

**THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY**

PREAMBLE

The term criminology as used hereinafter is defined as a study of the causes, treatment, and prevention of crime; law enforcement; criminal justice; corrections and allied fields.

I. PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

- A. To bring together persons actively engaged, or who have been actively engaged, in teaching and/or practice in the field of criminology;
- B. To foster training and research in criminology in institutions of higher learning and in law enforcement and correctional agencies;
- C. To encourage understanding and cooperation among those engaged in criminology;
- D. To serve as a clearing house for collection and dissemination of criminological knowledge and skills.

II. OFFICERS

A. Executive Committee

- 1. The Executive Committee shall administer the affairs of this organization. It shall consist of the elected officers and such other members as may be appointed by the President.
- 2. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be as follows:
 - a. It shall be the policy forming body of the society;
 - b. It shall determine the date and place of the annual meeting and outline the program of this meeting;
 - c. It shall instruct the Executive Secretary on criteria for acceptance of all applications for membership in this organization;
 - d. It shall fill all offices vacated between regular annual meetings;

- e. It shall prepare the budget for the organization.
 - f. It shall appoint an Editor of Society publications, and shall serve as an advisory board for such publications;
 - g. It shall audit the accounts and disbursements of the Society.
3. The proposals and actions of the Executive Committee shall be adopted by a majority vote of the committee.
 4. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of five.

B. The President

Shall be the chief executive of the organization, shall represent the organization at formal gatherings, shall preside over the meetings of the Executive Committee, shall preside over the Annual Meeting, and shall appoint such committees as deemed necessary.

C. The Vice-Presidents

1. There shall be a First Vice-President whose position would be that of President-Elect. The First Vice-President shall preside over the meetings of the Society in the absence of the President, and shall be empowered to conduct all necessary business of the Society in the event that a vacancy exists in the office of President, or in the disability of the President. There shall be, in addition, four Vice-Presidents, with no designated order of succession.
2. The First Vice-President shall succeed in office to that of President at the end of the Presidential term of office.

D. The Executive Secretary

1. The Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the President, with the approval of the Executive Committee;

2. Shall keep all records and minutes of the organization;
3. Shall receive all monies due the organization and render an account of its income and disbursements;
4. Shall draw all warrants of the organization and sign the same for the payment of the expenses of the organization;
5. Shall following each meeting of the organization compile accurate minutes and proceedings of said meetings and forward a copy to each member of the organization;
6. Shall serve as secretary of the Executive Committee;
7. The Executive Secretary may be paid a salary by the Society for services rendered to it, the amount of this salary to be approved by the Executive Committee.

E. Qualifications of Officers

Any active member of the organization in good standing shall be eligible to hold office.

F. Elections

1. Officers shall be elected annually.
2. The election of officers shall take place during the Annual Meeting of each year.
3. The election shall be by ballot and if more than one candidate be nominated the majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to elect anyone to office. In the event no candidate receives the necessary majority on the first balloting, the two highest candidates shall be entered on the second ballot.

III. MEMBERSHIP

- A. Active members shall be:
Those engaged in teaching, research, and administration in criminology as defined in the Preamble. Active members may be eligible for the title "Fellow" upon recommendation of the Executive Committee.

- B. Associate members shall be:
Such other persons as the Executive Committee shall find to be eligible.
- C. Student members shall be:
Those studying in criminology in institutions of higher learning.
- D. Honorary members shall be:
Those persons who make outstanding contributions to criminology.
- E. Membership shall be achieved only by a majority vote of the Executive Committee except that Honorary members must be elected by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.
- F. Only active members shall have the privilege to vote.

IV. PROCEDURE

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern this organization during all meetings, general and committee, unless otherwise designated.

V. BY-LAWS AND AMENDMENTS

- A. Any section of this Constitution may be amended when the proposed amendment shall have been approved by two-thirds vote of the entire membership.
 - 1. The proposed amendment must be presented to the Secretary-Treasurer at the meeting of the Executive Committee prior to that wherein the vote for amendment shall take place. The Secretary-Treasurer shall notify the membership of the pending vote.
 - 2. When presented to the Secretary-Treasurer, the proposed amendment must bear the signatures of twenty percent of the membership.
- B. Any By-Laws of this Constitution shall become effective when approved by a majority of the membership, after fulfilling the same requirements as outlined in regard to amendments, except that the majority at an annual meeting may vote such changes or additions.

BY-LAWS

Article 1. Any member of the Executive Committee who will be unable to attend an Executive Committee meeting shall be able to vote by written proxy to be given either to the President or any other member of the Committee and not later than two (2) weeks preceding the meeting.

Article 2. Dues

- a. The annual dues for active and associate members shall be ten (10) dollars.
- b. The annual dues for student members shall be five (5) dollars.
- c. Membership dues shall be paid on or before April of each calendar year.

Article 3. Annual Meeting

A registration fee may be assessed for participants at the annual meeting and conferences of the society. The fee shall be set by the Executive Committee, and the membership shall be notified accordingly by the Secretary.

Article 4. Journal

The Society may publish a quarterly journal which shall be distributed to all members in good standing. Subscriptions to the journal can be sold at a rate designated to underwrite at least the actual cost thereof.

Adopted November 1957
Revised December 1963
Revised December 1965