The Constitution of the Washington State Chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials.

Section 1. Name and Affiliation

This organization is known as the Washington State Chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Officials (herein referred to as APCO-WA).

APCO-WA was originally chartered by the Associated Police Communication Officers, Inc. on November 4, 1944 and as amended by charter issued August 10, 1965. As such, APCO-WA is subject to said charter, as amended, and to all provisions of the Bylaws and Policies of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials International.

Section 2. Mission

APCO-WA is a member driven association of communications professionals that provides leadership; influences public-safety communications decisions of government and industry; promotes professional development; and fosters the development and use of technology for the benefit of the public.

Section 3. Membership & Dues

Membership in APCO-WA is open to all persons of good character who meet the membership requirements and whose dues are paid in full as outlined in the Bylaws, and/or policies of APCO International.

Membership classifications are defined by APCO International.

Section 4. Voting Rights

Unless otherwise provided herein or in the Chapter Bylaws only members in the ACTIVE classification may vote for and hold elected positions in the Chapter.

A member in good standing is defined as any member whose payment of dues is current, and who has received a membership number from APCO International. (Except that the Dues for a person designated as a Chapter-Honorary member shall be paid by the chapter).

Section 5. Non-Profit Status

No part of the net earnings of APCO-WA shall accrue to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, officers, or to any other private persons; except to pay reasonable compensations for services rendered and/or pre-approved reimbursement for actual expenses incurred.

APCO-WA shall not carry on any activities which may be prohibited for an organization ruled exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 (c) (6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or the corresponding provision of any further United States internal revenue laws.

Section 6. Partnership with the Washington State Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA-WA)

The Membership finds that:

- By working together, the missions of APCO-WA and NENA-WA can be pursued more efficiently,
- Although the missions of APCO-WA and NENA-WA are closely aligned they are not identical, and
- There are advantages to remaining two legally distinct organizations with separate accounting; however joint oversight via a single set of bylaws and Executive Committee is beneficial.

The partnership will be known as the Washington State Chapters of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials and National Emergency Number Association (AKA Washington APCO & NENA).

If the partnership is dissolved the Chapter Bylaws will continue to govern APCO-WA until amended, except that the Chapter Officers other than the APCO-WA Treasurer and Executive Council Representative will cease to have any oversight, authority, rights, or responsibilities for APCO-WA. The APCO-WA Treasurer will assume the duties of the APCO-WA President and will conduct elections of new officers within 90-days.

Section 7. Dissolution of APCO-WA

APCO-WA may only be dissolved by two-thirds vote of the members in the ACTIVE classification present at a regular or special meeting, provided that at least 60-days prior to the meeting an announcement that a resolution for dissolution will be considered must be posted on the website and distributed to the Membership via the normal communications method used to distribute meeting notices.

For the purposes of this section a quorum is ten percent of the members in the ACTIVE classification. If the total number of ACTIVE members exceeds 200, a quorum is twenty members.

A motion or resolution to dissolve APCO-WA must include a provision for distribution of APCO-WA assets or delegate decisions about asset distribution to the APCO-WA officers or Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials, Inc. APCO-WA assets must be distributed in accordance with Washington State law.

Section 8. Amendment of this Constitution

This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the members in the ACTIVE classification present at a regular or special meeting.

At least 60-days prior to the meeting an announcement that a resolution amending the constitution will be considered must be posted on the website and distributed to the Membership via the normal communications method used to distribute meeting notices. Said notice must list the sections which will be considered for amendment and should include the text of the proposed amendment.

The quorum may only consider amendments to the sections listed in the announcement as well as amendments to correct typographical errors.

For the purposes of this section a quorum is ten percent of the members in the ACTIVE classification. If the total number of ACTIVE members exceeds 200, a quorum is twenty members.

Adopted by a majority vote of the "ACTIVE" Members present at the June 22, 2010 business meeting of the Washington Chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials.

Stephanie Fritts

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President Secretary