

ONEIDA COUNTY FIREFIGHTER ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1 NAME:

This organization shall be known as the Oneida County Firefighters' Association Inc.

ARTICLE 2 PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Association is to promote better Fire Service Relationships: to assist in the promotion of the Community Welfare: and to Endeavor to elevate Fire Departments as a whole and to cooperate with any organizations in the area to accomplish our mutual cause

ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP:

A. Membership in this Association shall be open to all fire departments in Oneida County and adjacent counties, including industrial fire brigades.

B. The Commander of any State Police Post located within the County of Oneida, the Sheriff of Oneida County, the Director of Emergency Services for Oneida County, the Department of Natural Resources Fire Fighting Officer, the State Police Fire Marshal, and the Oneida County Central Dispatch Director shall be associate members of this Association without payment or liability for dues.

ARTICLE 4 DELEGATE AND OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION:

A. Each fire department or industrial fire brigade, in good standing, shall annually elect one (1) of its members to act as a delegate to the Oneida County Firefighter Association. Each delegate, or his/her appointed assistant, shall constitute the vote for their department.

B. The membership of this Association shall Bi-annually nominate, from their roster of active or retired firefighters in good standing, a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, & Sgt. at arms. The duties of these officers shall be:

PRESIDENT

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Oneida County Firefighter Association and shall chair all meetings, regular or special. It shall be his/her responsibility to supervise and coordinate the activities of the Association, and shall appoint appropriate committees to conduct the activities of the Association, and shall require reports at each meeting from the committees appointed and from the Officers of the Association. He/she shall cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie.

VICE-PRESIDENT

The Vice President will act as President in the absence of the President and to handle all publicity for the Association. It shall also be his or her duty to be Chairman of the By-laws committee and to select two members of the Association to assist him/her in this task.

SECRETARY

The Secretary will record the minutes of all meetings and distribute these minutes to the delegates. The Secretary will handle all correspondence of the Association and to assist the Vice President with publicity for the Association. He/she shall also call the roll, and preserve the records of the Association.

TREASURER

The Treasurer will handle and keep accounts of all monies and to pay all the bills incurred by said Association and serve the Association and give assistance in any possible way to the officers and membership. He/she shall also give an account of records at the regular meetings, or when called for by the Association.

SERGEANT AT ARMS

It shall be the duty of the Sergeant at arms to store and care for the property of the Association; to have necessary property ready for regular meetings; and to greet all visitors to the meetings.

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ARTICLE 5 GOVERNING BODY:

- A. The governing body of this Association shall be the Officers of the Board. It will be their duty to arrange and plan the agenda of all regular meetings of the Association, and to make recommendations to the membership.
- B. A simple majority of the membership in attendance shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, by a roll call vote.
- C. An auditing committee of three (3) members shall be appointed by the President from the membership, for the purpose of auditing books and accounts of the Association. This report will be due in January.
- D. Any officer of the Association who resigns his/her position in his/her member department will be allowed to fulfill the term in the Oneida County Firefighter Association providing his/her resignation was honorable and he/she remains part of said organization. (Honorary member, retire member, etc.)
- E. Should a vacancy occur in an Association office for any reason (death, move from area, etc.), it should be filled at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Association, through normal election policy.

ARTICLE 6 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:

- A. Nominations and acceptance of candidates for office in this Association will occur during the regularly scheduled meeting held on even years in January.
- B. Candidates who wish to run for an office, but are unable to attend the January meeting, may declare their intent to said position by a written letter to the President prior to the meeting.
- C. Elections for all offices of this Association will be held during the regularly scheduled meeting held in January of each even numbered year. These newly elected officers will assume their new duties at the end of that meeting.

ARTICLE 7 VOTING:

- A. Each department, in good standing, shall be allowed one (1) vote in all matters pertaining to the Association.
- B. Departments with more than one (1) fire station shall still only have one (1) vote for voting purposes.
- C. Associate members shall have no vote in said Association financial matters.

ARTICLE 8 MEETINGS:

- A. The regular Quarterly meeting of the Association shall be held on the fourth Tuesday of that month, at a time and place designated by the Officers of the Association. The rules of order not specifically covered by these By-laws shall be in accordance with Robert's rules of order.
- B. The annual meeting of the Association shall be held on the fourth Tuesday of January each year at a time and place designated by the Officers of the Association.
- C. Special meetings of the Association may be called by the President at a time and place to be designated by him/her.
- D. No political activities may be carried on at any Association meeting.

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ARTICLE 9 DUES:

A. Each department shall pay a membership fee annually to the Association Treasurer. The fee will be determined by the Officers of the Association.

B. Billing for dues owed, shall be mailed to each fire department no later than October 31st of each year. All Dues shall be paid by March 31st of the billing year in order to maintain current membership status.

C. Any department with dues in arrears shall not be accorded a vote on Association matters that properly arise at meetings and shall not have use of the Fire Safety house until such dues are paid.

ARTICLE 10 AMENDMENTS:

This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the membership, in good standing, present at any regular meeting, providing such proposed amendment shall be presented in writing at a regular meeting, read and discussed at the meeting when presented, then tabled until the next regular meeting for voting.

ARTICLE 11 DISSOLUTION:

Upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for public purpose.