

# Constitution of the Fraternal Order of Police Wyandotte County Lodge Number 40

## Article I Name

**This organization shall be known as; the Wyandotte County Lodge Number 40 of the Fraternal Order of Police. The local right to authorize, control, and restrict the use of the name and insignia of the order, shall lie exclusively with the Board of Directors.**

**Wherever, in this Constitution and By-Laws, "man; or "men" or related pronouns appear, either as words cr as parts of words (other than with obvious reference to named male individuals), they have been used for literary purposes and are meant in their generic sense (i.e., to include all humankindboth male and female).**

## Article 1 I Character

### Section 1.

**The Fraternal Order of Police is an organization consisting of Sheriffs Deputies, meaning full-time, paid and commissioned law enforcement officers, in the County of Wyandotte, State of Kansas.**

### Section 2. .

**The Fraternal Order of Police is strictly nonsectarian, and shall have no affiliation, directly or indirectly, with any labor union, congress, federation or committee of like nature, or political action committee or similar organization, by whatever name known. The Fraternal Order of Police shall not strike, or by concerted action cause a cessation of the performance of the Sheriffs Deputies' duties or induce members or other lodges to do likewise. The penalty for such action by any member shall be immediate expulsion from the Fraternal Order of Police.**

### Section 3.

**This Constitution shall be the fundamental law of the order, and together with the By-Laws enacted in conformance therewith, and the rituals adopted at the National conferences, shall govern the conduct of this lodge.**

## Article III Membership

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**Section !.**

**The membership of this lodge shall consist of Active, Honorary, and Associate members. All permanent Sheriffs Deputies employed by the County of Wyandotte, will be eligible for active membership. Effective January 1, 1989, applicants must have six months active service with this particular law enforcement unit, to be eligible to make application. Race, creed, religion or gender shall not be a bar to membership.**

**Section 2.**

**There shall be three classes of membership: Active, Honorary, and Associate.**

**Active Membership shall be comprised of regularly appointed Sheriffs Deputies of the County of Wyandotte.**

**Honorary Membership shall be comprised of meritoriously retired, regularly appointed Sheriffs Deputies, who have withdrawn from active membership after retirement.**

**Associate Lodge Membership shall consist of such worthy persons who may not be eligible as active members of the lodge, but who desire to be associated with the lodge, to assist in forwarding the aims of the organization of the Fraternal Order of Police. Any Associated Member who becomes a full-time Sheriffs Deputy will immediately be accepted into Active membership, and the six month waiting period will be waived.**

**Section 3.**

**Any member who may resign from active duty, may retain his membership as long as he remains in good standing.**

**Section 4.**

**Active members who are dismissed from the Sheriffs service on charges which are subsequently sustained in legal proceedings, or who do not contest the decision of the dismissing authority, automatically forfeit their membership in the order, and shall no longer participate in any rights or benefits of the lodge.**

**Article IV  
Application for  
Membership**

**Section 1.**

**All applications for active membership shall be submitted to the Treasurer in writing. If the applicant is acceptable, his application shall be read at one regular meeting and shall be balloted upon for membership at the next regular meeting.**

**A majority vote by members present for or against the applicant, shall constitute acceptance or rejection.**

**Any applicant for membership who has been duly voted upon by the lodge and rejected, shall have his initiation fee and first month's dues refunded to him at the earliest possible date, and said applicant shall not then be eligible to re-apply for membership to this lodge until six months have elapsed.**

**Section 2.**

**Any person who is a member of this lodge, shall conduct himself at all times, on and off duty, in a manner that will not bring discredit upon this lodge or the Wyandotte County Sheriffs Department.**

**Section 3.**

**Any business having to do with this lodge will not be discussed openly outside regular meetings, and never in or about the presence of any other person not being a member.**

**Section 4.**

**All members of this lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police shall abide by these rules. Any member found to be guilty of violation(s) of section two and/or three shall be subject to expulsion from the lodge.**

**Article V Dues  
and  
Assessments**

**Section I.**

**The lodge shall be empowered to levy an initiation fee, and a monthly dues assessment**

**Section 2.**

**The dues of this lodge shall be payable in advance to the Secretary or Treasurer of this lodge.**

**Dues may be, and it is suggested they be paid through payroll deduction.**

**Any member delinquent in payment of dues for a period exceeding 30 days shall forfeit all rights, privileges and benefits accorded to members in good standing of the lodge, and after 60 days delinquent, shall be dropped without notice. .**



**Section 3.**

**Any member delinquent or suspended for non-payment of dues may be reinstated and restored to good standing, by the payment of all amounts due, and in addition thereto, the payment of dues for the whole of the current year in which such reinstatement is made.**

**Article VI Meetings**

**Section 1.**

This lodge shall hold one regular meeting per month: day, and time of meeting to be prescribed in the by-laws.

Section 2.

Special meetings of the lodge shall be called by the President of the lodge, or upon written request of the Board of Directors or any ten members of the lodge who are in good standing. The reason for a special meeting shall be specified in the notice calling the meeting, and no other business shall be transacted at the meeting.

Section 3.

For the transaction of any business at a regular or special meeting of this lodge, there shall be required a minimum of (10%) ten percent members in good standing present, which shall constitute a quorum for this lodge.

Absentee ballots will only be given to those members in good standing who are unable to attend due to work, excused illness, or performing regularly assigned departmental duties. Those ballots will be presented to the divisional Lodge Stewards in a sealed envelope.

Section 4.

No person shall participate in any meeting while in an intoxicated state (which may be determined by any member of the lodge and brought to the attention of the executive board). No alcoholic beverages will be consumed during any meeting.

**Article VII Officers**

**Section L**

**The Board of Directors or Officers of this lodge shall be composed of**

**A. President**  
**B. Immediate Past-President**

**F. Treasurer**  
**G. Sergeant-At-Arms**

**C. President Emeritus**

**H. Chief Lodge Steward**

**D. Vice-President/Parliamentarian**

**1. Lodge Stewards**

**E. Secretary**

**J. State Trustee**

**Section i. A.**

**There shall be established the Wyandotte County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 40 President Emeritus; which will be occupied by the Charter President; Rick Whitby, in recognition of his loyal service to the Wyandotte County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 40. This position will be assumed upon the completion of his term as immediate pastPresident. This position shall be a lifetime position affording all rights, privileges, and benefits duty free.**

**Section 1.B.**

**All officers, excepting past-Presidents and the President Emeritus, shall be elected by ballot. Only members in good standing for the past 6 months shall be allowed to vote on any election of this lodge.**

**The officers of this lodge shall be nominated at the regular meeting in December of every other year.**

**The lodge shall elect at the regular meeting in January all positions that have two or fewer nominations.**

**The lodge shall use a Primary and a General Election for all positions that have more than two nominations. The Primary Election shall be held at the regular meeting in January, the General Election shall be held at the regular meeting in February. All elected officers shall hold office for two years.**

**Elected officers shall be installed at the regular meeting in March of every other year.**

**Officers absent shall be installed at the next, first regular meeting, and if absent at the second meeting, the office shall be declared vacant, and his successor selected in regular form,**

#### **Section 2.**

**Any member in good standing, who has been a member of this lodge for a period of one year or more, provided the member has attempted to attend (by showing up in person on the scheduled time and meeting place) six regular meeting in the last twelve months immediately preceding the holding of said election, shall be eligible to hold a office or attend the state and national conference If so qualified as indicated in the By-laws of this lodge.**

#### **Article VII Officers (continued)**

##### **Section 2.A.**

**Any member holding the rank of Sergeant or above will not be eligible to hold office in any capacity, and is ineligible to sit on any Grievance committee or hearing.**

##### **Section 3.**

#### **Duties of Elected Officers.**

**President. The President is the chief executive officer of the order, and shall preside at all meetings, and shall preserve the order and decorum. He shall carefully supervise the affairs of the lodge and its labor for usefulness and efficiency. He shall fill all vacancies in office caused by death or resignation, unless otherwise provided for. He shall sign all official documents of the lodge, and shall perform all other business of the lodge, which by custom pertains to the Office of the President. With the assistance of the Vice-President, he shall enforce a strict compliance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the lodge in all actions. The President may not take an active part in debate without the consent of a majority of the members present.**

**The President shall convey the unfinished business of the order to his successor, together with the lodge records, money or property.**

**The President's vote will only be taken in the event of a tie, and will be used to break said tie.**

**The President's travel and lodging expenses will be paid for by the lodge.**

**Vice-President/Parliamentarian: The Vice-President/Parliamentarian shall appoint minority members of committees. In the absence of the President, he shall fulfill the duties of that office. He shall also advise the President on points of order.**

**Secretary-The recording Secretary shall keep a correct record of the membership roll and of all transactions of each meeting of the order, attest to all money orders by the Treasurer and record the same in a book to be known as the Book of Records, together with the Minutes to be entered therein, before the meeting following that of which they are a record, and they shall be read from the book for approval.**

**The Secretary shall keep another book and record therein all amendments to the Constitution and ByLaws, said book to be known as the Amendment Book, which is to be given to the proper committee for reference when revising the Constitution and By-Laws. He shall, whenever the lodge deems it necessary, send a letter pertaining to the activities of the lodge to all members.**

#### **Article VII Officers (continued)**

**Secretary (continued): At the expiration of his term in office, the Secretary shall give a correct report of the business of his office and turn over all property and records to the order and to his successor.**

**Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and take charge of all monies belonging to the order, deposit same in a bank named by the order, keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended, credit each special fund with such sums as accrue thereto and report to the order at the regular meeting of each month. At the regular meeting in the months of August and February of each year, he shall give to the Auditing Committee; correct account of all monies in his possession, together with the books, papers and receipts belonging to the office: and-at anytime, when ordered by the President, he shall deliver all monies, books, papers, and receipts to the Secretary and Auditing committee. The Treasurer shall deliver to his successor in office; all books, records, money and other property in his possession belonging to the order.**

**After the installation of officers at each term, the Treasurer, President, Secretary, and a majority of the Auditing committee shall determine the correct amount of money in the bank to the credit of the order, the same not to be drawn unless by the order of the lodge, signed by the President, Vice-President, and or Treasurer.**

**The Treasurer shall give bond to the order, to be designated at the discretion of the Auditing committee, said bond fee to be paid for by the lodge.**

**Sergeant at Arms: The Sergeant at Arms shall examine all cards, take the password, *see whether* all present are entitled to remain in the lodge room or hall, and report the same to the President. He shall conduct all candidates through the Initiation ceremony and introduce them to members of the order.**

**The Sergeant at Arms shall also have charge and control of the conference hall or meeting place. He shall permit only qualified persons to enter or remain. He shall also perform such duties as the President may order.**

**Chief Lodge Steward. The duties of the Chief Lodge Steward shall consist of handling all grievances filed by the lodge or its members, and giving his full attention to the complaints of the lodge members. The Chief Lodge Steward will be given the time necessary, while on duty with the Sheriff's Department; to file; investigate and research each grievance, as well as assisting the President in the smooth operation of the lodge.**

Article VII Officers (continued)

Lodge Stewards: Although the Lodge Stewards are elected by the members of the lodge, they are not members of the Board of Directors.

The Lodge Stewards shall consist of five members in good standing; elected by the lodge to represent members in each of the divisions within the Wyandotte County Sheriff's Department. The jail shall due to its large number of personnel, have three Lodge Stewards, the administrative and warrant division together shall have one Lodge Steward, and the training, communications and patrol division combined; shall have one Lodge Steward.

The duties of the Lodge Stewards shall consist of the initial investigation of grievances within the respective divisions.

If a grievance, cannot be [settled by](#) the member and his respective Lodge Steward, the Lodge Steward, with the member, shall submit the grievance in writing to the Chief Lodge Steward.

The Lodge Stewards will also be responsible for collection of absentee ballots, and shall be responsible for collection of dues when authorized by appropriate lodge action.

State Trustee: The State Trustee shall be the lodge representative at the meetings for the State and Grand Lodge, and will attend the biennial conferences of the Grand Lodge along with the duly elected delegate(s).

The State Trustee shall submit to the lodge, report(s) obtained from the State and National meetings and National Conferences.

The State Trustee shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors, and may perform such duties as deemed necessary by the President of the lodge.

The Board of Directors: The Board of Directors shall also serve as a Grievance committee to hear any charges against the conduct of the lodge, or any of its members. The Board shall investigate all such complaints properly brought to its attention, and shall make a report of its findings and recommendations to the lodge within 30 days of the signing of such complaints.

They shall also be authorized to carry on all special business of the lodge between meetings and may be authorized to call a special meeting if deemed necessary **for the good** of the lodge.

The Board shall determine those designees who will be reimbursed for travel expenses of official lodge business.

The Board shall determine those designees who will be reimbursed for travel and lodging expenses of official lodge business.

## Article VIII Committees

**Standing committees shall be appointed at the first meeting of each year by the incoming officers and shall serve throughout the year or until relieved by the President. The number of persons on each committee shall be determined by the lodge, unless provided for by the Constitution and ByLaws of the order.**

**Section 1.**

**Legislative Committee: This committee shall be charged with the duty of keeping informed on all legislation or proposed legislation which may concern the order or its members. They shall report to the lodge at each regular meeting.**

**Section 2.**

**Constitution and By-Laws Committee: This committee shall be comprised of five members. These members shall be three elected Lodge Stewards, the Chief Steward, and the Vice President, and are appointed for a term of one year. The committee shall review all proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of the order, before being presented to the order for proposed adoption.**

**Section 3.**

**Sick Members Committee: This committee shall visit any member who is off-duty due to illness or injury and shall report to the lodge on their welfare. The committee shall have the authority to send flowers, or other tokens of goodwill or respect, to sick members, or the families of those who have died, and shall make recommendations on any outstanding case of need or misfortune which has befallen a member of the lodge or his family. They shall purchase flowers for the plaques in the lobby of the station each Memorial Day.**

**Section 4.**

**Press Officer: The Press Officer shall be appointed by the Executive Board. This officer shall release all publicity concerning the lodge. No individual member shall be authorized to release or publish any information concerning  
the order, unless given written consent by the Press Officer.**

**Section 5.**

**Entertainment Committee: The Entertainment committee shall plan and conduct all social functions, parties and picnics, and provide entertainment and refreshments at lodge activities held for the members of the lodge and their families and friends.**

Article VIII Committees (continued)

**Section 6.**

**Auditing Committee: The Auditing committee shall consist of two members; one each from the Administrative and Jail divisions of the Wyandotte County Sheriffs Department ent.**

**The Auditing committee shall cause the books of the lodge to be audited every six months, and shall release a report to the lodge of its financial condition after each audit.**

**The Auditing committee shall also have charge of all properties of the lodge. They shall designate the amount of the bond for the Treasurer and approve the same, and examine the Treasurer's bank book and see that all monies are deposited in the name of the order.**

**They shall audit the books of the lodge every six months. They shall perform all other necessary duties, not otherwise specifically provided for by the order of the lodge.**

#### **Section 7.**

**Grievance Committee: The Grievance committee shall consist of the Board of Directors. Any member having a grievance against any other member or members, may file a complaint with the Grievance committee; stating in his complaint the violation of the rules or By-Laws allegedly committed by the member or members so charged. The Grievance committee shall provide the member or members so charged with a copy of the charges in writing; and shall, in ten days, conduct a hearing, and shall thereafter, submit a full report of its findings and recommendations for action to the lodge; in a regular meeting, or in a special meeting called for that purpose. The recommendation of the Grievance committee shall not be binding upon the lodge.**

#### **Section 8**

**Committee: Unless otherwise provided for, Special committees shall be appointed in the regular manner, as the need shall arise for the Body to perform particular duties outside of the province of the standing committees. They shall be dissolved upon the completion of the duties assigned them.**

#### **Article IX Rights, Benefits And Privileges of Members**

**All active members of this lodge in good standing shall be entitled to the following rights, benefits, and privileges:**

#### **Section L**

**To attend all meetings; take part in all discussions and debate concerning the business and welfare of the lodge.**

#### **Section 2.**

**To vote upon applications for membership and reinstatement, and upon questions coming regularly before the lodge.**

### **Section 3.**

**To receive advice of the lodge attorney upon any matter concerning his rights, duties or obligations as a member of the Wyandotte County Sheriffs Department and to receive the advice of the attorney at a trial or hearing if so recommended by the Board of Directors. In no event shall the lodge be liable for attorneys fees of a member, unless such legal services are recommended to be furnished by the Board of Directors.**

### **Section 4.**

**All members of the Wyandotte County Sheriffs Depadment who shall take temporary leave of absence of 30 days or more, or by reason of economy shall be lald off from the department shall be given a withdrawal card and shall not participate in any of the above listed benefits while separated from the regular Sheriffs Department. Such member, upon returning to the Sheriffs Department, may be reinstated to active status upon payment of the current months dues, and shall again participate in all rights, benefits and privileges of the lodge.**

### **Section 5.**

**Anymember of the order who shall resign from the Sheriffs Depaitatent may apply for a withdrawal card subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.**

### **Section 6.**

**Any questions arising as to eligibility for participation and benefits under this article shall be referred to the Board of Directors for investigation\_ The Board of Directors shall make such investigations as they deem requisite and shall make a recommendation to the lodge as to the action to be taken on such questions.**

### **Section 7.**

**All members are authorized to attend all state meetings, provided that such attendance of said meetings, does not interfere with regular assigned duty. However, members who attend said meetings, must pay their own expenses.**

## **Article X Resignations**

### **Section !.**

All officers of the lodge, except the Treasurer and Secretary, shall have the privilege of resigning at any time, provided no charge concerning the lodge exists against them. The Treasurer or Secretary shall present their resignation, in writing, one meeting prior to ils being acted upon. If the Auditing committee

reports their accounts are correct, the resignation will be accepted, provided no charges exist against them.

Section 2.

Any elected officer may be impeached for infringement of provisions of the Constitution or ByLaws; all charges shall be referred to a committee of five. It shall require a majority vote to order the trial of an officer on the charge proffered.

The verdict shall stand, unless appealed to and reversed by the Grand Lodge. Any member proffering charges against another member for the purpose of maliciously or otherwise injuring such member or officer, shall be liable for fine or suspension.

The Trial committee of five shall be elected by ballot and all charges shall be made in writing and proper notice be given the accused.

Any violation of the Constitution or By-Laws of the lodge, or exposing any of the secrets of the lodge, shall be sufficient grounds for suspension or expulsion.

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## Article X1 Ladies Auxiliaries and Associate Lodges

Section L

The Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 40 recognizes, validates and acknowledges a Ladies Auxiliary and an Associate Lodge. Such lodges shall be subject to the control and supervision of this lodge, and shall conform to and be governed by, this Constitution and the By-Laws thereof:

### Article Xli Amendments to the Constitution

Section 1.

**Proposed amendments to this constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the lodge, who shall refer said proposed amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws committee, who shall act upon the proposed amendment, and submit it to the lodge where it shall be read at two regular meetings and voted upon at the second meeting. A two-thirds majority vote of members present shall be required for acceptance or adoption of any proposed amendment. Upon adoption, the proposed amendment shall become part of the Constitution.**

### Article X111 Parliamentary Procedure

Section 1.

Except as provided for in the Constitution and By-Laws, 'Robert's Rules of Order' shall govern the conduct and deliberations of the meetings of this order.

## Article XIV Official Ritual

### Section 1.

There shall be an official ritual of the order which shall be known as the Fraternal Order of Police Ritual.

## By-Laws

# Fraternal Order of Police Wyandotte County Lodge Number 40

## Arti cle 1 Me mb ers hip

### Section 1.

A member in good standing is hereby defined as a member who has paid all dues and assessments due the lodge, or who is not more than 30 days in arrears in payments as of the date specified for the payment thereof.

### Section 2.

Any member in good standing who has been a member of this lodge for a period of one year or more, provided said member has attended six regular meetings in the last twelve months immediately preceding the holding of said election, shall be eligible as a candidate for any office of the lodge, or as a delegate to the State or National convention in accordance with Article 7, section 2.A. of the Constitution.

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### Section 3.

Any member in good standing who is on a frozen shift that prohibits attendance at the regular meetings of the lodge, may be exempted from the number of meetings a member must attend to hold office in the lodge.

**Article ( I Dues  
and Assessments**

**Section 1.**

**The lodge shall levy an initiation fee of \$20.00 for each new member.**

**Section 2.**

**The lodge shall levy an assessment of 1% of monthly salary per member as monthly dues.**

**Section 3,**

**The initiation fee shall accompany each application for membership.**

**Section 4.**

**The monthly dues shall be allocated and designated for the purposes set forth  
as follows: a Operating expenses of the lodge to be deposited in the  
general fund.**

**Article III Meetings**

**Section 1.**

The regular meeting night of this lodge shall be the third Wednesday of the month. The time for all regular meetings will be 7:00 P.M.

**Article IV Appropriations**

**Section 1.**

No appropriation shall exceed \$100.00, unless first being read at a regular meeting. A majority vote of the members present shall be sufficient to approve or disapprove said appropriation.

**Article V  
Associate  
Lodge  
Membership**

**Section 1.**

The membership of the Fraternal Order of Police Associate Lodge shall be subject to approval by a majority vote of this lodge.

**Article VI Amendments**

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**Section I.**

**Proposed** amendments to these By-Laws shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the lodge, who shall refer said proposed amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws committee, who shall act upon the proposed amendment, and submit it to the lodge where it shall be read at two regular meetings and be voted upon by the lodge at the second meeting. A two-thirds majority vote of the members present shall be required for acceptance or adoption of any proposed amendment. Upon adoption, the proposed amendment shall become part of the ByLaws.

Revision: January 1995