

# CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNTY OFFICERS AND DEPUTIES ASSOCIATION OF OKLAHOMA

## ARTICLE I

### NAME AND PURPOSE

#### SECTION I – NAME

The organization shall be known as the “County Officers and Deputies Association of Oklahoma” with such powers, rights and duties as herein provided.

#### SECTION II – PURPOSE OF ORGANIZATION

A. The purpose of this Association shall be to improve the standards of all County Officers and Deputies: to cooperate with the State Auditor and Inspector’s Office and/or any state educational institution in arranging and conducting Association meetings, conferences, institutes and training schools; to enlighten all County Officers and Deputies, other governmental officials and the general and taxpaying public of the true nature and importance of the work performed by all County Officers; to support or sponsor legislative proposals designed to improve all County Offices; and in every possible way promote justice and equality in the administration of all County Offices; generally to promote the welfare, and education of all County Officers and Deputies throughout Oklahoma.

B. This Association shall operate exclusively for charitable and educational purposes in such a manner so as to qualify the Association as an exempt organization under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code; in particular, the Association shall not be operated for profit, and no part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, or officer of the Association or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the Association effecting one or more of its purposes). Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the Association shall not conduct or carry on any activities not permitted to be conducted or carried on by an organization exempt under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code and its Regulations, as they now exist or as they may be hereafter amended. In the event of a dissolution of this Association, the assets shall be distributed only to other charitable organization(s), provided they have an exempt status, in accordance with the provisions of Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.

#### SECTION III – POWERS

The County Officers and Deputies Association of Oklahoma shall have perpetual succession and as such it and its successor shall succeed to possess all rights and privileges permitted by law. The Association shall exercise all powers whether expressed or implied within this Constitution of By-Laws to accomplish its purpose as enumerated in Article I, Section II.

#### SECTION IV – OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- A. Provide opportunity for Officials to exchange their ideas on the operations of their respective offices.
- B. To elevate the standards and offer ways and means to serve the public better.
- C. Exemplify the ideals of public services as an influence in business and civic life.
- D. To provide leadership and direction in the education of its members, as well as the general public, as to the correct purpose, function, and operation of each one of the County Offices.

#### SECTION V – MEETINGS

There will be at least one meeting of the membership per year, which shall be the annual meeting. The time and place of the annual meeting shall be determined by the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE II

### OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP

#### SECTION I – OFFICERS

The officers of this Association shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected by the membership of the Association at the annual meeting. The duties of the officers shall be the ordinary duties of such officers as enumerated in the By-Laws of the Association. Deputy County Officers shall not be eligible to be Officers of this Association.

The term for all elected officers shall be one (1) year commencing with the succeeding fiscal year and an officer may serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office.

## SECTION II – MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall consist of members, subscribing members and honorary members.

All County Officers in the State of Oklahoma, whether appointed or elected to office, and all County Officers' Deputies shall be eligible to become a member. One deputy, provided such deputy is a member in good standing, from each County shall be entitled to be designated by his or her County Officer to vote at any meeting or by written designation prior to any such meeting, giving each County a maximum of two (2) votes.

All persons, co-partnerships, corporation or associations to include the Legislative Liaison, members of County Excise Boards, State Auditors and Inspectors, not eligible for regular memberships, but who are interested in the presentation and advancement of County government, are entitled to become subscribing members of the Association and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of the Association, except to vote or hold office.

Honorary Members shall be those individuals who have performed notable services for the Association or for the improvements of Local Government Administrations. Honorary Membership shall confer no rights nor impose any obligations under the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association. Such members must be approved by the Executive Board.

As a member of the Association, I will:

Consider it a privilege duty to uphold the laws of My Nation, My State, and My Country;  
Strive to continuously improve the professional atmosphere and the efficient operation of County Government;  
Promote the attitudes of public service without prejudice, intolerance, or thought of personal gain;  
Be honest and endeavor to reflect the simple graces of restraint and cheerfulness in the execution of my duties.

## SECTION III – DUES AND FEES

The Association shall establish such dues and fees as deemed necessary.

## ARTICLE III

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### SECTION I

The governing body of the Association shall be the Executive Board and it shall have the duty and authority to pass any resolution or by-laws it may deem necessary to accomplish the purpose of the Association, and which is not in conflict with any other provision of the constitution and by-laws.

#### SECTION II

The Executive Board shall consist of thirteen (13) regular members, four (4) of whom shall be the President, Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. The immediate Past-President and Legislative Liaison shall serve as the Ex-Officio member of the Executive Board and shall be counted in constituting a quorum, but shall only vote if necessary to break a tie vote. The remaining seven (7) members shall be the President of each individual State Association – Court Clerks, County Clerks, County Assessors, County Treasurers, County Superintendents, County Commissioners, and County Sheriffs. The Legislative Liaison member shall be appointed by the President each year and shall serve at the pleasure of the President.

### SECTION III

Should one or more vacancies occur during the term of a member of the Executive Board such vacancy or vacancies shall forthwith be filled by appointment by the Executive Board of the Association.

### SECTION IV

A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of such business as may come before it.

## ARTICLE IV COMMITTEES

### SECTION I

The committees of the Association shall consist of the Governmental Relations Committee, the Education Committee, the Nominating Committee and such other committees as deemed necessary. The duties of these committees shall be enumerated by the By-Laws of the Association.

## ARTICLE V ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS

### SECTION I – ADOPTION

The constitution shall be in force and effect upon adoption by a majority of the votes cast at the Association's annual meeting.

### SECTION II – AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution may be made upon approval by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast at the annual meeting.

## ARTICLE VI APPROVAL OF CONSTITUTION

### SECTION I

The foregoing Constitution was duly passed and adopted by the members of the County Officer's Association of Oklahoma at the regular annual meeting of the Association assembled in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 1982, by a unanimous affirmative vote, being two-thirds (2/3) or more of the members in attendance.