second Vice President, Sergeant-at-Arms and two other District Attorney, Deputy District Attorney, Honorary, or Auxiliary members in good standing of the Association.

(b) The Finance Committee shall oversee the financial affairs of the Association and may:

(1) Make recommendations to the Board of Directors on the hiring and firing of an independent CPA to conduct financial audits of the Association, negotiate the independent auditor’s compensation,
confer with the auditor to satisfy committee members that the financial affairs of the Association are in order; review the audit and decide whether to accept it; and approve non-audit services by the independent CPAs firm,

(2) Make recommendations to the Board of Director and/or Chief Executive Officer for the adoption of or change in existing policies or internal controls related to the financial affairs of the corporation

(3) Review and recommend to the Board of Directors the adoption or modification of an annual budget; strategic business plans, investments, compensation schedules, and health and welfare benefit plans;

(4) Review interim management reports of the financial activities of the Association;

(5) Review and recommend the approval or denial of unbudgeted spending requests greater than $5,000; and

(6) Review and recommend action on other matters relating to the Association’s financial condition or activities when required.

Article IX
Groups

For all purposes herein provided, the following groupings shall apply:

**Group 1- Coastal**
Del Norte County, Humboldt County, Los Angeles County, Marin County, Mendocino County, Monterey County, Orange County, San Diego County, San Francisco County, San Luis Obispo County, San Mateo County, Santa Barbara County, Santa Cruz County, Sonoma County, Ventura County

**Group 2 – Northeastern**
Alameda County, Alpine County, Amador County, Butte County, Colusa County, Contra Costa County, El Dorado County, Glenn County, Lake County, Lassen County, Modoc County, Napa County, Nevada County, Placer County, Plumas County, Sacramento County, Santa Clara County, Shasta County, Sierra County, Siskiyou County, Solano County, Sutter County, Tehama County, Trinity County, Yolo County, Yuba County
Group 3 – Southeastern
Calaveras County, Fresno County, Imperial County, Inyo County, Kern County, Kings County, Madera County, Mariposa County, Merced County, Mono County, Riverside County, San Benito County, San Bernardino County, San Joaquin County, Stanislaus County, Tulare County, Tuolumne County

Article X
Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the first day of July and end on the last day of June each year.

Article XI
Amendment of Bylaws

These Bylaws may be amended by the vote of two-thirds of the members voting and a majority of the District Attorney Members voting, provided that a written notice, description of the proposed amendment, and a ballot shall have been mailed to each District Attorney Member, and Deputy District Attorney Member of the Association not later than thirty (30) days prior to either (1) the date of a meeting of the members called to consider such amendment or (2) the last designated date for return of the completed ballots by mail to the Association if a meeting is not to be held to consider such amendment. These Bylaws may be amended by the Board of Directors following a two-thirds (2/3) vote of its full membership determining that an emergency exists or to correct non-substantive defects in the language of the Bylaws.

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