

**SC State Firefighters' Association
Past President's Section**

SOP and By Laws

Mission

The Past President's Section of the South Carolina State Firefighters' Association (SCSFA) is organized this 12th day of December, 2023 to enhance the communication and bolster the fellowship and continued fidelity of the long serving and sacrificing Presidents of the Association.

By-Laws

This section pledges to adhere to all policies and procedures as set forth by the SCSFA Constitution and By-Laws of which each member has pledged an oath of office. No efforts organized or codified will supersede the language or intent of the SCSFA originating documents.

Amendments to the Bylaws

The section shall have the power to alter, amend or revise these bylaws, provided:

- A. The amendment has been presented in writing by the officers of the Section or by a member of the Section and filed with the Secretary at least one hundred and twenty (120) days prior to the annual Section meeting.
- B. The amendment has been sent to the Chair of the Association Bylaws Committee at least ninety (90) days prior to the annual Section meeting.
- C. The Secretary, or his/her designee, shall arrange to prepare and send a mail ballot or electronic ballot notification to all members eligible to vote.
- D. The ballot shall be sent at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual Section meeting.
- E. The ballots shall be returned, as directed, at least fifteen (15) days prior to the annual Section meeting to be tabulated by the Chair of the election committee, or his/her designee, and certified by all members of the election committee at the annual Section meeting.
- F. After the votes have been tabulated, the preliminary results of the vote shall be emailed to Section members and then presented at the annual Section meeting.
- G. Two-thirds (2/3) majority of the eligible voting members who submit ballots within the designated time period shall be necessary for the adoption of any such alteration, amendment, or revision.

- H. All changes will become effective upon adoption, unless otherwise provided.
- I. If any inconsistency is found between these bylaws and the constitution and bylaws or policies of the Association, the latter shall apply. If such inconsistency is in question, the matter shall be referred to the Bylaws Committee of the Association and if necessary, to the Association Executive Committee for a final resolution.

Dues

Initially there shall be no dues required to be a member of this Section. If necessary dues will be established by the elected members of the Past Presidents Section and presented to the Section members for approval. Dues for Section membership shall be payable in conjunction with the member's Association dues. Past Presidents who have retired from the fire service, will have their dues waived.

Section Membership

Any person who has taken the Presidential oath of office of the SCSFA, or SC State Firemen's Association, as previously known; is eligible for membership in this section.

Section Officers

The Section presiding officer shall be the Immediate Past President of the SCSFA. The Section shall elect a Secretary to document as needed any actions. In the event that the presiding officer is not present or available for the called meetings of the section, the next most recent past president shall chair the meeting(s).

Meetings

The Section will meet in person at least two times per year.

An annual meeting will occur in the 1st quarter of the year in Columbia SC. This meeting will be considered the section organizational business meeting. At this meeting, elections, if necessary, will occur and any organizational issues will be addressed.

An annual meeting will occur at the SCSFA Fire-Rescue conference in June of each year. This meeting will be oriented toward fellowship and comradery of the Section Members and their spouses.

Additional meetings may be called at the discretion of the presiding officer with a two weeks' notice offered to the Section membership.

Additional meetings may be held electronically.

Business Sessions' Objectives

Each meeting, described above, should have the following objectives:

- 1) Share information of the ongoing and current activities of the SCSFA
- 2) Share information on the status and well-being of Section members
- 3) Plan and strategize the methodology of support for the SCSFA and Executive Committee mission and objectives
- 4) Grow and enhance the focus and involvement of the section members
- 5) Honor section members with collaboration with the History and Culture branch of the SCSFA by documenting and elaborating on section member accomplishments and events.

Contacts

The section members will obtain and secure accurate contact information on all members to facilitate communication. This contact information will be provided through the presiding officer to SCSFA staff.