

# NEVADA STATE DIVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IDENTIFICATION CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE I

### 1 OFFICIAL NAME, CHARACTER, AND OBJECTIVES

- 1.01 Official Name. This organization shall be known as the Nevada State Division of the International Association for Identification (NSDIAI).
- 1.02 Character. The character of the NSDIAI, is that of a chartered division of the International Association for Identification (IAI) and as such shall be non-profit in nature.
- 1.03 Objectives.
- 1.03.01 To bring together into an organized body, within Nevada, those persons engaged in the profession of forensic investigations and identification, for the advancement of the profession.
  - 1.03.02 To keep its Membership apprized of its activities and provide the Members a means to vote on Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, and to elect Officers.
  - 1.03.03 To encourage research and training in scientific crime detection.
  - 1.03.04 To encourage the adoption of laws and regulations that will make more effective use of the knowledge of the Membership in the fields of identification and scientific crime detection.
  - 1.03.05 To upgrade the knowledge of the Membership and thus inspire greater public confidence in the law enforcement profession.
  - 1.03.06 To reduce crime by the dissemination of modern identification and scientific crime detection methods to law enforcement officers.
  - 1.03.07 To encourage greater cooperation on all levels of law enforcement.

## ARTICLE II

### 2 MEMBERSHIP

- 2.01 Membership Guidelines. Any disputes or questions of Membership or affiliation not covered in the Constitution or By-Laws will be resolved by the Board of Directors. A retired person not a Member may apply for Membership in the appropriate category and type. There are three (3) categories of dues-paying individuals on the rolls of the NSDIAI. They are: Active Members and Student Affiliates.
- 2.01.01 Founding Member. A Founding Member is from the NSDIAI Founding Group of ten (10), that petitioned for the NSDIAI Charter.
  - 2.01.02 Charter Member. A Charter Member/Affiliate is one who joins the NSDIAI during calendar year 1998.
- 2.02 Active. Active Membership shall consist of reputable persons actively engaged in the science of forensic investigation or identification (and their Bureau and Department Heads) and are employees of, and receive salaries from city, county, state, or federal governments, or a subdivision or a combination thereof. Members shall not lose their status because of retirement or change of position, as long as they remain in good standing. All may hold office. All have the right to vote. All may take the floor.
- 2.02.01 Active. See Section 2.02
  - 2.02.02 Life Active. Active Members who have paid their Membership dues and assessments for the past consecutive twenty-five (25) years. They are permanently exempt from the further payment of dues.
  - 2.02.03 Sustaining Active. Active Members who pay a one time, non-refundable sum of money equal to ten (10) times the current yearly dues. They are exempt from the further payment of dues.
- 2.03 "Member" Defined. "Member" refers to the "Active" categories of Membership (and their several types) of the NSDIAI.
- 2.04 Student Affiliate. *Student affiliation shall consist of persons engaged in the study of forensic science or related field with a minimum of six (6) credit hours at an approved (by the Board of Directors) college, university, or correspondence school. Students must show full paid enrollment by March 1 and October 1 of each year. Student affiliates may not take the floor, hold elective office, nominate, have a vote, be appointed as Chair person of a committee or subcommittee.*

## ARTICLE III

### 3 HONORS

- 3.01 Honorary. Honorary Membership shall consist of persons (Members, Affiliates, or non-Members) who have performed some particular service for the Division or who have assisted the forensic science community, or who have in some way performed some meritorious act for law enforcement. Such persons, upon motion of any Member in good standing, may be designated as an Honorary Member for a period of one (1) fiscal year by the Board of Directors, or by a majority vote at the Annual General Membership Meeting. Honorary Members are excused from the payment of all dues and assessments for the period of their Honorary Membership. Sponsors or vendors (persons, organizations, or businesses) donating money, equipment, supplies, or services, may be considered for Honorary Membership. Unless the Honorary Member is eligible to vote or hold office under another Membership category, an Honorary Member shall not be eligible to take the floor, vote, or hold office. Information of this status will be sent to the Editor for publication. It is to be awarded at the Annual Conference only.
- Distinguished. Distinguished Membership may be conferred only on the NSDIAI Members in good standing by a majority vote of the Board of Directors in recognition of the Member's superior efforts in the furtherance of the aims and purposes of the Division. A distinguished Member retains all the rights, privileges, and obligations of the category and type of Membership he/she held prior to being designated as a Distinguished Member. Information on this status will be sent to the Editor for publication. It is to be awarded at the Annual or Semi-Annual Conference.
- 3.01.01 Application. Application for Distinguished Member status shall be made to the Secretary of the Division. Copies of supporting documentation shall be provided by the applicant (i.e., copies of articles, conference registrations, etc.). It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to gather all such documentation pertaining to their application. Upon confirmation by the Secretary that the applicant meets the established criteria, the application shall be forwarded to the Board of Directors for consideration. Upon affirmative vote of the Board of Directors, the designation of Distinguished Member shall be conferred. A certificate will be issued by the Secretary to the recipient in recognition of their attainment. A copy of the certificate will be sent to the Historian and to the Editor (so that this information may be published).

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- 3.02 Good of the Division Award. A Good of the Division Award may be presented by the Board of Directors at any Annual or Semi-Annual Conference to any individual who, the Board deems, has made an outstanding contribution to the Division. It will be reported in the Journal.

## ARTICLE IV

### 4 EXECUTIVE STAFF AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 4.01 Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of five (5) Executive Staff Members and six (6) District Representatives. Each Member of the Board of Directors shall have one (1) vote.
- 4.01.01 Executive Staff and Quorum. The Executive Staff shall consist of the following five (5) Members: The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant-at-Arms/Historian. The quorum for the Executive Staff is three (3) Members, provided either the President or the Vice-President is one of those three (3).
- 4.01.01.01 Seniority. Seniority of the Executive Staff will be in order as follows: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant-at-Arms/Historian.
- 4.01.02 District Representatives. The District Representatives shall be elected "At Large." One (1) representative will be elected for each district. Each District Representative must be elected by Members from within the district where the District Representative is employed (or resides if retired). The districts are as follows:
- |                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| District 1 and 2 | - | Washoe County  |
| District 3       | - | Carson City Area, Storey, Lyon, and Douglas Counties   |
| District 4       | - | Humboldt, Elko, Pershing, Lander, Eureka, White Pine, Churchill, Mineral, Lincoln, Nye, and Esmeralda Counties |
| District 5 and 6 | - | Clark County   |
- 4.01.02.01 Map of Districts. A map of the districts is at the end of the Constitution. It is a part of the Constitution.
- 4.01.03 Chairperson. The Division President shall be the Chairperson of the board, and of the Executive Staff.
- 4.01.04 Policy-Making Body. The Board of Directors shall be the policy-making body of the NSDIAI.
- 4.01.05 Quorum of the Board. A quorum of the Board of Directors is a majority of the officers, of which one (1) must be the President or the Vice-President to form a quorum, or no quorum will exist.
- 4.01.06 Spokesperson. The President will speak for and in behalf of the NSDIAI.
- 4.02 Elections, Appointments, Removal, and Duties. The officers elections, appointments, removal, and duties shall conform to the provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws, and Operations Manuals.
- 4.03 Number of Offices Held. A Board of Directors' Member (listed in Section 4.01 of this Constitution) may hold only one of those elected "Officer" positions at any given time.

## ARTICLE V

### 5 COMMITTEES

- 5.01 Standing Committees and Subcommittees. Standing committees and subcommittees shall be established in accordance with and conform to the provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws, and the Operations Manuals.
- 5.02 Special Committees and Subcommittees. The following individuals are authorized to form special committees and subcommittees: the President, and the President-Elect. The Chairperson of any standing committee or subcommittee may recommend to the President the formation of a special committee or special subcommittee.
- 5.03 Report from the Committees. On an annual basis, at minimum: All committees and subcommittees shall inform all Members of its activities by presenting material to the Editor for publication. The President may request that reports from any or all committees and subcommittees be presented at any Annual or Semi-annual conference.
- 5.04 Dissolution of Special Committees and Subcommittees. All special committees and subcommittees shall be automatically dissolved at the end of the term of office of the President unless they are dissolved sooner, by the President.

## ARTICLE VI

### 6 ELECTIONS

- 6.01 Ballots. Elections of officers shall be by mail-in ballot to be tallied at the Annual General Membership Meeting. No person shall have more than one vote. Ballots are secret.
- 6.02 Elected Officials. The candidate with the highest vote total will be elected.

## ARTICLE VII

### 7 EMBLEM

- 7.01 Emblem. The emblem of the NSDIAI will be the Division's official logo. It is:
- 7.02 Use of Emblem. In addition to any use authorized by the Board of Directors, official publications, official correspondence, and official documents or items, in any form: The official emblem may be used only by Active Members of the NSDIAI who are in good standing. By Student Affiliates in good standing, only at official NSDIAI or IAI official conferences, activities, or events.

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## ARTICLE VIII

### 8 CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

- 8.01 Annual Educational Conference. An annual educational conference shall be held in conformance with the provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws, and the Operations Manuals.
- 8.02 Annual General Membership Meeting. An Annual General Membership Meeting shall be held at each Annual Educational Conference in conformance with the provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws, and the Operations Manuals.
- 8.03 Officers to be Installed. Officers will be installed at the Annual General Membership Meeting.
- 8.04 Quorum. The Active and Associate Members registered at the Annual or Semi-annual Membership Meeting shall constitute a quorum.
- 8.05 Additional Meetings. The Board of Directors may designate a semi-annual conference, other conferences, meetings, events, and activities in conformance with the Constitution, By-Laws, and Operations Manuals.

## ARTICLE IX

### 9 CODE OF ETHICS

- 9.01 Code of Ethics. The Members and Affiliates will follow the following code of ethics:  
As a Member (or Affiliate) of the NSDIAI, and being actively engaged in the profession of forensic investigation and identification, I dedicate myself to the efficient and scientific administration thereof in the interest of justice and the betterment of law enforcement.  
To cooperate with others of the profession, promote improvement through research, and disseminate such advancement in my effort to make more effective the analysis of the expert.  
To employ my technical knowledge factually, with zeal and determination, to protect the ethical standards of the profession of forensic investigation and identification.  
I humbly accept my responsibility to public trust and seek Divine guidance that I may keep inviolate the profession of law enforcement.

## ARTICLE X

### 10 INTERPRETATION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND THE BY-LAWS

- 10.01 Broad Interpretation. The provisions of this Constitution and of the By-Laws shall be interpreted as broadly as lawfully possible to carry out the lawful purposes (Constitution Article I) for which the NSDIAI was formed.
- 10.02 Effect of Unenforceable or Invalid Provision. Should any of the provisions or portions of this Constitution or the By-Laws be held unenforceable or invalid for any reason, the remaining provisions and portions of this Constitution or By-Laws shall be unaffected by such holding.
- 10.03 Precedence. Should conflict occur, this Constitution shall have precedence over the By-Laws, and the By-Laws over Operations Manuals.

## ARTICLE XI

- 11 **AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION:** *Any active member may propose a change to the Constitution, in writing, to the Executive Board. The Executive Board must approve the proposed changes. Per IAI policy proposed constitution changes shall be submitted, in writing, to the IAI Chief Operations Officer and the IAI Legal Counsel for approval. The proposed changes will be entered into the Silver State Journal for membership review and voted upon at the Annual Meeting.*

## ARTICLE XII

### 12 PROFITS, REIMBURSEMENTS, AND DISSOLUTION

- 12.01 General Prohibition: No Member of the Board of Directors, Chairperson, or other person connected with the NSDIAI, or any other private individual, shall receive at any time any of the net earnings or pecuniary profit from the operations of the NSDIAI. However, this provision shall not prevent the payment to such person, organization/business for reasonable compensation for services rendered, expenses incurred to or for the Division, as shall be fixed by a resolution passed by the Board of Directors.
- 12.02 Fund Raising. Fund raising for the NSDIAI, selling souvenirs, books, pamphlets, and other items shall be approved by the Board of Directors. All net profits are to be given to the NSDIAI Treasurer to be placed in the Division's general savings or checking account, as specified by the Constitution, By-Laws, and Operations Manuals.
- 13.03 Reimbursements. Unless otherwise prescribed by the Constitution, By-Laws, and Operations Manuals, the Board of Directors will decide which officers or appointed persons will be reimbursed for attending conferences, meetings, activities, and events. When approved, receipts and vouchers will be submitted to the Treasurer.
- 13.04 Dissolution. In the event that this Division should be dissolved or otherwise terminated, the assets and income thereof shall not benefit any Member or private individual, but shall become the assets and income of the Parent Body of the IAI, to be used for the purpose of carrying out the objectives for which this organization was formed.