

DAVIE COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION

BY-LAWS REVISED 2024

A non-profit organization committed to the improvement of our local Law Enforcement agencies through training and community outreach.

ARTICLE I

NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION

The name of this Association shall be the Davie County Law Enforcement Association. Its principal place of business shall be Mocksville, North Carolina.

ARTICLE II

OBJECTIVES, PURPOSES, AND SCOPES

- A. To promote closer relations between all people interested in or actively engaged in the prevention of accidents and crime, and enforcement of laws.
- B. To suppress crime by countywide cooperation in the arrests of criminals and searches for fugitives from justice.
- C. To instill in members of the Association integrity and just pride in their work, and thereby in their profession, and to uphold the dignity of the law.
- D. To promote better public relations through local civic organizations, to support such organizations in the interests of better public relations, and to advance friendly and courteous dealings with the public.
- E. To take appropriate action on any proposed legislation that will affect the law enforcement profession.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Association shall be divided into the following classifications, which are defined in Article VI:

- 1. Active members: Sworn law Enforcement with arrest powers in Davie County (to include local, state and federal agencies along with task force officers) residents of Davie County that are sworn with another local agency that does not have arrest powers in

Davie County. Support staff of local Davie County Law Enforcement.

2. Honorary Members: Civilians that add to the mission statement of DCLEA. They shall have no voting powers and no range use without an active member present.

3. Retired members (Life members will fall under this membership from now, moving forward)

4. Expired Members

5. Probationary Status

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The following shall be the official representatives of the Davie County Law Enforcement Association:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Treasurer
4. Secretary

Section 1.

The President shall be chosen from the eligible members of the Association. The out-going President shall not be eligible to serve as President for a period of two years after the end of his/her term of office. Each president can serve a max of 5 consecutive years before the next president takes over.

The President shall be chosen from eligible members of the Association.

Section 2.

The term of office for the elected officers shall be one calendar year beginning the first day of January following the date of election and until December 31 of the same year, or until such times as their successors have been duly elected and qualified.

Section 3.

Nominations for officers shall be allowed from the floor at the Annual Business Meeting, in addition to the nominations offered by the Nominating Committee. Nominees must meet the qualification requirements set forth in ARTICLE VI.

Section 4.

The Annual Business Meeting, the meeting in which we vote for the new members of office, may be held in November or December, but is subject to change by the current officers, should they deem necessary for a particular reason.

ARTICLE V**DUTIES OF OFFICERS****Section 1.**

The President – The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association. Should the president not be present for a meeting under any circumstance, the vice president is to take on the duties of the president for that specific meeting. The President's decision in conducting Association meetings shall be final unless otherwise provided for by this constitution. The Presidents' decision may only be reversed by majority vote of the membership present at the Annual Business Meeting. The President shall appoint temporary officers in the case of extended absenteeism. The President may call a Special Meeting of the Association as occasion or circumstances warrant, with advance notice to the membership of the purpose, date, time, and place of such Special Meeting.

Section 2.

The Vice-President – The Vice President shall act as presiding officer of the Association during the temporary absence or disability of the President. The Vice-President automatically shall succeed to the office of the President in the event of the death, disability, resignation, or removal from office of the President. Under these circumstances, the Vice-President shall serve the unexpired term of the outgoing President.

Section 3.

The Treasurer – The Treasurer shall

- A. Collect all dues and make an accounting of such funds at the regular meetings;
- B. Have the Authority to disburse monies for such incidental expenses such as, but not limited to, stationary, mailing, and printing;
- C. Place all unexpended money in an appropriate account(s) to the credit of the Association;
- D. Perform other duties required of him/her by the President of the Association.

Section 4.

The Secretary – The Secretary shall

- A. Keep a correct record of all proceedings of the Association and file all documents and minutes relating thereto;
- B. Notify, in a timely manner, participating organizations of up-coming meetings;

- C. Generate any correspondence related to the business of the Association;
- D. Perform the duties required of him/her by the President of the Association.

Section 5.

Spending of Officers

- A. No member of the Association may buy supplies for the range except members serving in position of a Board Member of the Association (i.e. President, Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer)
- B. Board members of the Association may spend up to \$2,500 for maintenance fees or repairs (i.e. service repairs, emergency repairs, etc) without approval or voting from the Association before hand.
- C. Board members of the Association may spend up to \$250 on supplies or food for the range without approval or voting from the Association before hand.

ARTICLE VI

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

There shall be the following classification of membership of the Association:

- A. *Active Members* – Paying members of the Davie County Law Enforcement Association who are currently serving in the position of law enforcement officer in Davie County or who are employed in any of the supporting organizations within Davie County (i.e. Communications, DCI, Administrative Office of the Courts, etc.) no matter what their career field.
- B. *Honorary Members*: Civilians that add to the mission statement of DCLEA. They shall have no voting powers and no range use without an active member present.
- C. *Retired Members* - Persons who were paying members of the Davie County Law Enforcement Association for at least five years and have the following qualifications:
 - 1. Retired in good standing from service with a public agency as a law enforcement officer for reasons other than mental instability
 - 2. Before retirement was authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any violation of law, and had statutory powers of arrest
 - 3. Before retirement was regularly employed as a law enforcement officer for a total of 15 years or more or completed any applicable probationary period of such service, and then retired early due to a service-connected disability.
 - 4. Has a nonforfeitable right to benefits under the retirement plan of the agency
 - 5. During the past 12 months has met, at his/her own expense, the State of residency's standards for training and qualification for active law enforcement officers to carry firearms.

6. Is not under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance
 7. Is not prohibited by Federal law from receiving a firearm.
 8. Retired members are not required to pay the \$20 annual dues, as long as they have been members of the association for at least five years.
- D. *Expired Members* – Persons who previously paid to be a part of the Law Enforcement Association but have not paid their dues by June 30th of that calendar year are considered expired members. To become an active member again they must pay their dues before the end of that calendar year. If they fail to do so, that member must apply again for the Law Enforcement Association and pass a vote by active members to be reinstated.
- Expired members are not allowed to use the range building for personal uses until after they have been voted back into the Law Enforcement Association and their dues are paid and updated.
 - Expired members are not considered in the voting process until after they have been voted back into the Law Enforcement Association and their dues are paid and updated.
- E. *Probationary Status*
- Persons who have not paid their dues within the first 30 days of that calendar year are marked under probationary status.
 - After 6 months of probationary status, individuals are moved to expired members status.
 - Limited use of facilities – members on probationary status are not to use the range building for personal uses until after their dues are paid and updated.
 - No voting rights – members on probationary status have no voting rights at the meetings until after their dues are paid and updated.

Section 2.

Active and Retired Members have voting privileges when they are in attendance at the Association's meetings. Active and Retired Members also have voting privileges through email.

Section 3.

Any amendment to the by-laws which changes the classification or status of a member shall not affect his/her membership rights to which he/she was entitled prior to the amendment.

Section 4.

An application or request for any person to join the Davie County Law Enforcement Association must be submitted in writing to the Association and voted on at the next calendar meeting.

Section 5.

After an individual has been an expired member of the Law Enforcement Association, they must bring forward their application to the Davie County Law Enforcement Association and give reasons as to why they want to rejoin the Association. Their application will then be reviewed and voted on by members.

Section 6.

Active members and retired members in good standing may use the range facility building whenever available.

Range use

Sworn Law Enforcement and Transport officers with current year firearms qualification. Any other active or honorary member must be accompanied by the above-mentioned.

*exception to range use

NC wildlife safety training, boater safety training

NC CCW instructor with a state or federal law enforcement firearms instructor certification along with a NC CCW handgun instructor certification.

NC PPS instructor certification along with firearms training certificate.

Local, state or federal firearms training with a certified firearms or use of force instructor certification.

All instructors must file yearly insurance and instructor certifications with the association before range use. **Insurance must be a \$1,000,000 policy yearly and paperwork must be on file with the range.**

Firearms Instructors teaching under an agency must be covered under that agencies insurance policy.

Members who choose to do this need to make sure the range is available on those days (i.e. no classes or training going on) and must sign through the calendar on the LEA website to reserve the range for that day.

ARTICLE VII

COMMITTEES

Section 1. The President may appoint any committees as needed. These committees shall be dissolved at the conclusion of their assigned project or operation.

Section 2. The President shall be an ex-officio member of the committees.

Section 3. The President shall have the power to remove any member of any committee for neglect of duty.

Section 4. Each Committee must include at least three active members of the Davie County Law Enforcement Association.

Section 5. The Committee shall be brought up during a meeting to allow any members who wish to be a part of the Committee to be allowed to join.

ARTICLE VIII

DUES

Section 1.

Annual Dues for DCLEA are \$20 for all members, unless otherwise stated at the Annual Business Meeting, and shall be paid in the first 30 days of the calendar year. Annual dues can be increased if voted on at the Annual Business Meeting in accordance with these by-laws. The dues payment by a member will cover a period ending on the last day of the fiscal year in which the dues are paid.

Section 2.

Membership in the Association shall terminate automatically and membership benefits are forfeited automatically without further Association action:

- a. When dues or other indebtedness of an active member remains unpaid after June 30th of that same Calendar Year;
- b. There is an interruption in the active membership status or requirement.

An active member's membership may be reactivated by payment of current dates within six months of the membership termination. If the dues are not paid within six months, the member shall submit a new application for membership.

Section 3.

It is recommended that each member shall pay his/her dues within the first thirty (30) days of each new member year without further notification from the Association or its officers. If the dues are not paid within the first 30 days of the calendar year, members go into probationary status until the dues are paid. If the dues are still not paid by June 30th of that calendar year, members go into expired membership status. In order to become active members after this, they must reapply for membership of the Law Enforcement Association.

Section 4.

All membership dues are \$20 for each calendar year.

Section 5.

Dues can be paid through the Davie County Law Enforcement Association PayPal Account.

Section 6.

Board Members of the Association are not required to pay the yearly dues.

Section 7.

Retired members are not required to pay the yearly dues as long as they have been paying members of the Association for at least 5 years prior to retirement status.

ARTICLE IX**AMENDMENTS**

These By-Laws may be amended only at an Annual Business Meeting or at a Special Meeting called by the current elected officers for that purpose.

A proposed amendment may be submitted by any member of the Association.

Proposed amendments to the By-Laws shall be presented in writing to the Secretary of the Association. The Secretary will then post a copy of the proposed changes at the DCLEA Law Enforcement Training Center and on the DCLEA website at least 14 days prior to the Annual Business Meeting or Special Meeting.

Only eligible voting members shall vote on amendments. A majority of the votes of the voting members present shall be sufficient to adopt the amendment.

ARTICLE X**DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS UPON DISSOLUTION**

Upon the legal dissolution of this Association, the treasurer shall pay all outstanding debts and obligations. Whatever funds are remaining shall be disbursed to Davie County Domestic Violence and/or Davie County Dragonfly House. If both exist at that time, 50% shall go to each organization. If neither exists, the current officers shall determine which charity shall receive the funds.

ARTICLE XI

DUTIES OF MEMBERS

Section 1.

All members of the Association shall render proper and faithful adherence to the laws of the State of North Carolina; shall abide by the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of this Association; and shall faithfully discharge the duties of their offices.

Section 2.

No members shall, in any manner, utilize the Association as a means for personal political advancement.

Section 3.

Rank does not exist while attending Association meetings. All members are on an equal basis regardless of their position or rank.

Section 4.

All members shall promptly pay all dues, assessments, and fines which may be assessed against them.

Section 5.

At such time that a member no longer meets the criteria for active membership as set out in Article VI of these By-Laws, his/her status as an active member shall be automatically suspended. Each member shall notify the Association through one of its officers of his/her changed status. If a member retires from active law enforcement duty or employment in one of the supporting organizations, his/her membership status does not result in suspension of his/her active membership; rather, the rules governing membership for retirees shall prevail.

Section 6.

The following members shall automatically be expelled from the Association:

- a. Any member whose certification by the NC Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission is revoked or suspended;
- b. Any member whose certification by the NC Sheriff's Education and Training Standards Commission is revoked or suspended;
- c. Termination of employment by a Federal Agency;
- d. Termination of employment by any supporting agency.

An expelled member may apply for a review of his/her status by the officers who shall review such requests at the next regularly scheduled meeting. A majority of the members of the Association who are present may render a decision.

Membership dues are not refundable when membership is revoked.

Section 7.

A member whose application for membership was submitted with fraudulent information or with misrepresentation facts shall have that application canceled and shall forfeit any and all benefits and any privileges afforded by that membership. The officers may grant a hearing to reinstate the membership.

Section 8.

When voting during meetings, there must be a quorum of 30% or more members present for the vote to be valid. If there is under 30% of members present, an email shall be sent out with the option to vote that way.

Emergency Voting by Email

If there is not a quorum of 30% of members or more at the Emergency meeting, an email vote can be sent out to paying members. Email votes should only take place under emergencies and/or special circumstances in which a decision needs to be made regarding something and cannot wait until the following meeting. Members cannot vote in person and in email.

- a. *Eligibility* – All active members in good standing shall be eligible to vote by email on any matters presented to the membership for a vote.
- b. *Notification* – The Association shall notify all members of the voting period and the specific issues to be voted on via email at least three business days prior to the voting deadline.
- c. *Voting Process* – The Voting Process shall go as follows:
 1. Members shall cast their votes by sending an email to the designated email address provided in the notification;
 2. Each email must include the member's name, membership ID (if applicable), and their vote or comment regarding the topic (for, against, or abstain);
 3. Votes must be submitted by the deadline specified in the notification.
- d. *Verification* – The Association shall implement measures to verify the identity of members voting by email to ensure the integrity of the voting process.
- e. *Counting Votes* – Votes submitted via email shall be counted by the Secretary, and the results shall be reported to the membership within three days following the close of the voting period. Majority vote will be chosen.
- f. *Record keeping* – All email votes shall be retained for a period of three years for auditing purposes. A note can be made regarding the email vote and the process will be brought up as "old business" at the following meeting to be added to the minutes then.

ARTICLE XII

COMPENSATION

The Association is authorized to reimburse any member for expenses that were incurred by that member in the course of:

1. Carrying out the duties of his/her office;
2. Fulfilling a directive issue by the Association.

ARTICLE XIII

FUNDRAISERS

The Association is limited to two fundraisers per calendar year. One of these fundraisers is designated for the “Shop with a Cop” Charity Event. All proceeds raised during the “Shop with a Cop” fundraiser are to go to the banking account set aside for specifically “Shop with a Cop” proceeds (should be savings account). If not all of the proceeds raised are used for the “Shop with a Cop” event, they will be put aside to be used for the “Shop with a Cop” event for the next calendar year. If a second fundraiser is done throughout the year, all the proceeds for that fundraiser are to go to the Davie County Law Enforcement Association to be used as members see fit.

ARTICLE XIII

USE OF RANGE FACILITIES

Before use of range facilities by any member of the organization, the individual must go online to the DCLEA website (<https://www.dclea.org/>), go to the tab marked “visit” in the top right corner, and scroll down to “Reserve the Shooting Range”. Members must submit a request to use the facilities. In addition to this, a \$100 deposit is required before use of the range facilities. This is for use of the building, not the range for shooting. This \$100 deposit will be paid back to the member who reserved the range, as long as the range is cleaned up and left in good shape after inspection from one of the members of the board following the use of the range by said individual.