

Bylaws of the  
Council of Organizations in Police Psychology, Inc.

*January 1, 2018*

Article I  
Name

The name of the organization is Council of Organizations in Police Psychology, Inc. It shall be known also by its tradename, Specialty Council of Police & Public Safety Psychology (hereinafter referred to as the “Specialty Council”).<sup>1</sup>

Article II  
Purpose

The purpose of the Specialty Council shall be to promote, serve and protect the interests of Police & Public Safety Psychology as a specialty in professional psychology by:

Ensuring the development and maintenance of education and training guidelines for the specialty of Police & Public Safety Psychology that conform to the education and training guidelines of the American Psychological Association;<sup>2</sup>

1. Reviewing and periodically updating the “core domains and proficiencies”<sup>3</sup> of the specialty of Police & Public Safety Psychology, as necessary, to reflect the contemporary state of the specialty;
2. Representing the specialty of Police & Public Safety Psychology to the American Psychological Association Commission on Accreditation (CoA), Council of Specialties in Professional Psychology (CoS), and the American Psychological Association Commission on Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology (CRSPPP);
3. Petitioning the American Psychological Association (APA), consistent with procedures and timelines established by CRSPPP, for periodic renewal of APA recognition of Police & Public Safety Psychology as a specialty in professional psychology; and
4. Engaging in other activities or initiatives for the betterment of the specialty of Police & Public Safety Psychology and in the service of its role as a CoS member *synarchy*.

Article III  
Membership

1. The membership of the Specialty Council shall consist of one representative from each co-sponsoring specialty organization.

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<sup>1</sup> The Council was established as a non-profit corporation in the state of Oregon on December 9, 2008 and was dissolved on January 31, 2012. It was reestablished on January 1, 2018 as a non-profit corporation and relocated to Hendersonville, Tennessee.

<sup>2</sup> American Psychological Association. (2012). *Education and training guidelines: A taxonomy for education and training in professional psychology health service specialties*. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/ed/graduate/specialize/taxonomy.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Aumiller, G. S., Corey, D. M., Allen, S., Brewster, J., Cuttler, M., Gupton, H., & Honig, A. (2007). Defining the field of police psychology: Core domains & proficiencies. *Journal of Police & Criminal Psychology*, 22, 65-66. DOI 10.1007/s11896-007-9013-4.

2. The initial co-sponsoring specialty organizations eligible for representation on the Specialty Council are the:
  - a. Society for Police & Criminal Psychology;
  - b. International Association of Chiefs of Police, Police Psychological Services Section;
  - c. American Psychological Association, Division 18, Police & Public Safety Section;
  - d. American Board of Police & Public Safety Psychology; and
  - e. Academy of Police & Public Safety Psychology.
3. Organizations seeking membership and representation on the Specialty Council must be approved by unanimous vote of existing members. Initially eligible organizations listed in Paragraph 2 above are exempted from this requirement except as stipulated by Article X.
4. Members-at-large may be elected as non-voting representatives to the Specialty Council, as necessary, by unanimous vote of existing members.
5. Each representative shall be appointed for a term of four years and may serve consecutive terms.
6. Terms of representatives to the Specialty Council and officers thereof shall begin on January 1.
7. Representatives to the Specialty Council commit themselves to active participation and regular attendance at meetings. Appointment of a new representative may be required by the Specialty Council in the case of insufficient participation by a representative. Such requirement shall be acted upon by the member organization within 30 days of written notice being given (by email or postal service) to the executive officer of the member organization.
8. The officers of the Specialty Council shall consist of a Chair and Secretary/Treasurer, each serving contiguous two-year terms. Officers may be reelected for consecutive terms. The Secretary/Treasurer shall serve as Chair in his/her absence and shall perform tasks requested by the Chair. The Secretary/Treasurer shall take and distribute minutes of meetings within eight weeks of adjournment and shall assist with furthering communications. One person may not simultaneously hold the offices of both the Chair and the Secretary/Treasurer.
9. The Specialty Council may invite non-voting liaisons from non-member organizations and/or subject matter experts to attend meetings or to participate in its various activities and initiatives in order to optimally promote, serve and protect the interests of the specialty.

#### Article IV

##### Dues

1. Member organizations agree to pay annual membership dues to the Specialty Council to cover its expenses, including but not limited to the costs associated with representation on the CoS.
2. Initial membership dues shall be set at \$400.00 annually and may be modified by majority vote of the Specialty Council.
3. Dues are due and payable on January 15 of each year and within 30 days of notice of any supplemental dues approved by majority vote of the Specialty Council.

#### Article V

##### Meetings

1. Meetings shall be held at least once annually and may be held telephonically or online.
2. Meetings may be attended by liaisons and observers by invitation or with approval of the majority of the Specialty Council.
3. The Specialty Council may conduct business outside of the regularly scheduled meetings. Votes may be conducted by telephone, mail, e-mail or fax.

## Article VI

## Representative to the Council of Specialties in Professional Psychology

Members of the Specialty Council shall elect one of its members to represent the Specialty Council to the Council of Specialties in Professional Psychology (CoS). The term of the CoS Representative shall be three years, effective January 1 in the year of appointment, and may be extended by one additional three-year term. Only full terms are considered in the calculation of the maximum length of representation.

## Article VII

## Member Disaffiliation

Members of the Specialty Council may be disaffiliated from the Specialty Council only by unanimous approval by representatives of all other existing members and only under the following circumstances:

1. One or more policies and/or actions of a member organization have been determined by the Specialty Council to be substantially detrimental to the collective interests of the specialty and repeated efforts by the Specialty Council to address these issues with the member organization have been unsuccessful; or
2. The member organization has failed to pay its dues and repeated efforts to negotiate a resolution acceptable to both the Specialty Council and the member organization have been unsuccessful.

## Article VIII

## Rules of Order

The Specialty Council shall conduct its meetings in accordance with the latest edition of Keesey's *Modern Parliamentary Procedure*.

## Article IX

## Amendments

Amendments to these Bylaws may be made by a majority vote of the members of the Specialty Council.