

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY  
PROFESSIONALS  
Valley Coastal Chapter

Bylaws Adopted November 2017

Approved by the Regional Vice President \_\_\_\_\_ {date}\_\_\_\_\_

Approved by the Area Director \_\_\_\_\_ {date}\_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Chartered: 6/81

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Valley Coastal Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals.

Section 2. Hereinafter, the Valley Coastal Chapter will be referred to as Chapter, and the American Society of Safety Professionals will be referred to as the Society.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of this Chapter will be to promote the advancement of the safety profession and safety professionals in the geographical area served.

Section 2 In fulfilling its purposes, the Chapter shall have the following objectives within the geographical area:

- a) To develop and promote educational programs for obtaining the knowledge required to perform the functions of a safety professional.
- b) To develop and disseminate locally, information and materials that will carry out the purposes of the Chapter, the Society, and serve the public.
- c) To provide and/or support forums for the interchange and acquisition of professional knowledge among its members.
- d) To foster liaison with local organizations of related disciplines.
- e) To inaugurate and implement programs and projects that are consistent with the purposes of the Chapter and the Society.
- f) To conduct Chapter affairs in a manner that will reflect the standards, purposes and objectives of the Society.

ARTICLE III -MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Membership in the Chapter is open to those individuals who are members of the Society in good standing and who are located within the Chapter's geographical area or request membership in it. All members of the Chapter shall be members of the Society.

Section 2. Membership is personal and not transferable.

Section 3. All Chapter members are eligible to vote on all matters submitted to the Chapter membership.

## ARTICLE IV- ORGANIZATION

- Section 1. The Chapter is a not-for-profit organization chartered by the Society for the purpose of carrying out the objectives of the Society in its geographical area. It shall operate in accordance with Society Bylaws.
- Section 2. In order to maintain its Charter, the Chapter shall have a minimum of 40 active members.
- Section 3. The Chapter is located in Area 3, Region I, and the Chapter's geographical area is defined as follows:
- All zip codes in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties, Vandenberg AFB, and the following zip codes in Los Angeles county: 90290, 91301-7, 91310-11, 91316, 91320-1, 91324-30, 91335, 91340-2, 91344-87, 91351-2, 91355-6, 91360-1, 91364-9, 91370-1, 91401-9, 91410, 91435-6, 91437-87, 91488, 91539, 91540-90, 91437-87, 91591-91641, 91642-93, 91694 and 93563.
- Section 4. An Executive Committee shall be responsible for the operation and management of the Chapter. It shall be responsible for the supervision and care of all property, have full authority to commit the Chapter to action in consonance with resolutions adopted at meetings of the Chapter, and may cooperate with other organizations on such basis that will not impair the ability of the Chapter to pursue its purposes independently.
- Section 5. A majority of the Executive Committee present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 6. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Elected Officers, and the Immediate Past President of the Chapter, the Chairs of committees and one Member- At-Large appointed by the President.
- Section 7. Each major objective as listed in Article II, Section 2 of these Bylaws shall be under the supervision of either a Chapter officer or an appointed Committee Chairperson.
- Section 8. The Chapter President is the voting representative for the Chapter at the Area Operating Committee or Regional Operating Committee meetings. A Professional Member or Member who is an elected officer of the Chapter may serve instead of the President if so designated in writing to the Area Director or Regional Vice President.
- Section 9. Chapter officers and Delegate(s) to the Society House of Delegates shall be elected by members of the Chapter.
- Section 10. The Chapter activity year shall be from July 1 to June 30.

## ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

- Section 1. Elected officers of the Chapter shall be:
- a) President
  - b) President-Elect
  - c) Vice President
  - d) Secretary
  - e) Treasurer
  - f) Delegate(s) to the Society House of Delegates

NOTE: One Delegate for each 250 members or portion thereof as defined in Society Bylaws and based on the official December 31 member count by Society Headquarters.

Section 2 Committee Chairpersons shall be appointed by the President. Committees may include

- a) Arrangements
- b) Attendance
- c) Awards
- d) Governmental Affairs
- e) Membership
- f) Newsletter
- g) Nominations
- h) Placement
- i) Publicity

Section 3 Past President, Committee Chairpersons and the Member-At-Large shall be Chapter members and have full voting privileges on all matters brought before the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Each elected Chapter officer shall be a Society member and Chapter member for one year prior to taking office; exceptions must be approved by the Regional Vice President. However, only a Professional Member or Member may hold the offices of President, President-Elect, Vice President, Delegate to the House of Delegates, or ROC representative.

Section 5. The President shall:

- and
- a) Preside at regular and special meetings of the Chapter Executive Committee and the membership.
  - b) Represent the Chapter at meetings of other organizations where official representation of the Chapter is desirable.
  - c) Be a member of the Regional Operating Committee representing the Chapter.
  - d) Provide leadership for programs and activities for the Chapter during the term of office.
  - e) Appoint such committees and committee chairpersons as are necessary to implement the objectives of the Chapter.
  - f) Submit an Annual Report of Chapter Activities to the Regional Vice President and Society Headquarters by August 1 of each year.
  - g) Submit the names of Chapter officers and Delegate(s) elected for the ensuing year annually by May 31st to the Regional Vice President and Society Secretary
  - h) Chair the Long Range Planning Committee for the Society year following the year as President.

Section 6. The President-Elect shall:

- a) Succeed to the office of the President and carry out its duties if the President is unable to serve.

- b) Assume responsibilities for the work of Committees as assigned by the President
- c) Assume the duties of Program Chair for the Society year.
- d) With membership approval, advance to the position of Chapter President the subsequent Society year.
- e) Represent the chapter at Regional Operating Committee meetings as the President's proxy when the President is unable to attend.

Section 7. The Vice President shall:

- a) Preside over Executive Committee and membership meetings in the absence of the President and the President-Elect.
- b) Represent the chapter at Regional Operating Committee meetings as the President's proxy when the President and President-Elect are unable to attend.
- c) Act as Recorder at Executive Committee meetings in the absence of the Secretary.
- d) With membership approval, advance to the position of President-Elect the subsequent Society year.
- e) As directed by the President, chair committees for revenue-generating events to include, but not be limited to, annual vendor's day and Chapter sponsored professional development conferences.

Section 8 The Secretary shall:

- a) Maintain Chapter records and correspondence.
- b) Notify Executive Committee members of meeting and record and distribute minutes of Chapter Executive Committee meetings within one week of the meeting.
- c) Assume the duties of the Treasurer as necessary.
- d) Distribute Chapter rosters to elected Executive Committee members and the membership Chair as received from the Society.
- e) Notify Chapter members about meetings.
- f) Retain Custody of the Chapter Charter.

Section 9. The Treasurer shall:

- a) Maintain all financial records of the Chapter.
- b) Supervise the receipt and disbursement of funds as directed by the Chapter Executive Committee.
- c) Maintain Chapter funds in a depository approved by the Chapter Executive

Committee.

- d) By May 31, transmit to Society Headquarters and the Regional Vice President the audited income & expense statement for the fiscal year ending March 31, and submit to the IRS any required tax documents.
- e) Notify the Society no later than March 1 of any changes in Chapter dues for the coming Society year.

Section 10. The Delegate(s) to the Society House of Delegates shall:

- a) Operate in accordance with House of Delegates Operating Procedures and Society Bylaws.
- b) Keep the Chapter informed of House of Delegates actions and proposed

actions.

- c) Act on House of Delegates mail ballots on behalf of the Chapter.

Section 11. The Membership Chair shall:

- a) Notify new members of Chapter affiliation and arrange for and present membership certificates at membership meetings.
- b) Maintain the Chapter membership roster.
- c) Perform such other membership related functions as may be delegated.
- d) Inform newsletter editor of roster changes on a timely basis.

Section 12. The Chapter Member-At-Large shall:

- a) Be appointed by the President, with the approval of the Executive

Committee.

- b) Perform such special assignments as directed by the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE VI- NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1 The most recent immediate Past President available to serve shall be the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee. The Committee, including the Chairperson, will consist of no less than three (3) nor more than (5) members. One member shall be selected by the current Chapter President and the balance by the Committee Chairperson. The current Chapter President shall not be a member of the Nominating Committee

Members of the Committee who are chosen to run for an office shall resign from the Committee and be replaced with non-candidate members appointed by the same officer who initially appointed the resigning member. This exclusion does not apply to the President-Elect who is unopposed and may be a member of the Committee. The slate of officer candidates must be approved by the full final sitting Committee.

Selection of the Committee Members shall be completed no later than the first Executive Committee meeting of each (calendar) year. The names of the Committee Members shall be publicized prior to the January meeting.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall select qualified candidates for all elective offices. Candidates' names and qualifications shall be published and distributed to the Chapter membership at least 60 days in advance of the election.

Section 3. Any 15 Chapter Professional Members or Members may submit a signed petition nominating one or more individual for elective office. The petition shall be accompanied by a written acceptance by the nominee(s) and shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee 30 days in advance of the election. The names and qualifications of such nominees shall be published and distributed to the membership at least 15 days prior to the election.

Section 4. The term of elected Chapter officers shall be for one year beginning July 1

Section 5. Election of officers for the ensuing year shall be held at the May meeting. If there is more than one candidate for any office, election shall be by written ballot. If there is only one candidate for an office, election may be by voice vote.

Section 6. Removal of elected Chapter officers shall be by vote of Chapter members at any regular or special meeting upon presentation of a signed petition from either the Chapter Executive Committee, or 15 voting members of the Chapter. Notification of such meeting shall be mailed to each member at least 30 days in advance of the date of the meeting. Committee Chairpersons appointed by elected officers or the Chapter Executive Committee may be removed by the officer on the Executive Committee who appointed them.

Section 7. Vacancies in elected Chapter offices shall be filled by the succession designated in the various officer descriptions. If no succession is designated, or the designated successor declines to accept the position, the position shall be filled in the way specified below, according to the position and timing of the vacancy.

or  
a) Should a vacancy occur in any elected office, including Secretary, Treasurer, any others, except President or President-Elect, the President shall appoint, with the approval of the Chapter Executive Committee, an eligible member (see Article V, Section 3) to fill the unexpired term of office, giving special consideration to current committee Chairpersons and experienced Chapter leaders who have recently completed their terms of office.

b) Should a vacancy occur early in the term, in the office of:

1) President, the President-Elect shall succeed to the Presidency.

2) President-Elect, the President shall:

(a) Appoint a special Nominating Committee.

(b) Publish notification of the election and the slated nominees for office at least 15 days in advance of the Chapter meeting at which the election is to be held.

(c) Receive at the Chapter meeting any additional nominating petitions as may be rendered, and signed by the number of Professional Members and Members specified in Article VI, Section 3.

(d) Conduct a voice vote at the Chapter meeting if there is only one nominee, and a written ballot if there is more than one nominee for office.

(e) The successful candidate shall assume office immediately on election.

c) Should a vacancy occur at mid-term or later, in the office of:

- 1) President, the President-Elect shall serve the unexpired term of the President in addition to the term for which he was originally elected.
- 2) President-Elect, if it is not an operational hardship for the Chapter, the position may remain vacant until the next election is conducted. If it is operationally necessary for the Chapter to have a President-Elect, then the position should be filled as noted in this Article and Section, paragraph b) 2).

Section 8 Vacancies in appointed offices shall be filled for their unexpired term by appointees of the President then in office, with the approval of the Chapter Executive Committee

Section 9 Inability to serve: If after the election, but prior to taking office, an officer is unable to serve for any reason, the vacancy shall be filled in the manner set forth in this Article.

\*NOTE: This would also apply if the person succeeding to the Presidency did not wish to complete both the remainder of the current term and the term for which he was originally elected.

#### ARTICLE VII - SECTIONS

Section 1. Sections may be formed by Chapters to serve 10 or more dues-paying (or emeritus) Chapter members whose geographical location, within the Chapter area, constitutes an inconvenience to participate in Chapter affairs, and whose number is insufficient to permit formation of a new Chapter

Section 2. The group must petition the Chapter Executive Committee to form a Section of the Chapter, subject to the approval of the Regional Operating Committee.

- a) The petition should outline:
  1. Name of the Section.
  2. Territory the Section will encompass.
  3. Number of members currently in the territory.
  4. Plans for meetings to be held and the nature of the program.
  5. Justification for the creation of the Section.
  6. Any dues arrangements between the Chapter and the Section.
  7. Submit a copy of Section Bylaws
- b) The Section shall operate in accordance with Society and Chapter Bylaws.
- c) Sections upon approval by the Regional Operating Committee) shall elect a Chairperson and a Secretary/Treasurer and must abide by the Bylaws of the Chapter. The Chairperson shall be a Professional Member or Member. The Chairperson of an authorized Section shall be invited to attend all meetings of the Chapter Executive Committee, and shall attend at least two, as a non-voting participant.
- d) By April 30th of each Chapter year, the Section Chairperson shall submit a summary report of Section activities and a financial report to the Chapter President and the Regional Vice President.
- e) The Section Secretary/Treasurer shall keep records of meetings, sending copies to the Chapter Secretary; notify members of meetings; maintain such financial records as are necessary and keep the Chapter Officers informed of the Section's financial status. The Chapter shall remit at least 30% of Chapter dues of Section members to the Section for its use.
- f) The Chairperson of the Section shall appoint a Nominating Committee annually

to select nominees for the offices of Chairperson and Secretary/Treasurer for the year beginning July 1. Both officers' terms shall be for one year beginning July 1. Election of these officers shall be held at a Section meeting prior to July 1.

- g) If the Section ceases to function as a viable organization, the Chapter Executive Committee, after investigation, may recommend its dissolution to the Regional Operating Committee, and any funds in the Section Treasury shall be remitted to the Chapter for Chapter use.
- h) Student Members attending an educational institution may join together to form a Student Section of the Chapter within whose boundary the institution lies.

#### ARTICLE VIII - DUES

- Section 1. Each member, except Students, Emeritus and Honorary Members, shall be assessed annual Chapter dues as determined by Chapter members, in addition to Society dues.
- Section 2. All Society and Chapter dues shall be paid annually in advance by the anniversary of each member's election date.
- Section 3. Chapter dues shall be determined by vote of the Chapter membership at any regular or special meeting where a quorum is present. All Chapter members shall be notified at least 30 days in advance regarding dues proposals.
- Section 4 Society Individuals applying for Society membership shall submit an amount equal to the application fee with the application. Application fees are not refundable.

#### ARTICLE IX -MEETINGS

- Section 1. Meetings that define or discuss methods, procedures, systems, devices and/or standards toward the reduction, control or elimination of hazardous exposures to people, property or the environment, and which foster the technical, scientific, and managerial knowledge and skills of attendees, shall be held at least four times during the year for the interchange and acquisition of professional knowledge among members.
- Section 2 Special meetings of members may be called by the Chapter Executive Committee. The notice calling such a meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting; such notice to be sent to each member at least two weeks in advance.
- Section 3. 10 active members in good standing shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special meeting.
- Section 4 The latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the transaction of business at all meetings of the Chapter unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE X- MISCELLANEOUS

- Section 1. The Chapter may be dissolved by Chapter members in the following manner:
  - a) A resolution to dissolve the Chapter shall be acted upon at a meeting of the Chapter Executive Committee. The resolution shall set forth the reasons for dissolution.
  - b) Within 30 days following the Chapter Executive Committee action, a mail ballot shall be sent to all Chapter members setting forth the reasons for the dissolution. Thirty (30) days after the ballots are mailed, they shall be counted by the Chapter Executive Committee. A two-thirds (2/3) vote is required for approval of



the action.

- c) Upon the adoption of the resolution to dissolve, the officers shall carry out the dissolution of the Chapter in conformance with applicable laws and Society Bylaws.

Section 2. If a Chapter Executive Committee no longer exists or conditions preempt the implementation of the preceding Section, a Chapter member may make a recommendation for dissolving a Chapter to the Regional Vice President for their review. Upon the approval of the Regional Operating Committee, the recommendation will be forwarded to the Society Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Chapter may be dissolved by the Society Board of Directors after failure of the Chapter to conform to minimum Society requirements for activities or upon performance of actions contrary or detrimental to the Society and after a reasonable probation period.

Upon notice, the officers shall carry out the dissolution of the Chapter

Section 4. The official Society symbol may be used by the Chapter on correspondence, publications and other official documents, in accordance with the provisions for use and reproduction in the Society Bylaws

Section 5. Any fund-raising projects or activities shall be limited to those activities which are consistent with the purpose of the Society and the Chapter.

Section 6. Chapter officers shall assure retention of needed Chapter and membership records by adhering to the following record retention periods. Officers having charge of these records are authorized to dispose of the records at the end of the required retention period.

- a) Minutes of meetings- Five years following the completion of Chapter year.
- b) Correspondence- two years following completion of the Chapter year.
- c) Financial Records - seven years following completion of the Chapter year.

#### ARTICLE XI -AMENDMENTS

Section 1.

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Section 1. Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by the Chapter Executive Committee or by 15 Chapter Professional Members and/or Members. Amendments proposed by the latter shall be presented to the Chapter Executive Committee.

Section 2. The Chapter Executive Committee shall publish any proposed amendments to the membership at least 30 days in advance of the meeting at which action will be taken.

Section 3. Amendments shall be voted on at a regular or special Chapter meeting at which action will be taken if a quorum is present. A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote is required for approval.

Section 4. All amendments to these Bylaws will become effective after approval by the Regional Vice President.