

RI Chapter Bylaws

ARTICLE I

NAME AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1. Name of State Chapter:

Rhode Island Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators.

Section 2. Objectives and Purpose:

- A. To unite for mutual benefit, those public officials or private concerns engaged in the control of arson and other kindred crimes.
- B. To provide for an exchange of technical information and developments.
- C. To encourage cooperation between public service agencies and private associations to further the suppression of arson.
- D. To encourage high professional standards of conduct among arson investigators and to continually strive to eliminate all factors which interfere with the administration of crime suppression.
- E. To foster greater professional competence in the investigation techniques and recognition of the crime of arson.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Active Membership:

Membership in the I.A.A.I. qualifies the individual member for active membership in the Rhode Island Chapter, subject to approval of the State Chapter Board.

Section 2. Associate Membership:

Associate membership in the I.A.A.I. qualifies the individual member for associate membership in the Rhode Island Chapter, subject to approval of the State Chapter Board and/or Membership Committee.

Section 3. Honorary Life Membership:

Honorary Life Membership in the I.A.A.I. qualifies the Individual for Honorary Life Membership in the Rhode Island Chapter, subject to approval of the Rhode Island Chapter Board.

ARTICLE III

ELECTION, TERMS AND OFFICERS

Section 1. Eligibility for Office:

- A. Must have been an active member of the State Chapter for at least one (1) year.
- B. An officer may not succeed him/herself.

Section 2. Officers:

The officers for the Chapter shall be as follows: President, First Vice-President, Second Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 3. Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors shall consist of nine (9) additional eligible members duly elected by majority vote of the membership, and the immediate Past President, for a total of ten (10) additional members.

Section 4. Terms of Office:

- A. Each duly elected officer shall serve a two (2) year term.
- B. The elected members of the Board of Directors shall be elected for terms of:
 - 3 members.....3 years
 - 3 members.....2 years
 - 3 members.....1 year
 - Past President.....2 years (not elected)

Section 5. Vacancies:

In the event of a vacancy or vacancies on the Board of Directors between annual meetings, the vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by the President, and the newly appointed member or members of the Board of Directors shall hold office only until the next annual meeting.

In the event of a vacancy or vacancies in the office of President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, or Secretary-Treasurer, between annual meetings, the vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by the Board of

Directors, and the newly appointed officer or officers shall hold office only until the next annual meeting.

Section 6. Election:

The officers and Board of Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting in the month of February.

Section 7. Nominating Committee:

At the December meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee which shall submit to the membership at the next annual meeting, a list of nominees to fill expiring terms on the Board of Directors. At the time of the election, the floor shall be open for the purpose of additional nominations.

ARTICLE IV

GOVERNMENT

Section 1. The government of the Rhode Island Chapter shall be vested in the Board of Directors, and seven (7) members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. Duties and Powers:

The Board of Directors shall have full power to initiate and transact all kinds of business necessary to the existence of the organization and the observance of its purposes. The Board of Directors shall determine the date and location of the annual meeting and shall outline the program of activities during such meeting. They shall have general powers to direct, control, and supervise the affairs of the Rhode Island Chapter.

Section 3. Chairperson of the Board of Directors:

The Chairperson of the Board of Directors shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. President:

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Rhode Island Chapter, and it shall be his/her responsibility to supervise and coordinate the activities of the Rhode Island Chapter. He/she shall appoint appropriate committees for the conduct of activities of the Rhode Island Chapter and shall require reports from the committees so appointed and from Officers of the Rhode Island Chapter.

Section 5. First Vice President:

In the absence of the President, the First Vice President shall be the Chief Executive Officer and shall act as such. It shall be the duty of the First Vice-President to obtain speakers for all functions of the Rhode Island Chapter.

Section 6. Second Vice President:

In the absence of the President and First Vice President, the Second Vice President shall be the Chief Executive Officer and shall act as such. The Second Vice President shall be Chairperson of the Audit Committee.

Section 7. Secretary-Treasurer:

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep the records and minutes of the organization and shall maintain a current roll of members, the Constitution, and other documents of value. He/she shall be custodian and sole depositor of the funds by check as authorized by the Board of Directors for purposes, which promote the welfare and objectives of the organization. He/she shall render a complete summary of all income, disbursements, and balances whenever requested by the Board and to the membership at each regular meeting. A written copy of this report shall be made available to any member upon request. He/she shall receive and acknowledge all communications of the Rhode Island Chapter addressed to him/her by officers of the I.A.A.I. and perform such duties as assigned by the President.

Section 8. Removal from Office and/or Membership:

The Board of Directors shall have the power to remove from office any officer or member of the Chapter for any of the following:

- A. Conduct or actions that would tend to discredit or would be detrimental to the reputation of the State Chapter or International Association.
- B. For good cause, as submitted in writing, by any officer of the organization.
- C. Any officer or member shall have the right to appeal, provided his/her request is received in writing at least thirty (30) days following the removal.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual:

The annual meeting shall be held in February at such time and place as may be fixed by the Board of Directors. Notice hereof shall be mailed to each member at his/her last known address, not less than thirty (30) days in advance. Elections shall occur and other business may be presented at the annual meeting. When any questions come before the meeting not specifically provided for herein, the presiding officer shall be governed in his/her decision, by the rules listed in Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 2. Special:

Special meetings may be called by order of the Board of Directors at such time and place as fixed by the Board, giving due notice thereof to all members at least ten (10) days in advance.

Section 3. Monthly:

The organization shall meet monthly on the second (2nd) Tuesday in the months of September through June. These meetings to be hosted at various locations throughout the state. These dates and locations to be distributed at least thirty (30) days prior to said meeting.

ARTICLE VI

FINANCE

Section 1. Dues:

Dues for active and associate membership in the Rhode Island Chapter shall be Twenty (20) dollars a year.

Section 2. Audit:

The audit committee shall make an audit of the accounts of the Secretary-Treasurer at each annual meeting and shall verify all assets and liabilities of the Rhode Island Chapter.

Section 3. Gifts or Grants:

All gifts or grants to the Rhode Island Chapter, may be accepted by the Board of Directors. The Secretary-Treasurer shall make proper acknowledgement of all such gifts or grants accepted.

ARTICLE VII

REQUIREMENTS

Section 1. Requirements:

The Constitution may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Rhode Island Chapter by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present.

ARTICLE VIII

OFFICAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Section 1. Order of Business:

The order of business shall be:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Moment of silence
- C. Introduction of new members and guests
- D. Reading of minutes
- E. Treasurer's report
- F. Presentation of bills
- G. Communications
- H. Reports of committees
- I. Old business
- J. New Business
- K. Guest Speakers, Program
- L. Remarks for the good of the order
- M. Adjournment