



Fraternal Order of Police

Coastal Carolina Lodge 12
Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2025

Lodge Meeting Opened:

Brother Martin performed the opening prayer

1900 hours proclaimed open by Brother Vice President Troxell

Oath of Allegiance

Out of Order: Nothing

Rollcall of Officers:

Officers Present:

Brother KC Canterbury – President
Brother Tim Troxell – Vice President
Brother Jim Tolman – Secretary
Brother Chris Shick – Second Vice President
Sister Shick – Treasurer
Sister Jade Pike – Recording Secretary
Brother Wayne Wells – Sergeant At Arms
Brother George Martin – Chaplain

Officers Absent: - None

Reading of the minutes: Digital or paper copies are available for review and will be located on the members only section of the website.

Motion made to accept the minutes as written and dispense with the reading.

Motion: Brother Freese

Second: Sister Deane

Discussion: None

Motion Passed

Acceptance of New Applications for Membership:

Ronald Branvall – Horry County PD – Sponsored by Brother Shick
Thomas Dreimiller – Eudica PD (Ret.) – Sponsored by Brother Tolman
Kenneth Grant – New York PD Probation (Ret) – Sponsored by Brother Canterbury
Carter Henry – Horry County PD – Sponsored by Brother Shick

Garrett Lucash – Horry County PD – Sponsored by Brother Shick
Steven Schenk – Rollin County SO (Ret) – Sponsored by Brother Tolman
Michael Tutrone – Vegas Lodge #1 (Ret) – Sponsored by Sister Vanderpool
Brian Minett – Myrtle Beach PD – Sponsored by Brother Tolman

Motion Made to Accept Applications:

Motion: Brother Freese

Second: Brother Rosaforte

Discussion: None

Motion Passed

Officers Reports:

President – Brother Canterbury: Published – Recruiting, fixed membership application and sent it to the IT Committee to have it published on the website, attended National Conference, Monthly state BOD Zoom Meeting, Assisting Treasurer Shick in recovering return payments over the last few months, and assisting Brother Shick with talks of possibly hosting the State Conference next year.

Vice President – Brother Troxell: Attended National Conference and been in contact with President Canterbury with day to day operations of the lodge

Secretary – Brother Tolman: Normal duties of the station. Been homebound for the last 6 weeks so was unable to get out to mail the dues reminders until today.

Treasurer – Sister Shick:

Account Balances - PUBLISHED

Operational Account: \$ 34,383.11

Educational / Ofc Distress Account: \$ 25,377.79

Fund Raising Account: \$ 29,130.74

Total of all accounts: \$ 88,891.64

Legal Defense Account: \$ 17,460.48 (\$731.19 in chargebacks recovered)

Building Fund: \$ 93.00

Second Vice President – Brother Shick: Attended National Conference with the board and took 2 educational classes while there, one of which was on Legal Defense. Working on recruiting and normal duties of the station. Spoke with a number of new officers at HGTC to get them signed up and still have one outstanding application. Met with NMB Police Chief about trying to get their guys to be able to auto draft their dues from their pay checks. This will help make it easier for the officers and benefit the lodge

Recording Secretary – Sister Pike: Working on recruitment, regular duties of the station and attended the National Conference

Sergeant In Arms – Brother Wells: Checking on a couple of members from the lodge regarding their welfare and attended the National Conference

Chaplin – Brother Martin: Published

Committee Reports:

IT Committee: Report given by Sister Vanderpool - Tasked with updating information and forms for the website some months ago. President Canterbury recently forwarded documents to the committee relating to this task. The committee is reviewing those documents and have found a few typos. Still awaiting information from President Canterbury regarding member benefits listed on the website so we can clean up that area as well. Received an updated roster as of July 25 however the IT Committee has not received specific information for new members since May and we have no way to separate the information for those new members from the rest of the members on the roster. We have been requesting for several months that we get that information each meeting so that we are able to update that list promptly and make sure we make any necessary changes. We are asking that that information be provided to the IT Committee within 1 week after the meeting that the new members are approved so that the e-mail list can be updated and kept current. We have also been informed that multiple e-board members may work on the member roster and we request that the e-board make certain that the IT Committee is promptly informed of changes that they make to the roster. For example, changes to the address, telephone number and e-mail address of members as well as members who have been removed from the roster so that we can update our roster and keep things in sync with what you have. We are also requesting that the Recording Secretary provide the IT Committee with the minutes of meetings and related records for posting to the website as required by the lodge Bi-Laws. We have not received information for many months. We were initially formed to create and maintain an accurate mass e-mail system for the lodge and facilitate necessary communications with all members quickly and with minimal cost. The committee since then, since the e-mail list was created last year, assured that all members on the list are sent announcements at various times including upcoming events, dues and meeting notices. SC law requires that all meeting notices and related information be sent to all lodge members not less than 10 days prior to the date that members will vote on issues that the members have the right to vote on. We are requesting that the Recording Secretary provide a print out of the minutes to the prior meeting to the IT Committee not less than 11 days prior to the meeting date so that the minutes can be approved by the members so that they can be posted for their review prior to the meeting as required by South Carolina law. Over the last several months the IT Committee has reported unexpected issues with the GoDaddy Server. Unfortunately the Committee can't report that the situation has approved over the past month. Committee Member Don Nadler is attempting to unravel exactly what GoDaddy is doing with our e-mail lists and what information GoDaddy is producing is effecting our lodge's blast e-mail capabilities. He will report on his work with respect to the information.

Discussion: President Canterbury advised Sister Vanderpool that on August 20 at 15:26 PM, she received an e-mail at the lodge e-mail that has every new member that has been put into the system since April 1 up through August 20. You received that on that date and you already have the list of today's members in the e-mail. Sister Vanderpool stated that she had not seen that. Recording Secretary Pike advised that on April 8, April 11, May 22, and June 26 the meeting minutes were sent to the Lodge e-mail and IT Committee. Sister Vanderpool asked if they received all of the attachments and she was advised by Recording Secretary Pike that they did in fact receive them as well. Sister Vanderpool stated that she had not seen them but she would have to go back and look for them. Recording Secretary Pike advised Sister Vanderpool that they were sent to "John Lodge" at SCFOP12@AOL.COM

Report Given By Brother Nadler: Given all of the complications and frustrations of dealing with GoDaddy that Stephanie and the IT members have had concerning e-mails and the problems with contacting all of our members as required, the committee asks for, and after several delays, the IT committee received two lists from GoDaddy that they show as the FOP Mailing List. One list appears to be the active list that they send e-mails to and one is a list of emails that they have found to be incorrect or suppressed. Stephanie had a discussion with GoDaddy and they stated that she had suppressed all of those e-mails. This was supposed to be cleared up but has not. They are still being suppressed so they are not getting any e-mails. Compared the Roster list, Dues List, and GoDaddy List. Found a vast discrepancy. GoDaddy List has 436 emails and roster has 565 members so at best there are 129 e-mails missing. Dues

list has 531 names so there are 34 names missing from the dues list. Received the list of people added since April and there are 5 missing. Only 405 names match all three lists. President Canterbury stated that he is referencing an old list. Brother Nadler stated that there were a number that had an e-mail and no phone, phone but no e-mail, etc. Brother Gavin sent text messages to members that are missing e-mails and received 16 responses with e-mails. President Canterbury stated that they are transferring everything to a new system so once that system is up he will get them the updated info needed. Brother Nadler is concerned that the dues list, member list, and e-mail list are not all the same as far as number of members. Secretary Tolman informed him that the "Dues List" is an old list, not an official list, it is just one he created to help him see who has or has not paid dues so in October he is able to create a "Drop list" of people that need to be dropped for not paying dues. President Canterbury informed the IT Committee that the "Dues List" will do nothing to help them. Sister Vanderpool stated that they were trying to help them (the E-Board) so they don't miss something because if the list is not up to date they may miss someone that is not paying their dues and inquired what happens if they don't pay. Secretary Tolman informed her that they get dropped and that he has it handled and he is aware of who does and does not pay their dues. President Canterbury informed Sister Vanderpool that it has nothing to do with the IT Committee so she does not need to worry about that. Sister Vanderpool stated that they don't understand because they are trying to create a comprehensive list in one place for them. She was advised again that she does not need to do that because we already have that, the national database. Sister Vanderpool stated that she has two mileage receipts. Brother Gavin asked if he could sit down with President Canterbury to discuss the items needed for the website so it doesn't have to be repeated at every meeting. President Canterbury acknowledged him and stated he would get up with him.

Committee reports will be accepted as information

Bills:

Paid Website (June, July, and August):	\$300.00
Accountant:	\$400.00
Storage Unit:	\$ 73.00
Mail:	\$348.00 (this was over paid so we have a credit of \$227.00)
Permit Renewal @ Post Office:	\$370.00
Conference:	\$10,217.45 (some to be reimbursed by SC Lodge and National)

Discussion: Sister Vanderpool asked about the cost of the Postage Permit and what would we be actually saving compared to stamps. Brother Secretary Tolman and Brother Vice President Troxell stated that we save about \$200 by using the permit rather than using stamps. Sister Vanderpool stated that she researched it last year and was given sections of the postal regulations and we save \$.03 per item. Vice President Troxell stated that it is actually \$.005 per postcard sent out. Sister Vanderpool stated it is \$.03 per first class mailer so we would have to send out over 11,000 items to get our money's worth and she attempted to bring it up last year. Vice President Troxell assured Sister Vanderpool that we were looking in to it and it has already been paid for this year so we will have all of our mailers covered this time and next.

Communications:

From the Board – Brother Wells stated that a few days ago someone went down and had back surgery. President Canterbury stated that we received a letter from The Secretary of State regarding the Charity Registration stating we didn't file it. When President Canterbury called them they said it was "crossed in the mail" so there was no fine. The fine/violation has been removed from their site.

From the Floor – Brother Gavin stated that Kim sent him a message that she bought Ryan’s Deli by Food Lion

Sick and In Distress:

From the Chaplain – Nothing further to report

From the Board – King Hemingway from HCPD passed away. The family was unable to pay the \$1,500 for the burial so an anonymous member donated the \$1,500 to cover the costs.

Unfinished Business:

Proposed By-Laws and resolutions from the National Conference were discussed – Published

Second Vice President Shick discussed the Legal Defense Cards that he was getting a quote on to have printed. They have the lodge contacts and legal defense attorneys on them. 500 plastic color double sided cards for \$276.99. We currently have about 300 legal defense members.

Motion Made to have Second Vice President Shick have them made and sent

Motion: Brother RosaForte

Second: Brother Nadler

Discussion: None

Motion Passed

New Business:

From the Board: Constitution and By-Laws Committee will be a 3 person Committee with the following members being appointed: Brother Mark Woolverton, Brother Chuck Canterbury, and Sister Karen Dean.

Motion Made: Sister Pike

Second: Sister Shick

Discussion: President Canterbury stated that they were given a copy of the report that was created so they can look at that as well

Motion Passed – Committee created

The State lodge recently made a post on Facebook in regards to the current discussions of combining the HCPD and the HCSO and made it appear that they were in favor of it and/or had an opinion about it. They do not actually know what is going on and what the effect would be so they should not have made that post. In making that post they stepped out of bounds by not speaking to anyone at this lodge and getting their take on it.

Discussion about potentially hosting the state conference in 2026. Brother Troxell brings up the point that from reading over some of the requirements to be included in the proposal (ie photographer present, 4 rooms for seminars, etc) it is going to be very expensive and the state is going to have to come off of some more money. \$7,500 is not going to cut it. Being at North Shore has allowed us to money by bringing in our own food and alcohol but most other places won’t allow that. President Canterbury would like to at least explore it. Second Vice President Shick stated that he has some connections that he can speak with at the location they hold the Motorcycle Rodeo.

Motion made to allow the Board, President Canterbury, and Second Vice President Shick to explore the options

Motion: Brother Costello

Second: Sister Dean

Discussion: None
Motion Passed

State Lodge Communications: State mini conference is coming up and we are sending 14 delegates to that. There are several proposed amendments to the State By-Laws - PUBLISHED – All proposed amendments to bylaws discussed and voted on as a whole.

Motion made to vote with the e-board and adopt their recommendation

Motion: Brother Gavin

Second: Sister Dean

Discussion: Just for clarification – with the motion we would go along with the recommendation of the state board of directors to vote in favor of all of them

Motion Passed

From the Floor: Brother Gavin is going to talk to Jason about creating an e-mail system for us and the costs of it so we can try to get away from GoDaddy

Good of the Order:

Chaplin Martin: At the National Convention he spoke with COPS and they are looking for volunteers to answer the call. He has fliers available. He spoke with representative from Law Enforcement Defense Fund insurance – he has fliers available. Offered a shout out to the Massachusetts FOP for their assistance with Brother Fairfax's son Kennedy

50/50: \$48 member \$48 building fund

- There is only \$33.50 in the tips so we will have to take \$17 out of the 50/50 to make the \$50. \$31 will go to the building fund \$48 to the winner

Ticket #168

- Brother Wells will donate the \$17 back to the building fund. Building fund will get \$48 and Brother Wells will get \$31

We will also raffle off some of the Conference Challenge Coins:

Ticket # 113

Ticket # 144

Ticket # 134

Ticket # 150

Ticket # 123

Closing Prayer: Performed by Chaplain Martin

Lodge Meeting Closed



SCFOP12 Meeting 08/28/2025

President's Report-

Worked on recruiting

Was finally able to get someone to unlock our application and correct/update it (Sent to IT Committee on 08/17)

Attended the National Conference

Attended the monthly State BoD zoom meeting

Assisted Treasurer Shick in recovering returned dues/LD payments

Working w/ 2nd VP Shick on beginning discussions on hosting State Convention in 2026

SC FOP LODGE #12
AUGUST TREASURER'S REPORT
July 25 – August 28, 2025

OPERATING ACCOUNT 1615

Deposits

7/25	50/50 Deposit – <i>Building Fund</i>	\$93.00
7/31	Interest	\$1.76
8/1	Transfer from Education Account 1636	\$4,347.00
8/1	Transfer from Education Account 1636	\$4,600.80
8/4	Zelle Transfer- Jacob Duesing- Lodge Dues	\$51.00
8/4	Zelle Transfer- Michael Tutrone- Lodge Dues	\$51.00

Total Deposits: **\$9,144.56**

Debits

7/28	Website Design for June & July	\$200.00
7/30-8/11	Conference Lodging Fees	\$4,788.00
8/2	Conference Per Diem	\$4,347.00
8/4-8/8	Conference Transportation (Uber & Lyft)	\$497.65
8/8	Conference Lodge Dinner	\$584.80
8/13	USPS Shipping – Bingo Report to SCDOR	\$31.40
8/14	Pronto Press MB- Dues Reminders	\$255.98
8/15	Check #2300- Legal Def. Reimbursement	\$63.53
8/15	Bookkeeper/ Accountant	\$400.00
8/22	Website Design for August	\$100.00
8/27	Check #2292 – IT Committee Reimbursement	\$34.30
8/28	USPS- Mail Dues Reminders	\$348.00
8/28	USPS- Permit Renewal	\$370.00
8/28	ATM Withdrawal for Moose Lodge	\$60.00
8/28	Storage Unit	\$73.00

Total Debits: **\$12,388.16**

Total Balance **\$34,383.11**

Misc. Info: The Lodge overpaid at USPS for mailing the dues reminders on 8/28, the actual cost was \$122.68, giving us a **credit** at the Post Office of \$227.76.

COMMUNITY CHECKING (Education/Officer Assistance) 1636

Deposits	0
Debits	\$8,947.80
<u>Total Balance</u>	<u>\$25,377.79</u>

FUNDRAISING ACCOUNT (1660)

Deposits	0
Debits	0
<u>Total Balance</u>	<u>\$29,130.74</u>

Total Balance of all Accounts \$88,891.64

LEGAL DEFENSE ACCOUNT 1639

Chargebacks to account from May, June, & July

Chargebacks Total	\$731.19
Chargeback Reimbursements	\$731.19

KC was able to contact all members with chargebacks, and ALL chargebacks have been paid back

Total Balance \$17,460.48

* Building Fund from 50k50 → \$93.00 *

Coastal Carolina FOP Lodge 12

Chaplain's Report: 28 August 2025

1. Last month I failed to recognize former Cobb County Deputy Sheriff Anderson Chase Childress who drowned while attempting to rescue two other swimmers caught in the rip tide on Pawley's Island.
2. In the last 30 days thirteen (13) Police Officers died while serving their communities.

EOW

Name

26 July	Deputy Elijah Ming, Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office, KS, GSW
28 July	NYPD Det Didarul Islam, GSW
6 Aug	Lt Albert Stout Jr; Robstown, TX PD; Cardiac Arrest
8 Aug	Officer David Rose; Dekalb County GA, PD; GSW
9 Aug	Sgt Kenneth Salas, Spokane Co. Sheriffs Office, Struck by Vehicle
10 Aug	Sgt Caleb Elsworth, Baton Rouge PD; LA; Vehicle Assault
12 Aug	Sgt Ryan Hudson, Paducah KY PD; Cardiac Arrest
13 Aug	Trooper Dennis Ricks, SC HWY Ptl; Struck by Vehicle
15 Aug	Officer Suzanne O; Maui PD; HI: GSW
15 Aug	Capt Steve Henderson, Spartanburg SC PD; FTA Motorcycle
17 Aug	Ofc Eric Estrada; Tremonton Garland PD, Utah;m GSW
	SGT Lee Sorenson;
	• A third Officer and his K-9 Partner were also shot upon arrival in their patrol car.
26 Aug	Off Hunter Simoncic. Kansas City PD; Struck by Suspect vehicle

3. Assaults on Police Officers continue in the United States. Three Police Officers were shot in Loraine, OH. In Milwaukee Police Officers were ambushed. A Tampa police officer was wounded.
4. I attended the National FOP Convention in Miami Beach along with other members of the Executive Board. I completed the following seminars: Changing Dynamics of Line of Duty Death; Breaking Officer Burnout; and House of Worship Safety, Security and Risk Management.
5. I have not received any information or requests from members in distress.

George E. Martin, Sr

Chaplain.



Proposed Amendments to the National Constitution & By-Laws

**67th Biennial National Conference
August 4-7, 2025
Miami Beach, FL**

AMENDMENT #1

The following proposed amendment is submitted by the National Board of Trustees. It was voted on and approved at the Spring National Board of Trustees Meeting March 14-15, 2025, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The following amendments to Article 19 of the Constitution are being proposed for consideration. Section 6.C would allow a state lodge to receive the constitution and/ or by-laws and amendments from the various subordinate lodges in electronic format. Most state lodges are doing this now.

Additionally, it adds new subsection F. to Section 6 requiring all state and subordinate lodges to make updates to their Constitution and/ or By-laws when changes are adopted to the National Constitution or By-Laws at a National Conference without the need to announce and vote on said changes at the state or local lodge level.

Finally, it adds a new section 12. Over the past several years, there have been instances of subordinate lodges turning in their charter or simply stopping paying dues or per capita. States have found it to be burdensome if not impossible to retrieve the books, assets, seals, and memorabilia from these lodges. After consultation with the General Counsels in several jurisdictions, it was recommended that a specific section be included in the Constitution noting the chartering authority to aid a state lodge should the need to take action in their jurisdiction's court system arises.

EX-The proposed change to the National Constitution is under Article 19, State and Subordinate Lodges, Section 6 Constitutions, adds a subsection F. Additionally, it adds a new section 12 after Section 11.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 19 State and Subordinate Lodges

Section 6. Constitutions

C. Each subordinate lodge in those states where there is a state lodge shall submit for approval two (2) copies of its Constitution and By-Laws, if any, and any revisions thereto to its respective state lodge and said state lodge shall, prior to approval thereof, determine that said Constitution and By-Laws, if any, are not in conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of that state lodge or the National Fraternal Order of Police.

TO READ:

ARTICLE 19 State and Subordinate Lodges

Section 6. Constitutions

C. Each subordinate lodge in those states where there is a state lodge shall submit for approval two (2) copies of its Constitution and By-Laws or an electronic copy, if any, and any revisions thereto to its respective state lodge and said state lodge shall, prior to approval thereof, determine that said Constitution and By-Laws, if any, are not in conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of that state lodge or the National Fraternal Order of Police.

F. Any amendments that have been adopted by the delegates at the National Biennial Conference which apply to each state and subordinate lodges and their membership thereof, shall automatically become part of the state and subordinate lodge's Constitution and/or By-laws, and are not subject to the provisions requiring notice and adoption as it pertains to proposed amendments. State and local lodges failing to make the necessary adjustments to their Constitution and / or By-Laws will default to the National Constitution and By-Laws. All state and subordinate lodges will be notified of any such changes from the National Secretary's Office.

Section 12. Any Lodge that surrenders its charter voluntarily or is in arrears for payment of dues or assessments more than 89 days, shall immediately surrender all books, records, and assets to the appropriate chartering lodge. In the case of a subordinate lodge, to the state lodge that issued their charter and in the case of a state lodge or a subordinate lodge chartered by the National Lodge, to the National Board of Trustees in accordance with the applicable state law of the chartering lodge.

Date: March 14, 2025
/s/ Patrick Yoes
National President

Jimmy Holderfield
National Secretary

MEETS ALL CRITERIA:

☒ YES

☐ NO

COMMITTEE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

CONFERENCE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

AMENDMENT #2

The following proposed amendment is submitted by the National Board of Trustees. It was voted on and approved at the Spring National Board of Trustees Meeting March 14-15, 2025, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Article 31 Section I. B changes the way member rosters are to be submitted from paper to electronic form.

EX- This proposed change to the National Constitution is under Article 31 Dues, Assessments and Administrative Fees, Section I. Dues, sub-section B.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 31

Dues, Assessments and Administrative Fees

Section I. Dues

B. Each state lodge, and, in states having no state lodge, each subordinate lodge, shall collect and transmit to the National Secretary per capita taxes and assessments as established herein together with all member roster changes electronically or in paper form. (Amended 8/15)

TO READ:

ARTICLE 31

Dues, Assessments and Administrative Fees

Section I. Dues

B. Each state lodge, and, in states having no state lodge, each subordinate lodge, shall collect and transmit to the National Secretary per capita taxes and assessments as established herein together with all member roster changes electronically or in paper form. (Amended 8/15)

Date: March 14, 2025

/s/ Patrick Yoes

National President

Jimmy Holderfield

National Secretary

MEETS ALL CRITERIA:

☒ YES

☐ NO

COMMITTEE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

CONFERENCE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

AMENDMENT #3

The following proposed amendment is submitted by the National Board of Trustees. It was voted on and approved at the Spring National Board of Trustees Meeting March 14-15, 2025, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

This proposed amendment is being offered to Article 23 of the Constitution. The proposed changes include changing the wording from **his** to **the member** and requiring documentation to be in electronic form. Additionally, it adds a method and timeline for appealing the decision of the National Board of Trustees concerning the individual party's case.

EX- These proposed changes to the National Constitution are under Article 23, Discipline, Section 3, Individual members and Section 4, Subordinate and State Lodges.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 23 Discipline

Section 3. Individual Members

B. In the case of discipline imposed upon an individual member involving suspension, expulsion, or removal from office by a subordinate lodge, an appeal may be taken by the member to the state lodge and an appeal may be taken from the decision of the state lodge by the non-prevailing party to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, to the Biennial Conference.

I. An appeal to the state lodge may be brought by the filing of a written notice of appeal with the state president not more than thirty (30) days after the member's receipt of official notification of his suspension, expulsion, or removal from office. Unless continued or delayed for good cause, such appeal shall be heard by the state lodge at the next board meeting following the state lodge president's receipt of such notice of appeal and, unless waived in writing by both the appealing member and responding lodge, a written decision shall be rendered by the board within ten (10) days after such meeting. Both the appealing member and the lodge from whose action the appeal is brought shall have the right to a hearing at which both parties may be heard and may present witnesses and documents. Such hearing shall be conducted in conformity with Article 23 of the By-Laws. The parties to the appeal shall receive notice of the date of the hearing by certified mail not less than ten (10) days before such hearing. (Amended 8/19)

D. A party seeking to appeal from the decision of the state lodge shall give notice of appeal to the National Board of Trustees by submitting by certified mail within thirty (30) days of the party's receipt of notice thereof, a written submission consisting of the decision from which the appeal is taken and such other written materials as the appellant deems relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. The appellant shall serve one (1) copy of the notice of appeal (including all written submissions) upon the opposing party (which shall be the state or subordinate lodge secretary where such opposing party is a lodge). Where the appealing party is a subordinate lodge, it shall submit fifty (50) copies thereof upon the National Secretary not less than sixty (60) days prior to the National Board of Trustees meeting at which the appellant seeks to have their appeal heard. The party opposing the appeal shall, within thirty (30) days of their receipt of the notice of appeal, submit a responsive written submission to the National Secretary and the opposing party, which responsive submission shall contain such materials as it deems appropriate and relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. In cases in which the responding party is a state or subordinate lodge, such lodge shall submit fifty (50) copies of its responsive submission to the National Secretary. In cases in which the party opposing the appeal is an individual member, they shall submit one (1) copy of their responsive submission to the National Secretary. (Amended 8/19)

F. An appeal to the Biennial Conference may be taken by either party from the decision of the National Board of Trustees respecting any appeal of disciplinary action imposed upon an individual member by a subordinate lodge, a state lodge or discipline imposed by the National Board of Trustees.

A party seeking to appeal a decision of the National Board of Trustees to the Biennial Conference shall serve notice thereof upon the National Secretary and the opposing party. Such notice of

appeal shall consist of a concise statement describing the act or failure to act upon which the appeal is based, the basis for such appeal, the decision appealed from, and those written materials the appellant deems appropriate and relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. The opposing party may respond in writing to such notice of appeal with such materials as it deems necessary and shall submit a copy of such response to the National Secretary and the appealing party. Said notice of appeal and any responsive submissions shall be forwarded by the National Secretary to the National President who shall deliver said materials to a committee of the Conference which shall consider the matter and report thereon to the Conference prior to a vote thereon by the delegates. By their taking of the oath or their acceptance of the charter of the National Fraternal Order of Police, each member and each lodge specifically acknowledges and agrees that the decision of the Conference shall be final.

Section 4. Subordinate and State Lodges

A. Except as otherwise provided herein, a subordinate lodge shall only be disciplined by the state lodge of which it is a member. A state lodge shall only be disciplined by the National Fraternal Order of Police. Such discipline may be imposed only upon a showing of good and sufficient cause after a fair hearing by the state lodge's governing body (in respect to subordinate lodges) or the National Board of Trustees (in respect to state lodges) and may include suspension or revocation of a lodge's charter. Such hearing shall be conducted in conformity with Article 23 of the By-Laws.

B. A subordinate lodge may appeal from the imposition of discipline by its respective state lodge to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, the Biennial Conference.

1. Such appeal shall be commenced by serving upon the National Secretary and the secretary of the state lodge from whose action the appeal is brought, within thirty (30) days of notice of the action appealed from and by certified mail, a notice of appeal. Such notice of appeal shall consist of the decision or ruling appealed from and all relevant written materials believed by the subordinate lodge to be necessary for a fair consideration of the matter by the National Board of Trustees. Fifty (50) copies of said notice of appeal shall be served upon the National Secretary for distribution to the members of the National Board.

2. Not more than thirty (30) days after receipt of the subordinate lodge's notice of appeal, the state secretary shall serve fifty (50) copies upon the National Secretary and one (1) copy upon the opposing party, of its statement of position and/or response to the appeal of the subordinate lodge which submission shall, in any case, include a copy of the minutes reflecting the action from which the appeal is taken and such other materials as the state lodge deems appropriate.

TO READ:

ARTICLE 23 Discipline

Section 3. Individual Members

B. In the case of discipline imposed upon an individual member involving suspension, expulsion, or removal from office by a subordinate lodge, an appeal may be taken by the member to the state lodge and an appeal may be taken from the decision of the state lodge by the non-prevailing party to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, to the Biennial Conference.

1. An appeal to the state lodge may be brought by the filing of a written notice of appeal with the state president not more than thirty (30) days after the member's receipt of official notification of his the member's suspension, expulsion, or removal from office. Unless continued or delayed for good cause, such appeal shall be heard by the state lodge at the next board meeting following the state lodge president's receipt of such notice of appeal and, unless waived in writing by both the appealing member and responding lodge, a written decision shall be rendered by the board within ten (10) days after such meeting. Both the appealing member and the lodge from whose action the appeal is brought shall have the right to a hearing at which both parties may be heard and may present witnesses and documents. Such hearing shall be conducted in conformity with Article 23 of the By-Laws. The parties to the appeal shall receive notice of the date of the hearing by certified mail not less than ten (10) days before such hearing. (Amended 8/19)

D. A party seeking to appeal from the decision of the state lodge shall give notice of appeal to the National Board of Trustees by submitting by certified mail within thirty (30) days of the party's receipt of notice thereof, a written submission consisting of the decision from which the appeal is taken and such other written materials as the appellant deems relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. The appellant shall serve one (1) copy (written or electronically) of the notice of appeal (including all written submissions) upon the opposing party (which shall be the state or subordinate lodge secretary where such opposing party is a lodge). Where the appealing party is a subordinate lodge, it shall submit ~~fifty (50) copies~~ one (1) copy electronically thereof upon the National Secretary not less than sixty (60) days prior to the National Board of Trustees meeting at which the appellant seeks to have their appeal heard. The party opposing the appeal shall, within thirty (30) days of their receipt of the notice of appeal, submit a responsive written submission (electronically) to the National Secretary and the opposing party, which responsive submission shall contain such materials as it deems appropriate and relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. In cases in which the responding party is a state or subordinate lodge, such lodge shall submit ~~fifty (50) copies~~ one (1) copy electronically of its responsive submission to the National Secretary. In cases in which the party opposing the appeal is an individual member, they shall submit one (1) copy electronically of their responsive submission to the National Secretary. (Amended 8/19)

F. An appeal to the Biennial Conference may be taken by either party from the decision of the National Board of Trustees respecting any appeal of disciplinary action imposed upon an individual member by a subordinate lodge, a state lodge or discipline imposed by the National Board of Trustees.

A party seeking to appeal a decision of the National Board of Trustees to the Biennial Conference shall serve notice thereof upon the National Secretary and the opposing party by certified mail within 30 days of the rendered decision of the National Board of Trustees. Such notice of appeal shall consist of a concise statement describing the act or failure to act upon which the appeal is based, the basis for such appeal, the decision appealed from, and those written materials electronically the appellant deems appropriate and relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. The opposing party may respond in writing electronically to such notice of appeal with such materials as it deems necessary and shall submit a copy of such response to the National Secretary and the appealing party. Said notice of appeal and any responsive submissions shall be forwarded by the National Secretary to the National President who shall deliver said materials to a committee of the Conference which shall consider the matter and report thereon to the Conference prior to a vote thereon by the delegates. By their taking of the oath or their acceptance of the charter of the National Fraternal Order of Police, each member and each lodge specifically acknowledges and agrees that the decision of the Conference shall be final.

Section 4. Subordinate and State Lodges

A. Except as otherwise provided herein, a subordinate lodge shall only be disciplined by the state lodge of which it is a member. A state lodge shall only be disciplined by the National Fraternal Order of Police. Such discipline may be imposed only upon a showing of good and sufficient cause after a fair hearing by the state lodge's governing body (in respect to subordinate lodges) or the National Board of Trustees (in respect to state lodges) and may include suspension or revocation of a lodge's charter. Such hearing shall be conducted in conformity with Article 23 of the By-Laws.

B. A subordinate lodge may appeal from the imposition of discipline by its respective state lodge to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, the Biennial Conference.

I. Such appeal shall be commenced by serving upon the National Secretary and the secretary of the state lodge from whose action the appeal is brought, within thirty (30) days of notice of the action appealed from and by certified mail, a notice of appeal. Such notice of appeal shall consist of the decision or ruling appealed from and all relevant written materials (electronically) believed by the subordinate lodge to be necessary for a fair consideration of the matter by the National Board of Trustees. ~~Fifty (50) copies~~ one (1) copy electronically of said notice of appeal shall be served upon the National Secretary for distribution to the members of the National Board.

2. Not more than thirty (30) days after receipt of the subordinate lodge's notice of appeal, the state secretary shall serve ~~fifty (50) copies~~ one (1) copy electronically upon the National Secretary and one (1) copy electronically upon the opposing party, of its statement of position and/or response to the appeal of the subordinate lodge which submission shall, in any case, include a copy of the minutes reflecting the action from which the appeal is taken and such other materials as the state lodge deems appropriate.

Date: March 15, 2025
/s/ Patrick Yoes
National President

Jimmy Holderfield
National Secretary

MEETS ALL CRITERIA:

☒ YES

☐ NO

COMMITTEE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

CONFERENCE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

AMENDMENT #4

The following proposed amendment is submitted by the National Board of Trustees. It was voted on and approved at the Spring National Board of Trustees Meeting March 14-15, 2025, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The purpose of this Constitutional amendment to Article 31 Section I. A is to increase the annual per capita tax by \$3.00 beginning with the 2027 per capita year and an additional \$3.00 in the 2030 per capita year.

EX- This proposed change to the National Constitution is under Article 31 Dues, Assessments and Administrative Fees, Section I. Dues, sub-section A.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 31 Dues, Assessments and Administrative Fees

Section I. Dues

A. Each subordinate lodge shall pay through their respective state lodge and, where there is no state lodge directly to the National Fraternal Order of Police, an annual per capita tax of eleven dollars and fifty cents (\$11.50), beginning the first half of per capita for the year 2018 for each member thereof with \$1.00 of that amount going to the NFOP Foundation. (Amended 8/17)

TO READ:

ARTICLE 31 Dues, Assessments and Administrative Fees

Section I. Dues

A. Each subordinate lodge shall pay through their respective state lodge and, where there is no state lodge directly to the National Fraternal Order of Police, an annual per capita tax of ~~eleven dollars and fifty cents (\$11.50)~~ fourteen dollars and fifty cents (\$14.50) beginning the first half of per capita for the year ~~2018~~ 2027 for each member thereof with \$1.00 of that amount going to the NFOP Foundation. ~~(Amended 8/17) The annual per capita tax for the year 2030 shall be seventeen dollars and fifty cents (\$17.50) for each member thereof with \$1.00 of that amount going to the NFOP Foundation.~~

Date: March 14, 2025
/s/ Patrick Yoes
National President

Jimmy Holderfield
National Secretary

MEETS ALL CRITERIA:

☒ YES

☐ NO

COMMITTEE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

CONFERENCE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

AMENDMENT #5

The following proposed amendment is submitted by the National Board of Trustees. It was voted on and approved at the Spring National Board of Trustees Meeting March 14-15, 2025, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

This amendment aligns the National Fraternal Order of Police's Constitution and By-laws with language approved by the National Board of Trustees and contained in the National Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary's Constitution and By- Laws.

EX- This proposed change to the National Constitution is under Article 21, Auxiliaries, Section 1.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 21 Auxiliaries

Section 1. The National Fraternal Order of Police recognizes, acknowledges, and validates Auxiliaries of the National Fraternal Order of Police, state lodges and subordinate lodges. Such Auxiliaries may function as National Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary, State Lodge Auxiliaries and Subordinate Lodge Auxiliaries. Such Auxiliaries shall be subject to the control and supervision of the lodge or lodges with which they are affiliated. They shall conform to and be governed by a Constitution and such By-laws as they shall adopt and which shall, at all times, be subject to approval of the governing body of the lodge with which they are affiliated and, ultimately, the National Fraternal Order of Police.

TO READ:

ARTICLE 21 Auxiliaries

Section 1. The National Fraternal Order of Police recognizes, acknowledges, and validates Auxiliaries of the National Fraternal Order of Police, state lodges and subordinate lodges. Such Auxiliaries may function as National Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary, State Lodge Auxiliaries and Subordinate Lodge Auxiliaries. Such Auxiliaries shall be subject to the control and supervision of the lodge or lodges with which they are affiliated. They shall conform to and be governed by a Constitution and such By-Laws as they shall adopt and which shall, at all times, be subject to approval of the governing body of the lodge with which they are affiliated and, ultimately, the National Fraternal Order of Police, and may not be in conflict with the National Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary Constitution and By-laws. Each State and Subordinate Auxiliary shall be chartered by the Board of Trustees of the National Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary.

Date: March 14, 2025
/s/ Patrick Yoes
National President

Jimmy Holderfield
National Secretary

MEETS ALL CRITERIA:

☒ YES

☐ NO

COMMITTEE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

CONFERENCE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

AMENDMENT #6

The following proposed amendment is submitted by the National Board of Trustees. It was voted on and approved at the Spring National Board of Trustees Meeting March 14-15, 2025, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The purpose of this National Constitution change is to allow the National Board of Trustees and National Office to host our National Conferences. This will take the burden of hosting from bidding states and allow them to focus on the conference events package. Two new areas are added under Section 2.

EX- The proposed change to the National Constitution is under Article 5, Organization, Section 2. Conference, subsection A.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 5 Organization

Section 2. Conference. The National Fraternal Order of Police shall hold a Conference to be known as the Biennial Conference of the National Fraternal Order of Police.

A. The Conference shall be scheduled to commence no earlier than the first Sunday of July nor later than through the third week of October of each odd numbered year.

TO READ:

ARTICLE 5 Organization

Section 2. Conference. The National Fraternal Order of Police shall hold a Conference to be known as the Biennial Conference of the National Fraternal Order of Police.

A. The Conference shall be scheduled to commence no earlier than the first Sunday of July nor later than through the third week of October of each odd numbered year.

1. States/ Cities desiring to be considered for selection shall follow the requirements as outlined in the By-laws, Article 5, Section 4.

2. The National Board of Trustees may host the Biennial Conference under the direction of the National Executive Board and the National Office, beginning with the 2031 Biennial Conference of the National Fraternal Order of Police.

Date: March 15, 2025
/s/ Patrick Yoes
National President

Jimmy Holderfield
National Secretary

MEETS ALL CRITERIA:

☒ YES

☐ NO

COMMITTEE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

CONFERENCE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

AMENDMENT #7

The following proposed amendment is submitted by the National Board of Trustees. It was voted on and approved at the Spring National Board of Trustees Meeting March 14-15, 2025, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The purpose of this National By-laws change is to allow the Site Review Committee additional time to make actual site visits for all bidding locations, with said visits to take place during the time of year when the conference will be held.

EX-The proposed change to the National By-laws is under Article 5, Organization, Section 4.B, Biennial Conference Site Review Committee.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 5 Organization

Section 4. Biennial Conference Site Review Committee

B. Locations bidding for the Biennial Conference site shall submit in writing to the National Secretary their intention no later than October 1 of the even year prior to the site selection. The committee shall review such proposed sites and shall report to the National Board of Trustees no later than the third required National Board Meeting. The National Board of Trustees may vote to remove a site from consideration should it fail to meet the established criteria.

TO READ:

ARTICLE 5 Organization

B. States/Cities desiring to have the Biennial Conference site held in their location shall submit in writing to the National Secretary their intention no later than ~~October 1~~ March 1 of the even year prior to the site selection. The committee shall review such proposed sites and shall report to the National Board of Trustees no later than the third required National Board Meeting. The National Board of Trustees may vote to remove a site from consideration should it fail to meet the established criteria and instruct the National Secretary to seek RFPs from other locations.

Date: March 15, 2025
/s/ Patrick Yoes
National President

Jimmy Holderfield
National Secretary

MEETS ALL CRITERIA:

☒ YES

☐ NO

COMMITTEE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

CONFERENCE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

AMENDMENT #8

The following proposed amendment is submitted by the Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7, Chicago Illinois. It was unanimously approved by the Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 Board of Directors at its regular Board Meeting on April 2nd, 2025, and is being presented for consideration to the Delegates in attendance at the 67th Biennial Conference in Miami Beach, Florida.

This proposed amendment is specific to Article 19, Section IO. Receivership for State and Subordinate Lodges. It increases the percentage of votes needed to take action against either of those lodges from 2/3s to 3/4ths. The 3/4th is consistent with the threshold needed for discipline against the National Executive Board members to go forward. The possibility of removing a sitting President of a subordinate lodge and especially a state lodge should be held to no less of a standard. To be given the authority to assume control of a lodge is the most serious power that can be given and should require the highest vote obligation.

EX-The proposed change to the National Constitution is under Article 19, State and Subordinate Lodges, Sections IO Receivership.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 19 State and Subordinate Lodges

Section IO. Receivership

A. The president of any state or subordinate lodge that shall become insolvent shall provide written notice thereof to the National President. In such event, the National Fraternal Order of Police may, but shall not be required to, assume control of such insolvent state or subordinate lodge for a period of six (6) months, during which period the insolvent lodge shall be operated under the supervision of the National President or their designee. Extensions in increments of six (6) months may be granted at the request of the state or subordinate lodge president and with the approval of the National President.

B. Upon written request therefor made by two-thirds (2/3) of the governing board of a state or subordinate lodge to the National President, the National Fraternal Order of Police may, but shall not be required to, assume control of such lodge. In such case, the lodge shall be operated for a period not to exceed six (6) months under the supervision of the National President or their designee.

C. In the event the National Fraternal Order of Police becomes aware of malfeasance and/or misfeasance in the operation of a State or Subordinate lodge, which is not being appropriately addressed, the National Secretary shall make notification to the National President, the Chairman of Trustees, and the National Executive Board. The National President shall authorize the General Counsel, along with an assigned committee, the duty of investigating this malfeasance and/or misfeasance and the General Counsel may freeze the assets and records in order to preserve evidence and protect membership property from loss, with a majority vote of the Board of Trustees. This action shall not extend more than 1 year or until the Lodge function can be made whole. If more time is needed the National Board of Trustees may extend this time limit by a two-third (2/3) majority vote. (Amended 8/21)

I. Any discipline imposed by either the State Lodge or National Lodge will be in accordance with Article 23 of the National Lodge Constitution.

TO READ:

ARTICLE 19
State and Subordinate Lodges

Section IO. Receivership

A. The president of any state or subordinate lodge that shall become insolvent shall provide written notice thereof to the National President. In such event, the National Fraternal Order of Police may, but shall not be required to, assume control of such insolvent state or subordinate lodge for a period of six (6) months, during which period the insolvent lodge shall be operated under the supervision of the National President or their designee. Extensions in increments of six (6) months may be granted at the request of the state or subordinate lodge president and with the approval of the National President.

B. Upon written request therefor made by ~~three-fourths (3/4)~~ ~~two-thirds (2/3)~~ of the governing board of a state or subordinate lodge to the National President, the National Fraternal Order of Police may, but shall not be required to, assume control of such lodge. In such case, the lodge shall be operated for a period not to exceed six (6) months under the supervision of the National President or their designee.

C. In the event the National Fraternal Order of Police becomes aware of malfeasance and/or misfeasance in the operation of a State or Subordinate lodge, which is not being appropriately addressed, the National Secretary shall make notification to the National President, the Chairman of Trustees, and the National Executive Board. The National President shall authorize the General Counsel, along with an assigned committee, the duty of investigating this malfeasance and/or misfeasance and the General Counsel may freeze the assets and records in order to preserve evidence and protect membership property from loss, with a ~~three-fourths (3/4)~~ majority vote of the Board of Trustees. This action shall not extend more than 1 year or until the Lodge function can be made whole. If more time is needed the National Board of Trustees may extend this time limit by a ~~three-fourths (3/4)~~ ~~two-thirds (2/3)~~ majority vote. (Amended 8/21)

I. Any discipline imposed by either the State Lodge or National Lodge will be in accordance with Article 23 of the National Lodge Constitution.

Submitted by the Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7
/s/ John Catanzara Jr.
President

Rob Noceda
Secretary

MEETS ALL CRITERIA:

☒ YES

☐ NO

COMMITTEE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

CONFERENCE:

☒ ADOPT

☐ REJECT

AMENDMENT #9

The following proposed amendments are submitted by the Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7, Chicago Illinois. They were unanimously approved by the Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 Board of Directors at its regular Board Meeting on April 2nd, 2025, and is being presented for consideration to the Delegates in attendance at the 67th Biennial Conference in Miami Beach, Florida.

This proposal crosses many paths within the Constitution so there are several redline edits. Its overall purpose is very simple. To give a voice to the ENTIRE membership when it comes to the National Executive Board members. Nothing would change regarding the in-person delegates at the conference. The separation of voting duties is intentional. The current language explains delegate duties at the conference and items they would vote on in person. They would still be the party who votes on conference locations, floor motions and Constitution & Bylaw changes at the conference. This simply expands Executive Board Officer elections to the entire dues paying membership. This proposal can easily be facilitated. Once nominations are closed on the floor, all qualified delegates who are not at the conference whose email addresses have been supplied and verified by the State lodge of membership will be sent an email ballot to vote on the morning before the in-person vote. A 3rd party vendor would facilitate that portion of the election. It would be secure and meet privacy guidelines set prior to the conference by the National Board of Directors. Once in-person voting commences then the electronic email vote will end. The total electronic votes cast by the two groups would be added at the close of in-person voting by the election committee. Only the vendor would maintain the vote totals of electronic voting until all voting has been concluded. This will allow every dues paying member to decide leadership and not just those in attendance. With manpower shortages everywhere, the cost of travel along with other considerations, these conferences are becoming more costly to send large delegations to attend. This proposal, I believe, covers all relevant voting sections. Its purpose is clear and if there is a section missing that needs to be addressed to be uniform, I will expect the committee to send that concern to be addressed by myself (John Catanzara Jr.) and our counsel who drafted the changes.

EX-The proposed changes to the National Constitution are under Article 6, National Officers-Section 3 Nomination, Election, and Installation and Article 17, Delegates-Sections 2 thru 6, Article 25, Resolutions, and Article 27, Official Order of Business.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 6 National Officers

Section 3. Nomination, Election, and Installation

D. **Election.** Each national officer, except National Trustees, shall be elected by a vote of the qualified delegates on the floor of the Conference.

1. Voting shall be by computer tabulated printed ballots and the expense thereof shall be borne by the National Fraternal Order of Police. In the event that printed ballots are not available or practical the National Board of Trustees, by a two-thirds vote, may select another form of voting. Such other form must provide for multi-factor authentication of vote totals. Ballots shall not be taken from the Biennial Conference site. All information that could be used to identify how the voter voted will be anonymized in all distributions of voting results to all individuals. (Amended 8/21)

2. The order by which the delegates of the several states shall vote shall be determined by lottery conducted by the National Secretary. The vote order will be drawn at the Fall Board Meeting prior to the Biennial Conference to assist lodges with travel arrangements. (Amended 8/15)

3. The National President shall announce the results of the elections reported by the Election Committee and shall declare elected those candidates receiving a plurality of the votes cast for each respective national office.

ARTICLE 17

Delegates

Section 2. Entitlement. Every state and subordinate lodge shall be entitled to one or more delegates to the Biennial Conference as set forth herein.

A. The Board of Trustees or the Executive Board of each state lodge shall be entitled to three (3) delegates to the National Biennial Conference, each of whom shall be chosen from among the membership of such Board of Trustees or State Executive Board, as shall be determined by the Constitution of the respective state.

B. Each subordinate lodge of a state lodge and each subordinate lodge in states having no state lodge shall be entitled to one (1) delegate for each fifty (50) active members or major portion thereof, provided, however, that every lodge shall be entitled to not less than one (1) delegate. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the number of delegates to the Biennial Conference to which each subordinate lodge shall be entitled shall be determined by reference to the number of active members on the first of April for whom all indebtedness then owing has been fully paid or postmarked to the National Fraternal Order of Police by the first day of July of the year in which the Biennial Conference is held. New Lodges forming after April 1st and before July 1st shall be entitled to delegates in number as stated above. Number of credentials issued to new lodge will be based on the total member count on date of charter. (Amended 8/15)

C. Under extenuating circumstances local lodges that are denied National Conference credentials can appeal, in writing, to the National Secretary, who will forward the appeal and recommendation to the Executive Board for a decision. The local lodge can appeal the decision of the Executive Board to the Board of Trustees at the Pre-Conference Board Meeting. The local lodge can appeal the Board of Trustees' decision to the floor of the National Conference in question. The decision of the delegates will be final. (Added 8/11)

Section 3. Nomination and Election

A. Nominations and elections of delegates to the Biennial Conference shall be held not later than June 30th. Qualified candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

B. Delegates to the Biennial Conference shall be elected in the manner and method and subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the By-Laws, and the Ritual.

C. A subordinate lodge may designate members of their elected Board as delegates to the Biennial Conference, by virtue of election to their respective office, however the number of delegates a subordinate lodge is entitled is defined in Article 17, section 2 of this Constitution. (Amended 8/2023)

Section 4. Term. The term of office of each delegate and alternate delegate shall commence with the assembling of the Biennial Conference and terminate upon the election and qualification of each successor.

Section 5. Credentials. The National Secretary shall prescribe such rules, forms and/or procedures as are necessary to enable verifiable credentials to be issued to all delegates. Each delegate shall have available for inspection a verifiable image of their Biennial Conference credential, and government issued photo identification, at all times while within or when seeking admission to the Biennial Conference Hall. (Amended 8/23)

Section 6. No Delegate or Alternate representing any state or subordinate lodge which is delinquent in the payment of per capita taxes, delinquency fees, assessments, or any other indebtedness due and payable to the National Fraternal Order of Police or any state lodge, shall be permitted to, or seated in, the Biennial Conference or National Board meeting.

ARTICLE 25

Resolutions

Resolutions may be submitted for vote upon by the delegates of the Biennial Conference. Such proposed resolutions may be submitted at any time between or during the Biennial Conferences, provided, however, that each resolution shall be submitted not later than the recess of the next to last business session of the Biennial Conference. All proposed resolutions shall be in writing, shall state the basis for the resolution, and shall be submitted to the National Secretary who shall review same for grammar, clarity and meaning.

ARTICLE 27

Official Order of Business

The Order of Business shall be:

1. Reading call for Conference.
2. Roll call of officers.
3. Appointment of Committee on Credentials.
4. Report of Committee on Credentials.
5. Roll call of delegates.
6. Appointment of other Committees.
7. Reading of rough minutes of previous meeting.
8. Introduction of Resolutions.
9. Report of Board of Directors.
10. Report of Board of Trustees.
11. Reports of officers.
12. Bill and Communications.
13. Reports of Committees.
14. Unfinished Business.
15. New Business.
16. Nomination of officers and meeting of next succeeding Conference.
17. Good of the Order.
18. Election of officers and selection of next succeeding Conference.
19. Installation of officers.
20. Adjournment.

TO READ:

ARTICLE 6

National Officers

Section 3. Nomination, Election, and Installation

D. **Election.** Each national officer, except National Trustees, shall be elected by a vote of the qualified delegates on the floor of the Conference in combination with all qualified delegates voting by electronic vote.

I. Voting shall be by computer tabulated printed ballots for in-person delegates and by electronic vote for qualified delegates not in attendance. The expense thereof shall be borne by the National Fraternal Order of Police. In the event that printed in-person ballots are not available or practical the National Board of Trustees, by a two-thirds vote, may select another form of voting. Such other form must provide for multi-factor authentication of vote totals. In-person ballots shall not be taken from the Biennial Conference site. All information that could be used to identify how the voter voted will be anonymized in all distributions of voting results to all individuals. (Amended 8/21)

2. A. The order by which the in-person delegates of the several states shall vote shall be determined by lottery conducted by the National Secretary. The vote order will be drawn at the Fall Board Meeting prior to the Biennial Conference to assist lodges with travel arrangements. (Amended 8/15)

B. Electronic voting shall commence twenty-four (24) hours prior to the opening of the in-person voting and shall cease immediately at the conclusion of the in-person voting period.

C. Tabulation of ballots (in-person and electronic) shall commence upon the closure of the in-person voting period.

3. The National President shall announce the results of the elections reported by the Election Committee and shall declare elected candidates receiving a plurality of the in-person and electronic votes cast for each respective national office.

Article 17 Delegates

Section 2. Entitlement. Every state and subordinate lodge shall be entitled to one or more delegates to the Biennial Conference as set forth herein.

A. The Board of Trustees or the Executive Board of each state lodge shall be entitled to three (3) in-person delegates to the National Biennial Conference, each of whom shall be chosen from among the membership of such Board of Trustees or State Executive Board, as shall be determined by the Constitution of the respective state.

B. Each subordinate lodge of a state lodge and each subordinate lodge in states having no state lodge shall be entitled to one (1) in-person delegate for each fifty (50) active members or major portion thereof, provided, however, that every lodge shall be entitled to not less than one (1) in-person delegate. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the number of delegates to the Biennial Conference to which each subordinate lodge shall be entitled shall be determined by reference to the number of active members on the first of April for whom all indebtedness then owing has been fully paid or postmarked to the National Fraternal Order of Police by the first day of July of the year in which the Biennial Conference is held. New Lodges forming after April 1st and before July 1st shall be entitled to delegates in number as stated above. Number of credentials issued to new lodge will be based on the total member count on date of charter. (Amended 8/15)

C. Under extenuating circumstances local lodges that are denied National Conference credentials can appeal, in writing, to the National Secretary, who will forward the appeal and recommendation to the Executive Board for a decision. The local lodge can appeal the decision of the Executive Board to the Board of Trustees at the Pre Conference Board Meeting. The local lodge can appeal the Board of Trustees' decision to the floor of the National Conference in question. The decision of the delegates will be final. /Added 8/11/

D. All members of a subordinate lodge, not serving as an in-person delegate, may submit an electronic vote on all matters as provided within the Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 3. Nomination and Election

A. Nominations and elections of in-person delegates to the Biennial Conference shall be held not later than June 30th. Qualified candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

B. In-person delegates to the Biennial Conference shall be elected in the manner and method and subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the By-Laws, and the Ritual.

C. A subordinate lodge may designate members of their elected Board as delegates to the Biennial Conference, by virtue of election to their respective office, however the number of delegates a subordinate lodge is entitled is defined in Article 17, section 2 of this Constitution. (Amended 8/2023)

Section 4. Term. The term of office of each delegate, alternate delegate, and electronic delegate shall commence with the assembling of the Biennial Conference and terminate upon the election and qualification of each successor.

Section 5. Credentials. The National Secretary shall prescribe such rules, forms and/or procedures as are necessary to enable verifiable credentials to be issued to all delegates. Each in-person delegate shall have available for inspection a verifiable image of their Biennial Conference credential, and government issued photo identification, at all times while within or when seeking admission to the Biennial Conference Hall. /Amended 8/23)

Section 6. No in-person Delegate or Alternate representing any state or subordinate lodge which is delinquent in the payment of per capita taxes, delinquency fees, assessments, or any other indebtedness due and payable to the National Fraternal Order of Police or any State lodge, shall be permitted to, or seated in, the Biennial Conference or National Board meeting.

ARTICLE 25 Resolutions

Resolutions may be submitted for vote upon by the in-person delegates of the Biennial Conference. Such proposed resolutions may be submitted at any time between or during the Biennial Conferences, provided, however, that each resolution shall be submitted not later than the recess of the next to last business session of the Biennial Conference. All proposed resolutions shall be in writing, shall state the basis for the resolution, and shall be submitted to the National Secretary who shall review same for grammar, clarity and meaning.

ARTICLE 27 Official Order of Business

The Order of Business shall be:

1. Reading call for Conference.
2. Roll call of officers.
3. Appointment of Committee on Credentials.
4. Report of Committee on Credentials.
5. Roll call of in-person/electronic delegates.
6. Appointment of other Committees.
7. Reading of rough minutes of previous meeting.
8. Introduction of Resolutions.
9. Report of Board of Directors.
10. Report of Board of Trustees.
11. Reports of officers.
12. Bill and Communications.
13. Reports of Committees.
14. Unfinished Business.
15. New Business.
16. Nomination of officers and meeting of next succeeding Conference.
17. Good of the Order.
18. Election of officers and selection of next succeeding Conference.
19. Installation of officers.
20. Adjournment.

Submitted by the Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7
/s/ John Catanzara Jr.
President

Rob Noceda
Secretary

MEETS ALL CRITERIA:	☐ YES	☐ NO
COMMITTEE:	☐ ADOPT	☒ REJECT
CONFERENCE:	☐ ADOPT	☒ REJECT

AMENDMENT #10

The following proposed amendments are submitted by the Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7, Chicago Illinois. They were unanimously approved by the Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 Board of Directors at its regular Board Meeting on April 2nd, 2025, and is being presented for consideration to the Delegates in attendance at the 67th Biennial Conference in Miami Beach, Florida.

This proposal crosses many paths within the Constitution so there are several redline edits. Its overall purpose is very simple. To give a voice to the ENTIRE membership when it comes to the National Executive Board members. Nothing would change regarding the in-person delegates at the conference. The separation of voting duties is intentional. The current language explains delegate duties at the conference and items they would vote on in person. They would still be the party who votes on conference locations, floor motions and Constitution & Bylaw changes at the conference. This simply expands Executive Board Officer elections to the entire dues paying membership. This proposal can easily be facilitated. Once nominations are closed on the floor, all qualified delegates who are not at the conference whose email addresses have been supplied and verified by the State lodge of membership will be sent an email ballot to vote on the morning before the in-person vote. A 3rd party vendor would facilitate that portion of the election. It would be secure and meet privacy guidelines set prior to the conference by the National Board of Directors. Once in-person voting commences then the electronic email vote will end. The total electronic votes cast by the two groups would be added at the close of in-person voting by the election committee. Only the vendor would maintain the vote totals of electronic voting until all voting has been concluded. This will allow every dues paying member to decide leadership and not just those in attendance. With manpower shortages everywhere, the cost of travel along with other considerations, these conferences are becoming more costly to send large delegations to attend. This proposal, I believe, covers all relevant voting sections. Its purpose is clear and if there is a section missing that needs to be addressed to be uniform, I will expect the committee to send that concern to be addressed by myself (John Catanzara Jr.) and our counsel who drafted the changes.

EX-The proposed changes to the National By-laws are under Article 9 National President, Section 3, Article 11 National Vice President, Section 2, Article 12 National Secretary, Section 3, Article 13 National Treasurer, Section 2, Article 14 National Second Vice President, Section 2, Article 15 National Sergeant at Arms, Section 2, and Article 16 National Trustee, Section 3

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 9 National President

Section 3. The National President shall receive an annual base salary of \$105,000. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the in-person delegates at the National Conference. The National President shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. Subject to the approval of the National Board of Trustees, the National President shall be provided a car which may be purchased or leased, and which shall be properly insured at the expense of the National Fraternal Order of Police and a family health plan (in the event no other insurance is provided to the National President) costing the same as the family health plan then being paid by the home agency of the President. The National President is authorized to retain a secretary of their choosing who shall be paid an annual salary as determined by the National Board of Trustees. (Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 11 National Vice President

Section 2. The National Vice President shall receive an annual base salary of \$42,000. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Vice President shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. (Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 12
National Secretary

Section 3. The National Secretary shall receive an annual base salary of \$78,750. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Secretary shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. (Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 13
National Treasurer

Section 2. The National Treasurer shall receive an annual base salary of \$78,750. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Treasurer shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. The National Treasurer is authorized to retain a secretary of their choosing who shall be paid an annual salary as determined by the National Board of Trustees. (Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 14
National Second Vice President

Section 2. The National Second Vice President shall receive an annual base salary of \$42,000. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Second Vice President shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. (Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 15
National Sergeant at Arms

Section 2. The National Sergeant at Arms shall receive an annual base salary of \$42,000. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Sergeant at Arms shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. (Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 16
National Trustee

Section 3. The Chairman of the National Trustees shall receive an annual base salary of \$42,000. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the delegates at the National Conference. The National Chairman of the Trustees shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. (Amended 8/23)

TO READ:

ARTICLE 9
National President

Section 3. The National President shall receive an annual base salary of \$105,000. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the in-person delegates at the National Conference. The National President shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. Subject to the approval of the National Board of Trustees, the National President shall be provided a car which may be purchased or leased, and which shall be properly insured at the expense of the National Fraternal Order of Police and a family health plan (in the event no other insurance is provided to the

National President) costing the same as the family health plan then being paid by the home agency of the President. The National President is authorized to retain a secretary of their choosing who shall be paid an annual salary as determined by the National Board of Trustees. /Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 11

National Vice President

Section 2. The National Vice President shall receive an annual base salary of \$42,000. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the in-person delegates at the National Conference. The National Vice President shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. (Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 12

National Secretary

Section 3. The National Secretary shall receive an annual base salary of \$78,750. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the in-person delegates at the National Conference. The National Secretary shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. (Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 13

National Treasurer

Section 2. The National Treasurer shall receive an annual base salary of \$78,750. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the in-person delegates at the National Conference. The National Treasurer shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. The National Treasurer is authorized to retain a secretary of their choosing who shall be paid an annual salary as determined by the National Board of Trustees. (Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 14

National Second Vice President

Section 2. The National Second Vice President shall receive an annual base salary of \$42,000. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the in-person delegates at the National Conference. The National Second Vice President shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. (Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 15

National Sergeant at Arms

Section 2. The National Sergeant at Arms shall receive an annual base salary of \$42,000. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the in-person delegates at the National Conference. The National Sergeant at Arms shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses incident to their office and shall not receive a per diem. (Amended 8/23)

ARTICLE 16

National Trustee

Section 3. The Chairman of the National Trustees shall receive an annual base salary of \$42,000. The National Board of trustees may vote to give a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) up to 5% once per year. Any COLA increase of more than 5% in a single year shall be voted on by the in-person delegates at the National Conference. The National Chairman of the Trustees shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses.

Submitted by the Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7
/s/ John Catanzara Jr.
President

Rob Noceda
Secretary

MEETS ALL CRITERIA:

☐ YES

☐ NO

COMMITTEE:

☐ ADOPT

☒ REJECT

CONFERENCE:

☐ ADOPT

☒ REJECT

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

Strong, up-to-date bylaws are essential to the effective governance and long-term success of our organization. They provide the structure by which we operate and ensure consistency, transparency, and accountability in all official actions. The following proposed amendments reflect the evolving needs of the South Carolina FOP. In accordance with Article XVII, Section 2 of our Bylaws, any amendment must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the delegation in order to be adopted.

- Allowing For E-Mail In Certain Circumstances
- Biennial Conference Date Change
- Change in Delegate Entitlement
- Codifying Per Capita Tax
- Conference Order of Business Change
- Correct the Wording of Article 17 - Special Meetings
- Delete Legal Advisory Committee
- Election of the National Trustee
- Eliminate Article 9 Official Publication
- Minutes Preparation and Approval
- Operation of Subordinate Lodges Amendment
- Per Capita Tax Proposal
- Political Endorsement Process
- Presidential Succession
- Removal of Mini-Conference References
- Updated Travel Expenses
- Virtual Meeting Procedures

ALLOWING FOR E-MAIL IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES

WHEREAS, various provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of the South Carolina State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police require that notices, documents, or communications be "mailed" or "sent by mail"; and

WHEREAS, modern electronic communication, particularly email, has become a timely, efficient, and reliable method of transmitting official information and preserving documentation; and

WHEREAS, *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 12th Edition* (RONR), the parliamentary authority adopted by the South Carolina State Lodge, recognizes electronic communication as an acceptable means of giving notice where authorized in the bylaws (see RONR 12th ed. §§ 9:6 and 56:66); and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to clarify within the governing documents that "mail" includes both traditional and electronic forms to allow flexibility and cost savings while maintaining accountability;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that **Article 4 – Definitions** of the Constitution of the South Carolina State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police be amended by adding the following paragraph:

10. "Mail" or "Mailed":

Wherever the terms "mail," "mailed," or "sent by mail" appear in this Constitution and By-Laws, such terms shall include delivery by electronic mail (email), provided the recipient has furnished an email address for official communications, the content is reproducible and retainable by the recipient, and the sender retains proof of transmission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this amendment shall apply retroactively and prospectively to all provisions in the current and future versions of the Constitution and By-Laws that use the term "mail" or similar wording, unless a specific exception is stated.

CHANGE IN DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT

WHEREAS, the current Article 16 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Fraternal Order of Police states that each lodge shall have one delegate and alternate for each twenty-five (25) members or the greater portion thereof; and

WHEREAS, the National Fraternal Order of Police has established a delegate entitlement system based on one delegate and alternate per fifty (50) members, and it is in the best interest of the organization to align our bylaws with this standard; and

WHEREAS, data from previous conferences indicate that most lodges do not send their full allotted delegation under the current system, demonstrating that this change will not negatively impact representation or participation; and

WHEREAS, updating the delegate entitlement will align with the election process for the National Trustee at the State Conference, ensuring consistency with National Fraternal Order of Police procedures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 16 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Fraternal Order of Police be amended as follows:

Original Text:

"Each lodge shall have one delegate and alternate for each twenty-five (25) members or the greater portion thereof."

Amended Text:

"Each lodge shall have one delegate and alternate for each fifty (50) members or the greater portion thereof."

The table below compares each lodge's delegate participation in the 2024 Biennial Conference. It shows the number of delegates each lodge actually sent, the number they were entitled to under the current allocation formula of one delegate per 25 members, and the number they would receive under a proposed change to one delegate per 50 members. This change is being considered to align with National FOP bylaws, which require that the election of the National Trustee be conducted using a 1-for-50 delegate ratio. If approved, this change would allow that election to take place during the biennial conference.

Lodge	Actual	Allot	New
Midlands # 1	7	9	5
Tri-County #3	8	25	13
Charleston Metro #5	6	12	7
CSRA #6	2	6	4
Foothills #9	3	5	3
Anderson #10	5	14	8
Coastal Carolina #12	22	22	12
York #15	3	13	7
Low Country #16	2	3	2
Greenville #17	0	9	5
Berkeley #19	13	19	10
Cherokee #20	3	4	3
Pee Dee #25	5	15	8
Laurens #29	3	7	4
Central Carolina #31	5	4	3
Spartan #32	0	7	4
Wateree #33	1	5	3
Summer/Dorch #48	3	12	7

CODIFYING PER CAPITA TAX

CREATING A NEW ARTICLE ON PER CAPITA TAX AND ASSESSMENTS

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police (SCFOP) seeks to ensure a consistent and equitable funding structure among its subordinate lodges; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to codify the per capita tax process, assessment authority, and financial responsibilities within the SCFOP Bylaws for clarity and enforceability; and

WHEREAS, aligning the collection schedule with the National Fraternal Order of Police (NFOP) ensures streamlined reporting and compliance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bylaws of the South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police be amended by inserting the following new article:

ARTICLE X

Per Capita Tax and Assessments

Section 1. Per Capita Tax

A. Each subordinate lodge shall pay an annual per capita tax of **ten dollars (\$10.00)** per member to the South Carolina State Lodge.

B. The per capita tax shall be collected in two installments:

1. The **first installment** shall be based on the membership roster as of **November 1st** and shall be due and payable by **November 1st**. This payment shall maintain the lodge's good standing from **January 1st through June 30th** of the following year.
2. The **second installment** shall be based on the membership roster as of **May 1st** and shall be due and payable by **May 1st**. This payment shall maintain the lodge's good standing from **July 1st through December 31st** of the same year.
3. **Supplemental per capita** shall be paid for any new members joining between per capita cycles.
4. New members joining or inactive members becoming active from November 2nd to December 30th shall pay the second installment as well as the first installment. This payment shall place the member in good standing from the date joined (new members) or the date made active (inactive members) through June 30th of the following year. If the second installment was already paid prior to being inactive, only the first installment

for the following year will be paid.

5. New members joining or inactive members becoming active from May 2nd to June 30th shall pay the first installment as well as the second installment. This payment shall place the member in good standing from the date joined (new members) or the date made active (inactive members) through December 30th of the same year. If the first installment was already paid prior to being inactive, only the second installment of the same year will be paid.
6. The National Lodge does not pro-rate annual per capita, thus the State Lodge will not pro-rate annual per capita.

C. A subordinate lodge that fails to submit per capita tax within **thirty (30) days** of the due date shall be considered **not in good standing**.

D. Reinstatement of any subordinate lodge suspended for non-payment of per capita shall be conditioned upon **full payment** of all outstanding obligations.

Section 2. Assessments

A. The SCFOP **Board of Directors**, by a **two-thirds (2/3)** vote, may declare an emergency and impose an assessment on each subordinate lodge.

B. No assessment shall take effect unless it is ratified by a **two-thirds (2/3)** vote of the subordinate lodges voting.

Section 3. National FOP Collections

A. The **State Lodge** shall collect all **per capita tax, assessments, and administrative fees** owed by subordinate lodges to the **National Fraternal Order of Police** and shall **forward** such funds to the National Secretary in a timely manner. National Fraternal Order of Police per capita will be collected in the same manner as the SCFOP per capita.

Renumbering of Subsequent Articles

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all articles following the newly created Article X shall be **renumbered accordingly**, and any **cross-references** within the Constitution and Bylaws shall be **updated** to reflect the new numbering system.

CONFERENCE ORDER OF BUSINESS CHANGE

WHEREAS, Article 16 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the South Carolina State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police establishes the order of business for the Biennial Conference; and

WHEREAS, the current order of business does not include distinct agenda items for **Nominations of Officers, Bills, or Communications**, which are present in the order of business in the National FOP Rituals; and

WHEREAS, aligning the State Lodge's order of business with that of the National Fraternal Order of Police promotes consistency, clarity, and organizational unity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 16 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the South Carolina State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police be amended to revise the Order of Business as follows:

Article 16 – Biennial Conference

Order of Business (Proposed Revision)

1. Roll call of officers
2. Roll call of lodges
3. Roll call of delegates
4. Appointment of committee on credentials
5. Report of committee on credentials
6. **Nominations of officers**
7. Appointment of other committees
8. Introduction of resolutions
9. Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting
10. Reports of officers

11. Reports of committees
12. Reports of lodges
13. **Bills**
14. **Communications**
15. Members sick or in distress
16. Memorial service
17. Unfinished business
18. New business
19. Good of the Order
20. Election of officers
21. Installation of officers
22. Adjournment

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Constitution be amended to reflect this revised order of business, and that all renumbering and additions take effect upon adoption by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the registered delegates in accordance with Article 10 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the South Carolina State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police.

CORRECT THE WORDING OF ARTICLE 17 - SPECIAL MEETINGS

WHEREAS, Article 17 of the South Carolina State Lodge Constitution and Bylaws regarding Special Meetings contains an incomplete sentence, specifically in the portion outlining the notice requirements; and

WHEREAS, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (12th Edition) specifies that notice for a special meeting must include the time, place, and exact business to be discussed, and only that business may be considered; and

WHEREAS, clarity in the bylaws ensures proper governance, transparency, and compliance with parliamentary procedure;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 17 of the South Carolina State Lodge Constitution and Bylaws shall be amended to read as follows:

Article 17 - Special Meetings

A special meeting of the State Lodge shall be called by majority action of the Board of Directors or by a request in writing of four (4) or more Subordinate Lodges filed with the secretary.

Notice of such special meeting shall be served upon each Subordinate Lodge by registered mail, and the mailing of notice shall be not less than ten (10) days nor more than thirty (30) days prior to the holding of the meeting. **Said notice shall set forth the date, time, place, and complete agenda of the meeting, including all business to be considered. No other business shall be transacted.**

The regularly elected delegates or their alternates holding delegates' credentials shall represent the Subordinate Lodges at such a special meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this amendment shall take effect immediately upon adoption in accordance with the amendment procedures outlined in the Constitution and Bylaws of the South Carolina State Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police.

DELETE LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Whereas, the South Carolina State Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police, strives to maintain accurate, relevant, and efficient governance through its Constitution and Bylaws; and

Whereas, Article 21 of the Bylaws, titled "Legal Advisory Committee," has not been utilized since 1996 and is no longer necessary for the operation and governance of the State Lodge; and

Whereas, the removal of Article 21 will streamline the Bylaws and eliminate provisions that no longer serve the organization;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that Article 21 of the South Carolina State Lodge Bylaws, titled "Legal Advisory Committee," be deleted in its entirety. The original language of Article 21 is as follows:

Article 21 – Legal Advisory Committee

It shall be the duty of the legal advisory committee to make recommendations and advise the Board of Directors concerning legal matters. Any Subordinate Lodge may request the State Lodge for financial aid in legal matters that are of statewide importance.

Section 1. All requests for legal aid to the state lodge must be made in the following manner, when a member as a result of proper performance of police duty is subject to court action:

- A) He must first appeal to his local lodge for the legal aid needed. This appeal and all facts must be in written form.
- B) If the local lodge is not financially able to handle the legal aid request, then the local lodge must appeal to the State Lodge. This request must be made in writing with all the facts presented.
- C) If neither the Local nor the State Lodge can financially handle the legal aid, then the State Lodge may appeal to the National Lodge.

Section 2. All appeals to the State Lodge for legal aid will be heard at the next meeting of the Board of Directors. Appeals must be in written form.

Section 3. No member, local or state shall indicate nor promise that the State Lodge will assume any financial obligation that has not been approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. In case of extreme emergency where time is of great importance, direct appeal may be made to the state president. The president can call an emergency executive board of directors meeting and a favorable vote of the majority of the board may grant the legal aid requested.

Section 5. Any appeals for financial aid for incidents occurring prior to October 1, 1996, will be handled as provided for in the aforementioned manner. All requests for legal aid for incidents occurring after October 1, 1996, MUST be handled by the FOP Legal Defense Plan.

ELECTION OF THE NATIONAL TRUSTEE

Resolution to Amend Articles 6 and 18 of the Bylaws Concerning the Election of the National Trustee

Whereas, the current bylaws provide for the election of the National Trustee at the National Conference, which limits the opportunity for all South Carolina lodges to participate fully in the voting process; and

Whereas, holding the election of the National Trustee at the South Carolina Biennial Conference would ensure that all South Carolina lodges have the opportunity for a full delegate vote for this position, consistent with the election process for other members of the South Carolina Executive Board; and

Whereas, Article 16 Section 5, of the Constitution of the National Fraternal Order of Police allows for the election of the National Trustee at the State Conference.

Each National Trustee will be elected at either the National Biennial Conference or the state conference. Voting delegates at either conference for the office of National Trustee will be according to the Constitution Article 17: Entitlement.

States choosing to have the election at a state conference must have an appropriate article in their state constitution. Any National Trustee elected at a State Conference will be installed to the office at the first scheduled meeting of the National Board of Trustees following the State Conference, all National Trustees elected at the National Biennial Conference will take office at the installation of officers at the close of the National Biennial Conference. (8/09)

Whereas, aligning the election of the National Trustee with the South Carolina Biennial Conference promotes consistency across all Executive Board positions and simplifies the election process; and

Whereas, a transitional provision is necessary to address the term of the National Trustee elected prior to the effective date of this amendment;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that Article 6, Section 1 of the South Carolina State Lodge Bylaws be amended as follows:

Current Text of Article 6, Section 1:

"The officers of the State Lodge shall be the President, Immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sgt. at Arms, 2nd Vice President, Chaplain, Trustee from each of the Subordinate Lodges and National Trustee who is elected at the National Conference."

Proposed Amendment to Article 6, Section 1:

"The officers of the State Lodge shall be the President, Immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sgt. at Arms, 2nd Vice President, Chaplain, Trustee from each of the Subordinate Lodges, and National Trustee."

Be it further resolved, that Article 6, Section 4 of the South Carolina State Lodge Bylaws be amended as follows:

Current Text of Article 6, Section 4:

"The office of National Trustee shall be nominated and elected by the delegates present at the Biennial Conference of the Grand Lodge."

Proposed Amendment to Article 6, Section 4:

"The National Trustee shall be elected by the delegates at the South Carolina Biennial Conference in conjunction with other Executive Board members, ensuring all South Carolina lodges have the opportunity for a full delegate vote for this office, effective with the Biennial Conference held in September 2026."

Be it further resolved, that Article 18, Section 1 of the South Carolina State Lodge Bylaws be amended as follows:

Current Text of Article 18, Section 1:

"Candidates for election to the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, 2nd Vice President, Sergeant at Arms, and Chaplain of the State Lodge shall be made from the floor at the State Convention on the first business day. After being closed, nominations shall not be reopened. No member shall be nominated or be a candidate for election to more than one office at the same time."

Proposed Amendment to Article 18, Section 1:

"Candidates for election to the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, 2nd Vice President, Sergeant at Arms, Chaplain, and National Trustee of the State Lodge shall be made from the floor at the State Convention on the first business day. After being closed, nominations shall not be reopened. No member shall be nominated or be a candidate for election to more than one office at the same time."

Be it further resolved, that the following transitional provision shall be added:

"The term of the National Trustee elected in August 2025 shall conclude at the adjournment of the Biennial Conference in September 2026, at which time an election for this position shall be held in accordance with this amendment."

Be it further resolved, that these amendments shall take effect immediately upon their adoption, except as otherwise provided in the transitional provision.

ELIMINATE ARTICLE 9 OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LODGE, FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

WHEREAS, Article 9 of the Constitution of the South Carolina State Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police, establishes an official publication of the Order known as the A.P.B. (All Police Bulletin); and

WHEREAS, the official publication referenced in this Article is no longer being produced or distributed and has become obsolete; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the South Carolina State Lodge to ensure that its governing documents reflect current practices and operational realities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Constitution of the South Carolina State Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police, be amended by **striking Article 9 – Official Publication in its entirety**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the numbering of subsequent articles shall be adjusted accordingly or the Article shall be marked "[RESERVED]" to preserve organizational structure, at the discretion of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee.

MINUTES PREPARATION AND APPROVAL

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE BYLAWS – MINUTES PREPARATION AND APPROVAL

WHEREAS, the current bylaws contain conflicting provisions regarding the timeframe for the preparation and distribution of meeting minutes by the Secretary; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the organization to establish a clear and consistent procedure for the preparation and approval of minutes without specific time constraints; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors should have access to meeting minutes prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting to ensure accuracy and timely approval;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police amends its bylaws as follows:

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Article 7, Section 2

"The Board of Directors shall meet at least three (3) times per year, and shall transact such business as comes before it. Minutes shall be kept and made available to any Subordinate Lodge within 30 days of such meeting."

Article 12, Section 4

"The Secretary must furnish to each member of the Board of Directors a rough [draft] of the minutes of the past previous meeting within sixty (60) days after adjournment."

AMENDED LANGUAGE:

Article 7, Section 2

"The Board of Directors shall meet at least three (3) times per year and shall transact such business as comes before it. The Secretary shall provide a draft of the minutes to the Board of Directors within sixty (60) days after adjournment. At the next regularly scheduled meeting, the minutes will be approved by the Board of Directors or amended."

Article 12, Section 4

(This section is deleted in its entirety.)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this amendment shall take effect immediately upon adoption in accordance with the procedures set forth in the SCFOP Bylaws.

OPERATION OF SUBORDINATE LODGES

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police (SCFOP) seeks to ensure its bylaws align with the rules and rituals of the National Fraternal Order of Police (NFOP); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to update membership application procedures, reporting requirements, financial accountability, and endorsement guidelines for subordinate lodges;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 22 of the SCFOP Bylaws shall be amended as follows:

1. **Amend Section 4** to read:
"Application for membership shall be processed in accordance with the rules and rituals of the National Fraternal Order of Police."
2. **Amend Section 6** as follows:
 - **Remove:**
"All Subordinate Lodge secretaries must submit a loss and gain form to the state secretary once a month."
 - **Modify:**
"Thirty (30) days prior to per capita tax being due, the state secretary will send a bill to each local lodge for per capita tax."
To read as:
"Thirty (30) days prior to per capita tax being due, the state secretary will send a notice to each local lodge for per capita tax."
 - **Retain:**
"Any lodge that is delinquent in paying this bill and after thirty (30) days will be fined a late fee of \$1.00 per member."
3. **Insert a new Section 7** with the following language:
"Each Subordinate Lodge shall provide proof of a fidelity bond or equivalent insurance coverage to the State Lodge. This bond or insurance must cover officers or members having access to or control over the funds of the lodge. The proof of such bond or insurance shall be submitted to the State Lodge annually and upon request."
4. **Insert a new Section 8** with the following language:
"Each Subordinate Lodge shall provide the State Lodge with the most up-to-date version of its Constitution and Bylaws. Any amendments to the Subordinate Lodge's Constitution and Bylaws shall be submitted to the State Lodge within thirty (30) days of adoption."
5. **Insert a new Section 9** with the following language:
"Subordinate Lodges may only make endorsements for local elections within the county in which they are chartered. This includes municipal, county, and state legislative districts that overlap multiple counties but include their chartered county. Lodges are encouraged to coordinate with neighboring lodges in overlapping districts to prevent conflicting endorsements. The State Lodge is the only entity authorized to make endorsements for U.S. House and U.S. Senate elections. The National Fraternal Order

of Police (NFOP) is the only entity authorized to endorse candidates for President of the United States."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other provisions of Article 22 shall remain unchanged.

POLITICAL ENDORSEMENT PROCESS

WHEREAS, the Constitution and By-Laws of the South Carolina State Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police, currently contain no formal procedure governing political endorsements; and

WHEREAS, the absence of a structured endorsement process has resulted in inconsistent practices and the potential for confusion among candidates, lodges, and the public; and

WHEREAS, the National Constitution and By-Laws restrict the endorsement of Presidential candidates to the National Board of Trustees and require state and subordinate lodges to refrain from any public action in this regard; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the South Carolina State Lodge to clearly define and regulate the procedures for making political endorsements at the state and local levels, ensuring alignment with National FOP policy and maintaining organizational integrity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Constitution and By-Laws of the South Carolina State Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police, be amended to include a new **Article 15: Political Endorsement Process**, which shall read as follows:

Article 15: Political Endorsement Process

Section 1. Presidential Endorsements

Pursuant to the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Fraternal Order of Police, only the National Board of Trustees is authorized to issue endorsements for candidates for President of the United States.

A. No other entity within the Fraternal Order of Police may issue, imply, or publish an endorsement for any presidential candidate using the name, insignia, or marks of the Fraternal Order of Police.

B. All requests or inquiries regarding presidential endorsements must be referred to the National Lodge.

C. Members and officers of the Fraternal Order of Police shall refrain from making public or speculative statements concerning potential endorsements for presidential candidates.

Section 2. U.S. Congressional Endorsements

The South Carolina State Lodge Board of Directors holds exclusive authority to issue endorsements in races for the United States Senate and United States House of Representatives.

A. Endorsements shall be considered only upon a formal written request from the candidate. The Fraternal Order of Police shall not solicit candidates for endorsements.

B. The Board of Directors shall review each request and determine whether an endorsement is warranted.

C. Endorsements shall be issued in the name of the South Carolina State Lodge only. Candidates may not imply support from any subordinate lodge.

D. The President shall issue endorsements on behalf of the State Lodge with the consent of the Board of Directors.

E. The President shall notify the endorsed candidate and issue a formal public statement.

F. The State Lodge reserves the right to issue clarifying statements to address any misrepresentations regarding the scope or source of an endorsement.

Section 3. South Carolina Statewide Endorsements

The South Carolina State Lodge Board of Directors holds exclusive authority to issue endorsements in races for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, and other state-level offices that do not represent a specific geographic district.

A. Endorsements shall be considered only upon a formal written request from the candidate. The Fraternal Order of Police shall not solicit candidates for endorsements.

B. The Board of Directors shall review each request and determine whether an endorsement is warranted.

C. Endorsements shall be issued in the name of the South Carolina State Lodge only. Candidates may not imply support from any subordinate lodge.

D. The President shall issue endorsements on behalf of the State Lodge with the consent of the Board of Directors.

E. The President shall notify the endorsed candidate and issue a formal public statement.

F. The State Lodge reserves the right to issue clarifying statements to address any misrepresentations regarding the scope or source of an endorsement.

Section 4. South Carolina State Legislative Endorsements

The South Carolina State Lodge Board of Directors holds exclusive authority to issue endorsements for candidates seeking election to the South Carolina General Assembly.

A. Only the subordinate lodge or lodges located within the candidate's legislative district may vote on whether to recommend an endorsement.

B. Endorsements shall be considered only upon a formal written request from the candidate. The Fraternal Order of Police shall not solicit candidates for endorsements.

C. The Board of Directors shall review each recommendation and determine whether an endorsement is warranted.

D. Endorsements shall be issued in the name of the South Carolina State Lodge only. Candidates may not imply support from any subordinate lodge.

E. The President shall issue endorsements on behalf of the State Lodge with the consent of the Board of Directors.

F. The President shall notify the endorsed candidate and issue a formal public statement.

G. The State Lodge reserves the right to issue clarifying statements to address any misrepresentations regarding the scope or source of an endorsement.

Section 5. Local Political Endorsements

Endorsements for candidates seeking election to local offices, including but not limited to mayor, council, sheriff, or other county or municipal positions, shall be made only by the subordinate lodge or lodges located within the candidate's jurisdiction.

A. Where multiple subordinate lodges share jurisdiction over a local district, the lodge initiating the endorsement process must provide written notice to the other affected lodges. A thirty (30) day period shall be allowed for lodges to respond and participate.

B. Each subordinate lodge shall independently poll its membership to determine support for the candidate prior to issuing an endorsement.

C. Subordinate lodges may not represent their endorsement as that of the South Carolina State Lodge.

1. The State Lodge reserves the right to issue public clarifications in any case where an endorsement is mischaracterized.

D. Subordinate lodges may request that the State Lodge Board of Directors issue an endorsement on their behalf in such races.

E. If subordinate lodges fail to reach consensus or fail to act within sixty (60) days of the next scheduled State Lodge Board of Directors meeting, the Board of Directors may issue an endorsement following the procedures outlined in Section 3.

Endorsements for candidates in high-profile local positions, such as sheriff or mayor, should be considered with great caution. Subordinate lodges are strongly encouraged to assess the potential benefits and consequences of such endorsements, recognizing that unfavorable

outcomes may have significant and lasting effects on local lodge relationships and law enforcement operations.

PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION

Whereas, the current bylaws of the South Carolina State Lodge specify the procedures for filling vacancies in state offices but do not explicitly outline the succession process for the position of State President; and

Whereas, it is in the best interest of the State Lodge to ensure clarity and continuity in leadership in the event of a vacancy in the office of State President; therefore, be it

Resolved, that Article 7, Section 1 of the State Lodge Bylaws be amended to read as follows (new text underlined):

Article 7, Section 1

The Board of Directors shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, 2nd Vice President, Sgt. at Arms, Chaplain, National Trustee, and the State Trustee from each Subordinate Lodge. The Board of Directors shall have and exercise all administrative powers of the Order during the period between conferences. Any State Lodge officer or member of the Board of Directors who resigns from active law enforcement duty for any reason other than to retire on pension, either for length of service or disability, or otherwise becomes ineligible as a member of the Fraternal Order of Police, shall automatically forfeit his or her office on the State Lodge Board of Directors.

In the event of the removal, death, or resignation of the State President, the Vice President must immediately assume the office of State President for the remainder of the unexpired term. Any vacancy in any office of the State Lodge, except State President and office of State Trustee, shall be filled by a plurality vote of the Board of Directors. The office of Trustee shall be filled by the Subordinate Lodge from which the vacancy occurred.

REMOVAL OF MINI-CONFERENCE REFERENCES

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police currently holds a mini-conference in odd-numbered years and a biennial conference in even-numbered years;

WHEREAS, the mini-conference, historically held in odd-numbered years, has become outdated and is no longer deemed necessary;

WHEREAS, the National Fraternal Order of Police holds its National Conference in odd-numbered years, creating scheduling and financial burdens for subordinate lodges to attend both the National Conference and the mini-conference;

WHEREAS, the biennial conference in even-numbered years provides sufficient opportunity for governance, decision-making, and fraternal engagement within the state lodge;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Carolina State Lodge Constitution and Bylaws be amended as follows:

Amend Article 3, Section 3:

Remove the following section of the sentence:

"at such a place that shall be determined by the previous conference or at the mini-conference which will be held during the same time period in uneven years."

The section should now read:

"The State Lodge shall hold a conference every even year, to be known as the South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police Biennial Conference. This conference shall be held in the fall of the year between September 1st and October 30th."

UPDATED TRAVEL EXPENSES

Whereas, the South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police seeks to ensure that travel expenses incurred by officers and members performing duties for the State Lodge are reasonable, accountable, and compliant with modern nonprofit financial practices;

Whereas, the existing provisions in Article 19, Sections 1 through 3, do not fully align with updated financial practices and oversight standards;

Therefore, be it resolved: that Article 19 of the South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police Constitution and By-laws is hereby amended to read as follows:

Article 19: Travel Expenses

Section 1. The South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police shall pay, upon submission of a signed voucher, the reasonable expenses of the Board of Directors when attending meetings of the Board of Directors or the Biennial State Conference.

Section 2. Any lodge officer or member performing duties and services for the State Lodge, upon the order of the State President, shall be compensated for such reasonable expenses in accordance with the Travel Policy. Reimbursement shall not require receipts when utilizing an approved per diem rate but may require reasonable documentation as specified in the policy.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall develop, approve, and publish a Travel Policy governing reimbursement rates and standards, including, but not limited to, per diem rates, mileage reimbursement (aligned with the IRS standard mileage rate), lodging, and other allowable expenses. This policy shall be reviewed and updated every two years and submitted for approval by a majority vote of the delegates at the Biennial State Conference. The updated policy shall take effect upon adoption by the delegates.

VIRTUAL MEETING PROCEDURES

WHEREAS, the South Carolina State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police recognizes the importance of conducting meetings in a manner that best accommodates the needs of its members;

WHEREAS, advances in technology provide opportunities to hold meetings virtually, ensuring broader participation and flexibility;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that **Article 7, Section 2** of the Bylaws of the South Carolina State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police be amended as follows:

Amendment to Article 7, Section 2

The following sentence shall be added to the end of **Article 7, Section 2**:

"The President, in the exercise of their authority to call meetings, may designate whether a meeting of the Board of Directors will be held in person or virtually using teleconferencing or other electronic meeting platforms. Virtual meetings must allow all participants to communicate simultaneously and ensure all voting members have a reasonable opportunity to participate."