

CONSTITUTION and ARTICLES of GOVERNMENT of
THE GREATER ST. LOUIS CLAIMS ASSOCIATION

*~~Revised April 2007~~ Presented for revision 3-3-10

ARTICLE ONE: NAME

Section One: The name of this association shall be The Greater St. Louis Claims Association.

ARTICLE TWO: OBJECTIVES

Section One: To promote harmony and cordial business relations among the members; to exchange information concerning matters of professional interest; to discuss common problems and to develop high standards of ethics; to promote the general welfare of the members, of the companies represented, and of the general society and citizenry.

Section Two: To ensure, through cooperation of its members, such performance that shall result in prompt and just settlement of meritorious claims.

Section Three: To promote plans for cooperation in vigorously resisting collusion, deception, and false or fraudulent claims and promptly to discourage and expose dishonest, unscrupulous and unethical practices, whether indulged in by professional or by lay personnel.

Section Four: To agree that everything discussed at meetings of the association or the various committees shall be held in strict confidence, unless when otherwise agreed. Further: to agree that the knowledge gained through membership in the association shall not be used against the just interests of any individual member nor any company having a duly accredited representative in the association.

ARTICLE THREE: MEMBERSHIP, DUES AND FEES

Section One: Any individual shall be eligible for membership who's duties / work ~~is at least 50% involving~~ **involves** the representation of the claims process, this can include insurance claims personnel, independent insurance adjusters or representatives, self insurers, public utilities, municipal corporations, insurance defense law firm employees, independent expert consultants, construction contractors, cleaning and restoration persons, auto body employees

and any other such persons as deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee of the association

Membership shall be contingent upon such qualification, upon the submission of a membership application as devised by the Executive Committee, upon approval of such application by a majority of the Executive Committee, and upon payment of annual dues as specified by the Executive Committee.

Section Two: No person shall attend any meeting of the Association without paying the prescribed meeting fee, with the exception of the speaker, bona fide representatives of the media, and any other persons whose attendance without payment of such fee shall be approved by the unanimous vote of the Executive Committee or by a majority vote of the general membership.

Section Three: Honorary Memberships, awards, and other like recognitions of merit shall be presented only upon the basis of a majority vote of the Executive Committee or of the general membership, but in no circumstance shall such recognitions or designations serve to waive the payment of fees charged for regular meetings of the Association.

Section Four: Any member may be expelled from membership for just and due cause as determined by a two-thirds majority of the active members present and voting at a regular meeting following the preceding regular meeting where it has been announced by the president officer that it was the intention to take such a vote.

Section Five: Each member of the Association shall pay annual dues in advance, and ~~by October first~~, and the amount of such dues shall be determined by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section Six: Any member whose dues are not paid by January first of the applicable calendar year shall then be dropped from membership.

Section Seven: Past presidents shall have lifetime memberships with all Annual Dues waived. (Revised April 3, 1991)

ARTICLE FOUR: OFFICERS

Section One: *The order of the officers of the Association shall be President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary.

Section Two: The officers and the five additional members-at-large of the Executive Committee shall be elected by a majority of the votes of those present at the Annual meeting of the Association, each to be voted on separately.

Section Three: Each officer and member-at-large of the Executive Committee shall take office on the first of July, following the election and shall continue in office for a period of one year or until his successor is elected and duly qualified. Each officer shall be eligible for re-election, but not to exceed two consecutive terms in the same office.

Section Four: No more than four members of the Executive Committee shall be representative of the same company, firm, or business proprietorship. (Revised April 6, 1983)

Section Five: Should the position of any officer become vacant at a time more than one month prior to the next scheduled election, the position shall be filled by ascension of the person holding the next lowest office. The order of the offices shall be: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Should any of the other five executive board positions become vacant, it will not be filled until the next regular election. The remainder of the executive board members will constitute the entire board and shall continue to act with full authority regardless of their number. (Amended September 1, 1976)

Section Six: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association. She/He may call special meetings of the Association whenever such meetings seem to be necessary or advisable, with the approval of the Executive Committee. In the absence of the President, the next senior officer shall perform the duties of the President.

Section Seven: The officers shall be responsible for notifying the membership of the time and place of all meetings, for the recording of the happenings of all meetings, for handling correspondence for and on behalf of the Association, for collecting and disbursing all monies, for keeping an active registry of the membership, and for performing all other duties ordinarily incident to such offices.

ARTICLE FIVE: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section One: *There shall be an Executive Committee of the Association consisting of the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, immediate past president and five members-at-large of the Association. The President of the

Association shall preside at all meetings, which shall be held monthly.

Section Two: The Executive Committee shall have general control of, and responsibility for, the affairs of the Association. All matters requiring deliberation and investigation shall be referred to the Executive Committee for its consideration and determination. The Executive Committee shall have power to act in all such matters unless a majority of the members shall otherwise determine.

~~Of the five general membership Executive Committee positions, a maximum of four may be filled by any eligible member. One of the five positions must be filled by someone from direct claims handling position not a Vendor position.~~

~~An Executive Committee Member who is elected as a Vendor will not be eligible to hold an Executive Board position.~~

~~Vendor status is defined as but not limited to; Marketing Representative, cleaning and/or Restoration Company Employees, Construction Company Employees, Rental Car Company Employees, Auto Body Company Employees, Temporary Housing Company Employees and other such persons as designated by the Executive Committee.~~

ARTICLE SIX: MEETINGS

Section One: Regular meetings of the Association shall be held on the first Wednesday of each month except when otherwise determined, for good cause, by the Executive Committee. ~~There shall usually be no regular meetings in July and August.~~

Section Two: The annual meeting of the Association, at which elections will be held, shall be the regular meeting scheduled for the month of April. (Revised November 7, 1984)

Section Three: Special meetings of the Association may be held subject to the call of the President, but these must be approved by a majority of the Executive Committee.

Section Four: A quorum shall consist of a majority of those members present at any regularly called meeting.

Section Five: The Executive Committee shall meet whenever it is deemed advisable by the President or by the Committee, and a majority of the Executive Committee shall comprise a quorum at any one of its

meetings. But such meetings should occur at least once each month.

ARTICLE SEVEN: COMMITTEES

Section One: It shall be the duty of the President to appoint as standing committees: a Membership Committee; a Program Committee; a Publicity and Public Relations Committee; an Unethical Practices Committee; and such other committees that may be decided upon by himself, by the Executive Committee, or by the general membership.

ARTICLE EIGHT: PROCEDURE AT MEETINGS

Section One: The order of business shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section Two: The conduct of all meetings of the Association shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order or by other procedures as determined by a majority of the membership, but only when not in conflict with this Constitution and Articles of Government. Such conduct and procedures shall be enforced by a Sergeant-at-Arms appointed by the President.

ARTICLE NINE: AMENDMENTS

Section One: Proposed amendments to this Constitution and Articles of Government must be submitted in writing to the President and to the Secretary. Any such proposals shall be given due consideration ~~at the next meeting of~~ by the Executive Committee. If it is deemed advisable that such amendments be adopted, the membership shall be advised ~~in writing by~~ **posting on the website**; such amendments shall be read by the Secretary at the next ~~two~~ regular meetings of the Association. After ~~the second that~~ reading, and at the same meeting, they shall be voted upon. If the majority of votes are favorable, they shall be adopted and made effective immediately.

ARTICLE TEN: DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION

Section One: This Constitution and Articles of Government shall take effect of September 1st, 1976.