

# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS



GEORGE MURRAY LODGE #67  
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

Revised January 2021

# FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE GEORGE MURRAY LODGE #67

## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

This lodge shall be known as the GEORGE MURRAY LODGE #67, a subordinate Lodge conforming to the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and the State Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Inc. and shall consist of such members as are admitted to membership who conform to the rules and regulations as adopted by this Lodge. This constitution as the fundamental law of the Lodge, together with the By-laws enacted in meeting, shall govern the conduct of this Lodge and its members.

### ARTICLE II: OBJECTS AND PURPOSES

Members of this Lodge shall support and defend the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Ohio; encourage social, charitable, and educational activities among law enforcement officers; to create a tradition of esprit de corps ensuring fidelity to duty under all conditions and circumstances; and cultivate a spirit of fraternalism and mutual helpfulness among our members, and the people we serve by

1. Teaching of respect for law and order.
2. Dedication to the advancement and protection of law enforcement Officers.
3. To better existing conditions of policemen and policewomen.
4. The promotion of improved law enforcement methods
5. To advance social, charitable, and educational undertakings among policemen and policewomen.
6. To inculcate loyalty and allegiance to the United States of America.
7. To further justice and humanity by means of equality of treatment of all before the law.
8. To protect the rights and encourage the development of policemen and policewomen.
9. To advocate rigid enforcement in a uniform manner, of all civil service laws applicable to policemen and policewomen.
10. To support all laws, ordinance and rules or regulations protecting or favorably affecting the welfare of policemen and policewomen.

11. To protect the constitutional rights of policemen and policewomen.
12. To assist policemen and policewomen who are suspended, dismissed, or relieved of duty without justification.
13. To advocate the establishment and permanent maintenance of sound pension and retirement funds for policemen and policewomen

## **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 1**

There shall be two (2) classes of membership: Active and Honorary. The active membership will be comprised of those persons admitted into membership in accordance with Section 2 of this Article. The honorary membership shall be comprised of persons who have made significant contributions to law enforcement, the Fraternal Order of Police and/or the community and have been admitted to membership in accordance with Section 7 of this Article. No person shall simultaneously be a member of more than one (1) subordinate Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police Grand Lodge or State Lodge.

### **Section 2**

The George Murray Lodge #67 shall consist of full-time police officers employed by the following municipalities, law enforcement agencies or persons who have honorably retired from such employment because of length of service or disability. No person shall be denied membership due to gender, race, color, religion, creed, age, or national origin. The term full-time employment is defined as law enforcement officers who are engaged in such employment as their primary source of income.

1. Township of Bainbridge
2. City of Bedford
3. City of Bedford Heights
4. City of Brecksville
5. Village of Brooklyn Heights
6. Village of Cuyahoga Heights
7. Village of Chagrin Falls
8. City of Garfield Heights
9. Village of Glenwillow
10. Village of Highland Hills
11. City of Independence
12. City of Maple Heights
13. Metro Parks police
14. Village of Newburg Heights
15. Village of Oakwood
16. City of Solon
17. Village of Valley View
18. Village of Walton Hills

Those persons, who have been members of the lodge and severed employment with one of the listed law enforcement agencies, may remain members of the lodge, if they meet the following criteria: the separation from law enforcement was not under duress or threat due to actions of the member; the member maintains a life free of criminal or civil actions that would bring discredit to the lodge.

### **Section 3**

The George Murray Lodge #67 may deny membership to anyone who willfully chooses not to be a dues paying member in good standing of their bargaining unit

### **Section 4**

The George Murray Lodge #67 may deny membership, or continuation of membership to anyone convicted of a felony crime in any court of the United States, or any state court once all appeals have been exhausted.

### **Section 5**

The George Murray Lodge #67 shall deny membership to anyone who is, or has been a member of the Communist Party, or of any party regardless of what name known which advocates the abolition, destruction, or violent overthrow of the government of the United States or any state or political subdivision thereof,

### **Section 6**

The George Murray Lodge #67 shall deny membership to anyone who is a member of another state or subordinate lodge or is delinquent or under suspension from another state or subordinate lodge for any reason until such suspension has been lifted.

### **Section 7**

Honorary membership shall be comprised of any person deemed worthy by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members voting at a regular meeting. The name of the candidate for honorary membership must be submitted to the floor of the Lodge sixty (60) days prior to the regular meeting. The President of the Lodge shall appoint a special screening committee to inquire into the qualifications of person proposed for honorary membership. This committee shall be comprised of the Vice President and two (2) other active members to be appointed by the President. The committee shall make an appropriate recommendation to the membership, or may in its own sound discretion, summarily reject any person proposed for honorary membership, determined by the Committee to be unqualified for this most special and extraordinary status.

### **Section 8**

Any member may be granted a transfer from the George Murray Lodge #67 to another Lodge provided he/she has severed his/her connections with their employing law enforcement agency.

## **Section 9**

Active and retired Police Officers, Federal Agents or State Agents from agencies other than the municipalities listed above can become members of the George Murray Lodge #67 by complying with the following:

1. Present a petition, signed by all members of the department of which he/she is a member, signifying their intent to join this Lodge.
2. The municipality must be one whose borders are contiguous with that of one or more of the present member municipalities.
3. If a member of, or within the confines of another Fraternal Order of Police Lodge, then permission must be obtained in writing, from said Lodge.
4. All prospective members must agree to comply with Section 1 and Section 2 of Article III of this Constitution and By- Laws.
5. It shall require a vote of three-fourths of the members present and voting at regular membership meeting to accept such applicants.

## **Section 10**

No person shall be prohibited from maintaining his membership because of retirement from said employment because of length of service or disability.

## **Section 11**

Any member who resigns from active police duty may retain his/her membership in this Lodge, provided he/she remains in good standing, and the Lodge membership approves of the member retaining his/her membership.

## **Section 12**

Any member of the Lodge, whose services or personal conduct reflect discredit upon the Lodge, may be suspended or expelled from the Lodge. Before any member can be suspended or expelled, charges must be referred in writing, to the Secretary, at a regular meeting. The member shall at that time can have the opportunity to present his/her defense. It shall require a vote of two-thirds of the members present at such Lodge meeting in favor of suspension or expulsion before a member can be suspended or expelled.

## **Section 13**

In event any of the member municipalities leave the George Murray Lodge, individual members in good standing may elect to remain with this Lodge.

## **ARTICLE IV: APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 1**

Application for membership in this Lodge shall be in writing, on forms prescribed and prepared by this Lodge. All statements contained therein, in answer to questions proposed to the applicant, shall be warranted by him/her to be true and correct.

### **Section 2**

Applications must be accompanied by the initiation fee and payment of dues for the balance of the calendar year in which application is accepted. The initiation fee and dues shall be as enumerated in Article XIX

### **Section 3**

A member in good standing may rent a Fraternal Order of Police emblem. This emblem is to be used only on the members personal car. Said emblem must be returned to the Lodge within thirty days after a person ceases to be a member of this Lodge. If the member does not comply, the Guard is hereby empowered to remove the emblem and return it to the Lodge Secretary. The cost of rental of the emblem shall be determined by the Secretary of the Lodge.

### **Section 4**

After the application has been received, it shall be presented to the Lodge at the next meeting and shall be voted upon. It shall require a vote of three-fourths of the members present and voting to accept such applicant. In the event the application is rejected, the applicant shall not be privileged to re-petition until after the expiration of at least six months from the date of the rejection of his application. All applications for membership may be voted upon separately and by secret ballot on a motion from the floor.

## **ARTICLE V: OFFICERS (STRUCTURE AND TERMS OF OFFICE)**

### **Section 1**

The officers of this Lodge shall be a President, First Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Second Vice-President, Chaplain, Immediate Past President, and three (3) Trustees.

### **Section 2**

All Officers, except the Immediate Past President and the Trustees, shall be elected bi-annually. The Trustees shall be elected for terms of three (3) years; One Trustee will be elected annually to replace the Trustee whose term expires.

### **Section 3**

The position of Immediate Past President shall be held by the person who was elected as President and completed at least one full term, and except as noted below, the person who most recently held the Office of President. No person shall be eligible to hold this position if they were removed from office pursuant to Article XIV.

If the individual eligible to be Immediate Past President holds another Executive Board Position, the Office of Immediate Past President shall revert to the next previous person who held the office of President and not holding another Executive Board position.

### **Section 4**

Any Officer who resigns from office during any elected term, shall relinquish all rights to and privileges of that office. The resigned Officer reverts to the status of "member". Resigned Presidents will not be considered "Immediate Past President". The office of any resigned "Immediate Past President: will revert to the immediate previous standing past president. A President who is deceased in office, is not considered the Immediate Past President.

### **Section 5**

Any elected officer of this Lodge may be elected to serve as a State Lodge Officer in addition to his/her local duties.

### **Section 6**

No officer, nor his/her immediate family, may engage in any business or other transaction, nor have any financial interest in any venture which conflicts with the officer's fiduciary obligation to this Lodge.

### **Section 7**

Any Officer of this Lodge who is absent from a regular meeting, board meeting, special meeting, or any gathering that requires his/her attendance shall be considered excused provided he/she made prior notification to the President/Secretary that he/she would not be in attendance due to illness, disability, work schedule, or a prior commitment to this Lodge, the National Lodge, State Lodge or any other Fraternal Order of Police function requiring his/her presence.

## **ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

### **Section 1**

The Executive Board shall consist of all the Officers of the Lodge. The President shall be the Chairman and the Secretary shall be Secretary of said Board.

### **Section 2**

The Past President may aid and assist the President in the performance of his/her duties from his/her past experiences, and aid in the installation of officers.

### **Section 3**

The Executive Board shall act in all emergencies which require action prior to the next regular meeting of the Lodge. They shall meet at such time and place or electronically, by email or other electronic means as may be deemed necessary by the President and a written report of all business transacted shall be submitted to the membership at the next regular meeting of the Lodge or electronically by email.

### **Section 4**

In the event of a governmental declaration or other matters outside of the control of the membership, the Executive Board is empowered to handle Lodge matters that are of an emergency nature. The board may meet in person, via email or other electronic means as approved by the President. These matters will be reported to the membership at the next scheduled meeting or electronically by email. Minutes of these Executive Board meetings will be kept by the Secretary.

### **Section 5**

The Executive Board shall have the power to hear and determine the facts regarding any and all disputes, protests, or complaints arising in the jurisdiction of the Lodge that are not otherwise provided for in this Constitution and By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1**

The President shall create such committees as he may find desirable or necessary to carry out the functions of the Lodge and shall outline the duties and responsibilities of such committees. The majority of all committees shall be appointed by the President and the minority of all committees shall be appointed by the First Vice President.



## **ARTICLE VIII: ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE**

### **Section 1**

Active members of this Lodge who have been in good standing for a period of one (1) year immediately preceding the November meeting and who have attended five (5) or more regular meetings during said year, shall be eligible to hold office. If a lodge meeting is cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. Described in Article VI Section 4, the member will be considered as having attended in the context of the five (5) meeting attendance requirement.

### **Section 2**

Proof of attendance at any regular meeting shall be incumbent on a member by signing a permanently bound attendance book displayed at each regular meeting and kept in the custody of the Secretary.

### **Section 3**

If any duly elected officer is absent four (4) consecutive meetings, the executive board may declare the office vacant and may fill the vacancy.

## **ARTICLE IX: NOMINATIONS**

### **Section 1**

Any member in good standing, retired or active shall be eligible to hold any office or be a Delegate or Alternate.

### **Section 2**

Nominations for election of officers shall be made and closed at the regular November meeting during odd numbered years.

### **Section 3**

A nominee must either be present at the meeting when nominated or have submitted a written acceptance, by actual written letter or electronic communication (Text Message/Email) to the Secretary, prior to or at the time of nomination.

### **Section 4**

The Secretary shall have within his/her possession, a list of all members attendance at regular meetings for one year immediately preceding nominations. Eligibility to hold office shall be determined at the time of nomination.

## **ARTICLE X: ELECTIONS**

### **Section 1**

Election of officers shall be held at the regular membership meeting in the month of December in the odd numbered year.

### **Section 2**

Officers are to be elected by secret ballot or electronic balloting. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. Write-in or sticker candidates shall not be permitted, and any vote cast by write-in or sticker shall be ruled invalid.

### **Section 3**

The George Murray Lodge #67 may use electronic balloting if it so chooses, provided that the method and procedure is approved by the Executive Board of Lodge #67. All Lodge members shall be advised of the new procedure prior to its inception. Members who are unwilling or unable to utilize electronic balloting, shall make a request, to the current seated Secretary, that their vote be cast by secret paper ballot.

### **Section 4**

In the event any race for an office is uncontested, the presiding officer shall direct the currently seated Secretary to cast one vote for the nominated candidate from each uncontested race. The nominated candidate(s) will then be announced as the winner.

### **Section 5**

If there is only one contested office, during the odd number years, the election will be conducted at the regular membership meeting during the month of December, by a vote of the members present, not by the mail-in ballot or electronic balloting.

### **Section 6**

Elected officers, excluding Trustees, shall serve a term of two (2) years or until their successor(s) has been elected and qualified

## **ARTICLE XI: CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS**

### **Section 1**

An election committee, consisting of three members in good standing, shall be appointed by the presiding officer of the Lodge. This committee shall be appointed at the November meeting after nominations are made. The committee shall not include any candidate for office.

### **Section 2**

The election shall be held with printed ballots or by electronic balloting created by the lodge Secretary and shall contain the names of each candidate for office. The names shall be listed in alphabetical order.

### **Section 3**

Within five (5) days after nominations, the printed ballots, along with a stamped return envelope and a blank envelope to keep the ballot secret, will be mailed by the Secretary to all eligible voting members in good standing. The ballot will be marked by the member, sealed in the blank envelope, and then placed in the stamped return envelope to be returned to the Lodge office prior to the next regular meeting. The member voting will sign the back of the stamped envelope so that the election committee can check the member off on the roster as having voted. The sealed envelope containing the ballot will be removed from the stamped and signed envelope, and then placed, unopened, in the ballot box to be counted by the election committee at the regular December meeting. The mailed ballot must be returned to the Lodge office by the date of the December meeting, or it will be invalid. No member may vote, by mail or electronically, more than once in each election. The election committee will be responsible for checking the roster to ensure that only one vote per member is tabulated.

### **Section 4**

Within five (5) days after nominations, the electronic balloting system will be made operational by the Secretary for use by all eligible voting members in good standing. The ballot will contain the alphabetically listed names of the candidates for each office. Members utilizing the electronic balloting process must submit their completed ballot prior to the next regular meeting. The election committee can check the member off on the roster as having voted by electronic verification of members who have voted. The electronically collected ballots will be counted by the election committee at the regular December meeting. Ballots submitted after the start of the regular December meeting will be invalid. No member may vote, by mail or electronically, more than once in each election. The election committee will be responsible for checking the roster to ensure that only one vote per member is tabulated.

### **Section 5**

If more than one completed ballot, either mailed, electronically submitted or a combination thereof, is received by the Lodge from a single voting member, all ballots received from that member will be considered invalid and destroyed.

## **Section 6**

The election committee shall count all ballots immediately after the close of balloting, which will be at the beginning of the regular meeting and announce the results of the election. Should the vote for any office result in a tie, the winner shall be decided by a coin flip by the presiding officer.

## **Section 7**

No member shall be eligible to run for more than one office.

## **Section 8**

Members may cast only one vote. The use of proxy votes is forbidden.

## **Section 9**

The election of delegates will be conducted by a vote of the members present at the regular membership meeting in the month of February, not by the mail-in ballot or electronic balloting as described in Article X Section 3.

# **ARTICLE XII: INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

## **Section 1**

The newly elected officers shall be installed at the regular January meeting of each year and shall serve until their successors are elected and installed, unless they resign, die, or are removed from office for cause.

## **Section 2**

The newly elected officers shall be installed by the retiring President of the Lodge or the President or Past President of any Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police.

## **Section 3**

If any elected officers are not present to be installed at the regular January meeting, they shall be installed at the next regular meeting of the Lodge, and if absent at that meeting, then at the following regular Lodge meeting. If absent at the third regular Lodge meeting, the office shall be declared vacant and successor appointed hereinafter provided.

## ARTICLE XIII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

### **Section 1**

**The President:** shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Lodge and shall preside at all meetings. He/she shall enforce order and strict compliance of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Lodge. He/she shall open and close all regular and special meetings of the Lodge. He/she shall cause the password to be communicated to all persons entitled to receive the same. He/she shall appoint all the majority members of all committees and see that all officers perform their respective duties faithfully and impartially. He/she shall sign all official documents that are authorized by the Lodge. He/she shall fill vacancies in offices caused by absence or other causes, unless stipulated by the By-Laws. While occupying the chair, he/she shall not take part in any debate except by permission of the majority present. He/she shall transact all other business as may be custom pertaining to his/her office. He/she shall, in case of a tie, have the deciding vote on any questions except in elections of officers, delegates, and alternates. The President shall be the press officer/spokesperson for the Lodge. He/she may delegate this authority.

### **Section 2**

**The First Vice-President:** shall assist the President in the performance of his/her duties and shall appoint minority members of all committees. The First Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in his/her absence. If the President and the First Vice –President are absent, the Immediate Past President may assume the President’s duties. If unavailable, the Secretary shall appoint a member in good standing to preside as President. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be required by the President

### **Section 3**

**The Secretary:** shall keep a correct record of all transactions of each regular and special meeting of the Lodge. He/she shall keep an accurate record of the minutes of each meeting and maintain copies of the minutes of all meetings. The minutes of the previous regular meeting and any special meeting shall be read at the next regular meeting unless otherwise dispensed with a motion from the floor. The Secretary shall keep a record of all amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, which shall be given to the proper committee for reference when revising the Constitution and By-Laws. He/she shall read all reports, letters, petitions, appeals, claims, and other communications that may be received by the Lodge or its officers. He/she shall reply to and write all communications sent or received by the Lodge and shall retain copies thereof. The Secretary shall retain and safeguard the seal of the Lodge. He/she shall be responsible for all supplies bearing the emblem of the Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be required by the President.

### **Section 4**

**The Treasurer:** He/she shall receive all monies of the Lodge and Lodge Foundation. Issue his/her official receipt thereof. He/she shall deposit in the name of the Lodge/Lodge Foundation all monies received by him/her, in such bank or banks as the trustees may select. He/she shall keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended. He/she and the President, or his/her designee, shall sign all checks drawn against the funds of the Lodge/Lodge Foundation. He/she shall submit a written report at each regular meeting of the Lodge stating the amount of money on hand and his/her receipts and

disbursements, which report shall be made a part of the Lodge record. He/she shall meet with the Trustees whenever requested by them to audit the books and accounts of his/her office and shall render such other assistance as they deem necessary. He/she shall have accounts ready for auditing and settlement at the expiration of his/her term of office. He/she shall be bonded during his/her term of office in an amount to be determined by the Board of Trustees and cost of said bond shall be paid by the Lodge. The Treasurer shall maintain Articles of Incorporation and ensure that the Articles are current and filed with the State of Ohio Attorney General's Office. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be required by the President.

#### **Section 5**

**The Sergeant-at-Arms:** He/she shall maintain the security of the Lodge during regular and special meetings. He/she shall collect the password and refuse admittance to members not in good standing. He/she shall remove any such person who is not entitled to remain for the business being transacted. He/she shall keep an accurate record of those members present at any meeting of the Lodge and provide such list to the Secretary at the conclusion of the meeting. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be required by the President.

#### **Section 6**

**The Chaplain:** He/she shall read the prayers from the Ritual Book at the opening and closing of meetings. He/she shall offer the prayers from the Ritual at the funeral service of a deceased Brother/Sister. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be required by the President.

#### **Section 7**

**The Second Vice President:** He/she shall pass among the Brothers/Sisters at all meetings and collect the password, sending any Brother/Sister who does not know the password to the President's chair to get it. He/she shall conduct all applicants for membership through the installation ritual. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be required by the President.

#### **Section 8**

**The Immediate Past President:** He/she shall advise and assist the President and the Executive Board in the performance of their respective duties and shall execute such assignments as may be ordered by them or either of them.

#### **Section 9**

**The Trustees:** They shall care for and hold in trust all monies, stocks, securities buildings, and properties of the Lodge. They shall invest the funds of the Lodge in a manner approved by two-thirds of the members present and voting. Until such funds are invested, they shall designate the amount of the bond required for the Treasurer. They shall see that the books of the Treasurer and Secretary are audited once every six months during the months of January and July and shall at the close of their term of office make a full report in writing to the Lodge of all business transacted by them. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be required by the President.

## **Section 10**

If an officer of this Lodge misses three consecutive monthly meetings, he/she will vacate office and same will be filled according to these By-Laws.

## **SECTION 11**

All reports of officers and committees shall be submitted in writing to the Lodge.

## **Section 12**

All books, records, money, and other property of the Lodge in custody of the officers shall be turned over to their successors at the expiration of their term of office.

## **Section 13**

The officers of the Lodge shall perform such other duties as may be required of them under the Constitution and By-Laws of the State and Grand Lodge.

# **ARTICLE XIV: RESIGNATIONS**

## **Section 1**

No officer shall resign his/her office unless providing a written resignation to the President and Board of Trustees indicating his/her reasons for leaving. No officer shall be allowed to resign within his/her term unless a complete audit has been conducted on any matters or documents, which have been assigned to that office.

# **ARTICLE XV: REMOVAL OF OFFICERS**

## **Section 1**

Any officer of this Lodge who commits an act of misfeasance or malfeasance or non-feasance or any other act of unfitness may be removed from office.

## **Section 2**

To start such action a written complaint by three or more members, in good standing, shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Lodge. The officer against whom the complaint has been made shall be notified personally by certified mail or electronic email, with read receipt requested, to him/her a written copy of the complaint at least five (5) days prior to the day of the meeting at which the complaint will be presented to the Lodge. Upon a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at such meeting, the office shall be declared vacant. Such vote shall be by secret ballot.

### **Section 3**

Any member preferring charges against an Officer of the Lodge for the purpose of maliciously or otherwise injuring such Officer shall be subject to suspension or be expelled from the Lodge.

### **Section 4**

The decision of the Lodge shall be final except for the exclusive administration remedy of appeal as provided in Article XVIII, Section 6 of the Bylaws of the State of Ohio Fraternal Order of Police, Inc.

## **ARTICLE XVI: VACANCY IN OFFICE**

### **Section 1**

In the event of a vacancy in the office of First Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Second Vice President, Chaplain or Trustee, for any reason, the vacancy shall be filled by an appointment from the Lodge President or the current presiding officer if the President is unavailable.

## **ARTICLE XVII: EXPULSION OF MEMBERS**

### **Section 1**

Any member of the Lodge whose services or personal conduct reflects discredit upon the Lodge may be expelled from the Lodge. Before any member can be expelled from the Lodge, charges must be preferred in writing by the Executive Board. The Board may present such charges to the Lodge on complaint of any member of the Lodge. The member against whom the complaint has been made shall be notified personally, by certified mail or electronic email, with read receipt requested, to him/her a written copy of such charges at least five days prior to the day of the meeting at which the charges will be presented to the Lodge. Upon a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting by secret ballot, he/she shall be expelled. Every member of the Lodge is to be notified of such action by regular U.S. mail or electronic email.

### **Section 2**

In respect to any disciplinary hearing conducted by any lodge of the Order, due process shall be afforded the parties thereto.

### **Section 3**

In all disciplinary hearings conducted the body conducting such hearing shall:

- A.** Require the complaint(s), charge(s) or allegation(s) be made under oath and in writing and provide such facts as may enable the charged party to be apprised of the nature of the charge.



- B.** Ensure that the party charged is provided with a copy of such complaint, charge, or allegation and given sufficient time, which in any event shall be not less than thirty (30) days, to prepare a defense, if any, thereto.
- C.** Conduct a hearing upon the matter during which the trier of fact shall limit the scope of the inquiry to the specific complaint(s), charge(s) or allegation(s) set forth in the written notice thereof.
- D.** Adhere to an order of procedure which places the burden of proof upon the party charging the member, or lodge.
- E.** Permit the parties thereto to introduce documents and exhibits and the testimony of witnesses in accordance with such rules of evidence as may be determined and applied uniformly by such body.

#### **Section 4**

Discipline may be imposed upon a member or lodge for any violation of the good of the Order, including, but not limited to, the following:

- A.** Violation of the Constitution, these By-Laws, the Ritual, oath, or obligations of the Order.
- B.** Acts of disloyalty to the Fraternal Order of Police, including, but not limited to, overt attempts to decertify the Fraternal Order of Police where such lodge is the certified bargaining representative of its members, holding office in an organization which encourages members of the Fraternal Order of Police to leave the Order or, where applicable, which attempts to decertify the Order, or such other acts as bring disrepute, disgrace or dishonor upon the Fraternal Order of Police.
- C.** The unauthorized use or the abuse of the name or insignia of the Fraternal Order of Police or the infringement of a trademark thereof.

#### **Section 5**

Upon a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting by secret ballot, he/she shall be expelled. Every member of the Lodge is to be notified of such action by regular U.S. mail or electronic email.

#### **Section 6**

No member of the Lodge who has been expelled from the Lodge for any reason may make application for membership until six months from the date of expulsion.

#### **Section 7**

The decision of the Lodge shall be final except for the exclusive administration remedy of appeal as provided in Article XX, Section 3 of the Bylaws of the State of Ohio Fraternal Order of Police, Inc.

#### **Section 8**

Any member preferring charges against another member of the Lodge for the purpose of maliciously or otherwise injuring such member shall be subject to suspension or be expelled from the Lodge.

## **ARTICLE XVIII: NOMINATION OF DELEGATES**

### **Section 1**

Nominees for Delegates/Alternates shall meet the same requirements as those required to run for office in the Lodge as specified in Article VIII

### **Section 2**

Nomination of Delegates/Alternates shall be made and closed at the regular membership meeting in the month of January of each year.

### **Section 3**

If a lodge meeting is cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, a member will be considered as having attended in the context of the five (5) meeting attendance requirement specified in Article VIII Section 1

## **ARTICLE XIX: ELECTION OF DELEGATES**

### **Section 1**

The election of Delegates/Alternates shall be held at the regular membership meeting in the month of February. The President of the Lodge shall automatically serve as a Delegate. The election shall be conducted in the same manner as provided in Article X of this Constitution and By-Laws.

### **Section 2**

The election shall be held with printed ballots, created by the lodge Secretary, and shall contain the names of each candidate. The names shall be listed in alphabetical order.

### **Section 3**

The use of electronic balloting as described in Article X Section 3 shall not be used for the election of Delegates/Alternates.

### **Section 4**

The members present at the meeting shall elect as many Delegates/Alternates as the Lodge may be entitled to according to its membership, or as has been otherwise determined by the membership.

## **Section 5**

Each elector shall be entitled to vote for as many candidates as are able to be elected as delegates. The results of the election are to be determined in the following manner:

The candidates, after the vote has been tabulated, shall be listed in numerical order according to the number of votes received. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected as Delegates. The highest remaining candidates shall be declared elected as Alternates to the Delegates elected and shall receive preference in order listed in the event of vacancy among the elected Delegates.

## **ARTICLE XX: DUES AND INITIATION FEE**

### **Section 1**

The dues and initiation fee of the Lodge shall be an amount determined by majority vote of the members; in good standing, present and voting at a regular membership meeting. The dues and/or initiation fee are payable in advance.

### **Section 2**

All monies collected from dues shall be deposited into the General Fund to be distributed as deemed necessary and directed by the majority of the Executive Board.

### **Section 3**

Ten dollars (\$10.00) of the initiation fee shall be deposited in the Death Benefit Fund of the George Murray Lodge.

### **Section 4**

All funds collected from all other sources shall be deposited in the General Fund.

### **Section 5**

The State and National Per-Capita tax of the Lodge shall be paid from the General Fund of the Lodge.

### **Section 6**

*Members in good standing called into extended military service shall be carried as full-time members while on military leave. The Lodge shall pay the per-capita tax on such member on military leave. Upon return from military leave, said member shall pay the balance of his/her annual dues for the year of his/her return from military service.*

## **Section 7**

Members in good standing who are being represented by the George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund or the Fraternal Order of Police Legal Aid Plan, due to termination of employment, shall be carried as a full-time member of the Lodge, without payment of dues/assessments, until all related court proceedings and appeals have been exhausted or the decision to cease representation has been made by the Lodge or the Legal Aid Plan Administrators.

## **ARTICLE XXI: ASSESSMENTS**

### **Section 1**

When two-thirds of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting approves the levying of an assessment, the same shall be ordered levied by the President and notice thereof in writing shall be sent to every member of the Lodge. Such assessments shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Lodge within thirty days from the date the assessment comes due. Money collected from the assessment shall be used only for the purpose for which the assessment was levied, and any surplus shall be allocated to the General Fund.

## **ARTICLE XXII: NON PAYMENT OF DUES AND ASSESSMENTS**

### **Section 1**

Any member who is not more than thirty (30) days in arrears in the payment of all dues and assessments due and payable to the Lodge is a member in good standing.

### **Section 2**

Any member who is delinquent in the payment of any dues and assessments for more than thirty (30) days shall be deemed to be delinquent and not in good standing.

### **Section 3**

Any member who is delinquent in the payment of dues or assessments for more than ninety (90) days shall be automatically suspended as a member.

### **Section 4**

Any member who is delinquent in the payment of dues or assessments for more than six (6) months shall be dropped from the rolls of the Lodge.

### **Section 5**

Any member deemed to be delinquent and not in good standing, suspended, dropped from the rolls, or expelled due to non-payment of dues or assessments, shall not be eligible for any benefits of the Legal Aid Fund, Fraternal Order of Police Legal Aid Plan or the Death Benefit Fund.

## **Section 6**

Any member who is not in good standing or suspended shall be reinstated and restored to a member in good standing by payment of all delinquent dues or assessments. Any member who has been suspended or expelled for non-payment of dues shall make his/her application for reinstatement within ninety (90) days from the date of suspension or expulsion.

## **Section 7**

Any member retiring from active duty, while his/her dues are delinquent, will be considered not in good standing and will not be eligible to receive any benefits normally extended by the Lodge until such delinquent dues or assessments are paid.

## **Section 8**

Any member who is delinquent in dues or assessments shall not be eligible to transfer their membership to any other subordinate Lodge.

# **ARTICLE XXIII: BUILDING COMMITTEE AND FUND**

## **Section 1**

There shall be a building committee appointed by the President. Said committee to serve for a three-year term. The committee shall have no more than five members with at least one of the members appointed as Chairman and one as a Co-Chairman.

## **Section 2**

After appointment, the Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the President with the approval of the Executive Board. The committee shall meet from time to time and shall formulate and recommend to the Executive Board suggestions as to potential building sites, plans and/or existing buildings which may prove suitable for Lodge use.

## **Section 3**

General funds placed in the Building Fund shall remain there in an interest accruing account until expenditures are authorized by the Executive Board upon recommendation of the Building Committee.

# **ARTICLE XXIV: GENERAL OPERATING FUND**

## **Section 1**

The funds allocated under Article XXX, to the General Operating Fund shall be expended for normal expenses and for the benefit of the Lodge.

## **ARTICLE XXV: RETIREMENT**

### **Section 1**

A member who retires because of length of service or disability, and in good standing for one year immediately preceding retirement shall be given a life membership card.

### **Section 2**

A retired member may select one of the following options:

- A. Pay no dues and have no voice or vote at Lodge Meetings.
- B. Pay dues at a reduced amount determined by the membership, but in no event being less than the per-capita tax that is paid to the State and National Lodges, and be entitled to all the rights and privileges of a regular member.
- C. Retired members may continue to pay full dues and maintain full membership status in the Legal Aid Fund to receive Legal Aid representation.

## **ARTICLE XXVI: LODGE GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL**

### **Section 1**

There shall be a Lodge General Legal Counsel appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Executive Board. General Counsel shall report directly to the President or designee and shall at all times serve the majority interests of the Lodge and its members as directed by the President.

### **Section 2**

Associate Lodge Legal Counsel may be appointed by the President upon the recommendation of the Executive Board and/or General Counsel to handle any specific Lodge legal matters.

## **ARTICLE XXVII: LEGAL AID**

### **Section 1**

There shall be created a Legal Aid Fund provided by the George Murray Lodge #67 or through the Fraternal Order of Police Legal Defense Plan.

### **Section 2**

The purpose of this Fund shall be to pay for legal expenses incurred by a member in the following circumstances:

- A. Representation during collective bargaining agreement negotiations.
- B. Defense of discharge, suspension or other disciplinary proceedings brought against members by a public employer for actions related to "on-duty" employment only.

- C. Defense of civil lawsuits filed against members arising from their police functions or duties, related to “on-duty” employment only.
- D. Defense of Criminal charges brought against members arising from their police functions or duties, related to “on-duty” employment only.

The term “on-duty” referenced above shall mean all authorized and required activities, while being employed and monetarily compensated by a federal, state, or local government agency, as a law enforcement officer, during scheduled hours of work.

### **Section 3**

To be eligible to receive representation from the George Murray Lodge #67 or the Fraternal Order of Police Legal Defense Plan, a member must be in good standing prior to any action being taken against that member.

### **Section 4**

There shall be established a George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund Board consisting of nine (09) members to always include the then current Lodge President. Said members shall be appointed by the President and shall serve specific terms as follows: Two (02) members for four (04) years Two (02) members for three (03) years Two (02) members for two (02) years Two (02) members for one (01) year At no time shall more than two members be from the same municipality except that with the inclusion of the then current President. To be eligible to appointment to this Board a member shall have been a member of the Lodge in good standing for at least four (04) years.

### **Section 5**

At the annual expiration of two members terms in office, the President shall appoint two (02) members to said vacancies for four (04) year terms. The President may reappoint any member for a maximum of one additional four-year term.

### **Section 6**

The Board shall meet on an as needed basis and shall in general decide upon and approve the expenditure of funds for legal assistance required by any member(s) including the purpose of negotiating collective bargaining agreements with attendant hearings, for any bargaining units where this Lodge is recognized as the exclusive bargaining representative. Board action shall require the approval of the majority of Board members voting with at least seven (07) members necessary to constitute a quorum.

### **Section 7**

Should the George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund Board from time to time need additional governance as to the administering of the legal aid fund, they may make such rules and regulations that are not in conflict with this Article and in the same manner required for approval to expend funds.

## **Section 8**

The George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund Board may not obligate more money than is in the fund at that point in time, and all decisions of the Board shall be final. Appeals of the Board decisions on expenditures may be presented, except that the Board shall have the ultimate authority to decide the appeal.

## **Section 9**

The President with Board concurrence may request, only of appointed General Counsel, assistance to decide merit or lack of merit in any legal fund request. Said assistance request shall be provided to the Board in writing, with a brief statement of rationale.

## **Section 10**

A member who believes he/she is eligible for legal assistance pursuant to this Article shall notify the Legal Aid Fund Board within forty-eight (48) hours after they become aware of an action against them.

## **Section 11**

If legal assistance, from the George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund Board, is authorized pursuant to Section 6, the board will pay all reasonable legal fees and expenses incurred up to the first level of adjudication. For purposes of this Section, the first level of adjudication shall be defined as the final determination relative to the member of the court of original jurisdiction in which the action was brought, or, in the case of disciplinary action by the public employer, the first level at which a hearing is held by a public official(s).

## **Section 12**

In the event a determination is made adverse to the member at the first level of adjudication, the member may request the George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund Board to continue legal assistance through the appellate level(s). The procedure outlined in Section 6 and Section 9 shall be repeated for each appellate level at which legal assistance is requested of the George Murray Lodge #67, by the member. In determining if legal assistance is appropriate for a member at an appellate level, the George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund Board shall consider the underlying facts and circumstances. These factors may include but are not limited to the severity of action taken against the member, the degree of due process afforded to the member, the importance of the issues involved to the Lodge and its members, and the likelihood of success.

## **Section 13**

In the event a court or public adjudicating body orders a public employer or other party to reimburse the member for legal fees and/or expenses incurred in an action and the member has received legal assistance, from the George Murray Lodge #67, pursuant to this Article, the member is obligated to reimburse the George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund to the extent he/she receives any such reimbursement. In the event a member recovers an award of attorney's fees against a public employer or other party, and such member has received legal assistance from the George Murray Lodge #67, pursuant to this Article, the member hereby assigns and subrogates to the George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund Board his right to collect any such amounts.



#### **Section 14**

In the event the George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund Board declines to provide legal assistance at any level and the member is ultimately successful in defending the action, the member may apply to the George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund Board to reconsider its previous determination and authorize an amount of legal assistance as it deems appropriate.

#### **Section 15**

All legal action undertaken by the George Murray Lodge #67 for any member shall be handled through the Lodge General Counsel, authorized Associate/outside Counsel, or the Fraternal Order of Police Legal Defense Plan. Depending on the nature of the legal undertaking, General Counsel with Board concurrence may recommend outside counsel based upon outside counsel's legal expertise and/or to avoid conflicts of interest for the Lodge.

#### **Section 16**

It is expressly agreed and understood that a member has no vested right in any monies of the George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund, and that all expenditures from same be strictly in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

All decisions of the George Murray Lodge #67 Legal Aid Fund Board shall be final and binding on the members.

#### **Section 17**

Legal representation requests for criminal charges or a civil lawsuit brought against a member, arising directly from activities in the scope of the members employment must be submitted to the Fraternal Order of Police Legal Defense Plan, for authorization. Upon authorization, legal services will be covered in full if a plan attorney is utilized.

#### **Section 18**

Legal representation requests for criminal charges or a civil lawsuit brought against a member, arising directly from activities in the scope of the members employment must be submitted to the Fraternal Order of Police Legal Defense Plan, for authorization. Upon authorization, legal services will be monetarily limited, if a non-plan attorney is utilized. Plan restrictions and limitations are established by the Fraternal Order of Police Legal Defense Plan.

### **ARTICLE XXVIII: DEATH BENEFIT FUND**

#### **Section 1**

There shall be within the organization a death benefit Fund in the amount to be determined from time to time by two-thirds of the members present and voting at a regular membership meeting of the Lodge.

## **Section 2**

Money for the death benefit Fund shall be collected from new members as specified in Article XX Section 3.

## **Section 3**

The death benefit amount shall be distributed in the following manner: For every year of membership in the lodge after the first five (5) years, a member will be credited with 10% of the death benefit amount up to a total of (100%). Therefore, a member will be eligible for full death benefit after 15 years of continuous membership, provided their membership continued until death or retirement.

## **Section 4**

A member must be in good standing at the time of death to be eligible for the death benefit or have received a life membership when retired.

## **Section 5**

A member in good standing will be eligible for the maximum death benefit amount should he/she be killed in the line of duty, regardless of membership time. Killed in the line of duty as defined by the federal government when beneficiary receives federal compensation for the death if eligible for death benefit fund.

## **Section 6**

Forms prescribed by the Executive Board and approved by the Legal advisors of the Lodge shall be used for determining the beneficiary of the death benefit fund. These forms shall be distributed to every eligible member of the fund, signed by the member, and returned to the Lodge Secretary. The money shall be paid to the beneficiary as soon as possible after the death of said member.

## **Section 7**

The rules specified in Article XXVIII Section 3 will take effect on January 1, 1989. and affect those members who join the George Murray Lodge #67 after that date. Individuals who were members prior to this date are eligible for full death benefits.

# **ARTICLE XXIX: RETIRING PRESIDENT**

## **Section 1**

Each retiring President of the Lodge, who retires from office for a just and honorable cause or upon the expiration of his term of office, shall be presented with a token of appreciation from the members of the Lodge. This token shall be in the form of a Fraternal Order of Police lapel emblem, ring, or some other suitable emblem. All tokens shall be of uniform size, type, and quality.

## **Section 2**

This token shall be presented at a regular Lodge meeting. No person shall receive more than one token regardless of the number of terms which he may have served as president. Such token shall be purchased by the Board of Trustees.

## **ARTICLE XXX: EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS**

### **Section 1**

Except where otherwise provided, a majority vote of the members present, and voting shall be required to expend funds of the Lodge. A voucher, signed by the President and the Secretary, shall be furnished to the Treasurer before any expenditures shall be made by him. Such vouchers shall become a part of his financial records.

### **Section 2**

The Executive Board shall have authority to authorize the expenditure of the funds for the benefit of this Lodge, when such expenditure is deemed necessary, before the next meeting of the Lodge. Such expenditure shall be made upon approval of a majority of the members of the Executive Board. At the next regular meeting, the President shall submit a written report of such expenditure, together with the names of the Executive Board who approved or disapproved thereof.

### **Section 3**

To make donations from the Lodge floor, the Appropriations Committee must first review the request and recommend or decline the requested donation. If the Committee recommends the donation, the Committee Chairperson will make a motion, from the floor of a regular meeting, to support the request along with a dollar amount to be donated. A majority vote of the members in attendance and voting is then required to pass the motion; otherwise, the matter shall be referred to the Executive Board for its recommendation with a report presented at the next regular meeting. After the report by the Executive Board, the donation may be approved by a three-fourths vote.

## **ARTICLE XXXI: CONDUCT OF BUSINESS**

### **Section 1**

A quorum shall be not less than two (2) elected officers and eight (8) members of the Lodge in good standing.

## **Section 2**

Meeting of this Lodge shall be governed, in all cases not provided for in this Constitution and By-Laws, by Roberts Rules of Order, latest revised edition.

## **Section 3**

Order of Business

1. Opening of the Lodge
  - a. Opening Prayer
  - b. Pledge of allegiance
  - c. Moment of silence for departed Brothers/Sisters
  - d. Honoring of Veterans
2. Roll call of officers
  - a. Recognize guests in attendance
3. Reading of the minutes of the previous regular meeting and any special meetings
4. Balloting on applicants for membership "P" Lodge and "A" Lodge
5. Initiation of candidates
6. Reports of standing committees
7. Reports of Officers and Executive Board
8. Reading of bills and communications
9. Reading of Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws
10. Unfinished business
11. New business
12. Good of the Lodge
13. Nominations of Officers
14. Nominations/Elections/Installation of Officers
15. Adjournment
16. Closing of the Lodge
17. Closing prayer

## **Section 4**

When a question is before the Lodge, no motion shall be in order except:

1. For the previous question
2. To table the motion
3. To postpone indefinitely
4. To postpone to a certain date
5. To divide
6. To send the motion to committee
7. To amend the motion

#### **Section 5**

No motion shall be subject to debate until it shall have been seconded and stated from the chair.

#### **Section 6**

If a motion to reconsider is made, it shall be from a member of the prevailing side in the first instance.

#### **Section 7**

In the debate, each member has the right to speak twice on the same day, on the same question, but cannot make a second speech on the question as long as any member who has not spoken on that question desires the floor.

#### **Section 8**

If a motion has been made and seconded that, if passed will require the expenditure of more than \$500.00 from the Lodge, the vote on the motion shall be tabled until the next regularly scheduled monthly meeting. If a situation arises which cannot wait until our next monthly meeting, the Trustees, by majority vote, may authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$500.00.

#### **Section 9**

The majority vote shall govern in all cases unless otherwise provided by any other section of the Constitution and By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE XXXII: MEETING DATES/TIMES**

#### **Section 1**

The regular meeting of this lodge shall be held on the third Thursday of each month, whenever practicable, and called to order at 8:00pm. In the event of conflict with a holiday, or for other good reason, the meeting date and/or time may be changed by a majority vote of the membership at a regular meeting, or by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

## **Section 2**

The Executive Board will meet on the third Thursday of the month, whenever practicable, at 7:00pm. In the event of conflict with a holiday, or for other good reason, the meeting date and/or time may be changed by the President or Presiding Officer.

## **Section 3**

Special meetings may be called by a majority vote of the Executive Board, or the President or First Vice President of the Lodge, upon written request of seven (7) or more members in good standing, shall call a special meeting within seven (7) days of the vote or submission of the petition. The written request shall specify the business for which the meeting is being called and have the signatures of the seven (7) requesting members attached. Only that business for which the meeting is being called may be discussed. The President or First Vice President shall direct the Lodge Secretary to notify as many members of the lodge as possible of the date, time, and location of the special meeting. This will be done immediately by email, text message, and/or social media to reach out to as many lodge members as possible. This notice shall indicate the business to be conducted, and such notification shall be made at least three (3) days in advance of said meeting.

## **ARTICLE XXXIII: POLITICAL SPEECHES/ENDORSEMENTS**

### **Section 1**

The Lodge will not make political endorsements until all candidates of a particular office have been given the opportunity of addressing the Lodge at a regularly scheduled meeting. Candidates will speak only for the amount of time as set by the President, and the President will strictly enforce that time limit. If the Lodge then decides to make an endorsement, a motion from the floor shall be made.

## **ARTICLE XXXIV: CONSTRUCTION OF CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

Should any dispute arise as to time, intent, or meaning of any section of the Constitution and By-Laws, the question shall be referred to the By-Laws committee. They shall construe the meaning of the section in debate and their decision shall be final, subject to appeal to the State Lodge. The Secretary for future reference shall maintain a copy of the section in debate, and the decision rendered.

## **ARTICLE XXXV: AMENDMENTS**

Any alterations, amendments, or additions to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be presented in writing and read at three (3) consecutive meetings. Final action shall be taken at the third meeting. A vote of two thirds of the members present is necessary for passage of the proposed change.

## **ARTICLE XXXVI: ASSOCIATE LODGE**

### **Section 1**

The Fraternal Order of Police Associate Lodge #24 shall furnish George Murray Lodge #67 with copies of its semi-annual audit of its financial report. These records shall be forwarded to the Secretary of George Murray Lodge #67 and shall become part of his records.

### **Section 2**

The Associate Lodge shall keep a record of auto emblems leased to its members and upon termination of his membership, he shall return said emblem to the Lodge. Upon accepting auto emblems, the member shall agree to this condition.

### **Section 3**

No member shall receive a financial benefit from the sale of lapel pins, rings, decals, etc., from fund raising promotions or from the recruiting of new members.

### **Section 4**

Election of officers and delegates shall be conducted in the same manner as those in Article XI of the Constitution and By-Laws of the George Murray Lodge #67; that is, nominations for officers shall be made at the regular November meeting and election of officers at the regular December meeting of the Lodge. Nominations for the office of delegate/alternate shall be made at the regular March meeting of the Lodge and election of delegates/alternates shall be at the regular April meeting of the Lodge. In each instance, the election shall be by secret ballot or electronic balloting.

### **Section 5**

Failure to comply with the Constitution and By-Laws of George Murray Lodge #67 and or the Constitution and By-Laws of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Inc., where applicable, shall constitute sufficient grounds for dissolution of the Fraternal Order of Police Associate Lodge #24.

### **Section 6**

Each associate lodge shall agree for itself and its successors that in the event its charter is revoked, it shall no longer use in its name the words George Murray Lodge or the Fraternal Order of Police, nor in any way represent to the public or its members, or prospective member, that it is affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Inc., or has the right to use any of such words in its name. Revocation of the charter of an associate lodge shall not relieve such associate lodge from any of its financial obligations to the subordinate lodge which requested its charter or to the State Lodge, which were incurred prior to the date of the revocation of its charter.

### **Section 7**

Any member of George Murray Lodge #67 may institute charges in writing against any officer or member of an associate lodge or the State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police associates for misfeasance, nonfeasance, or malfeasance in office, or for conduct detrimental to the Fraternal Order of Police, or for any violation of the constitution or bylaws of the associate lodge or the State Lodge of the

Fraternal Order of Police Associates. Such charges shall be filed with the Secretary of George Murray Lodge #67. Within ten days after the receipt of such charges by the Secretary of the George Murray Lodge #67, he/she shall cause a copy thereof to be delivered to each member of the Board of Trustees of the George Murray Lodge #67 and to each member of the Board of Trustees of the George Murray Associate Lodge #24 and to the associate member against whom such charges have been filed. Within thirty days after the receipt of such charges by the Secretary of the George Murray Lodge #67, the President of George Murray Lodge #67 shall call a meeting of the Board of Trustees to hear such charges. At least ten days prior to the date of such meeting, the Secretary of George Murray Lodge #67 shall give notice of the time and place of such meeting to each member of the Board of Trustees of George Murray Lodge #67, to each member of the Board of Trustees of George Murray Associate Lodge #24 and to the associate member against whom such charges have been filed. The associate member against whom the charges have been filed may be present in person at such hearing and shall be given the opportunity to present evidence in his defense. The Board of Trustees of George Murray Lodge #67 may, by a majority vote, dismiss the charges, remove the accused from office or membership, or suspend the accused from office or membership for a specific time. The decision of the Board of Trustees of the George Murray Lodge #67 may be appealed to the State Lodge at the next annual meeting of the State Lodge. The State Lodge shall by a majority vote, uphold the Board, reduce the penalty imposed, or dismiss the charges. The decision of the State Lodge shall be final.

## **ARTICLE XXXVII: ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER**

Except as otherwise provided by this Constitution and By-Laws, this Lodge shall conduct business in accordance with the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order.