

MICHIGAN CHAPTER OF APCO

OFFICIAL CONSTITUTION

Effective October 19, 2001

ARTICLE I

NAME, CHARTER LIMITS, AND PURPOSE

Section 1 NAME

This organization shall be known as the MICHIGAN CHAPTER OF APCO (Associated Public-Safety Communications Officials, Inc.)

Section 2 CHARTER LIMITS

This Chapter is chartered by APCO International, Inc. and covers the state of Michigan.

Section 3 PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be as follows:

- 3.1 To lend support to, create interest in, and foster expansion of, the national parent organization, Associated Public-Safety Communications Officials, Inc. (APCO);
- 3.2 To foster the development and progress of the art of public safety communications and intercommunications, and to promote, through example and active effort, greater cooperation in the correlation of the work and activities of the several town, city, county, state, and federal public safety agencies, and of the communications units thereof, as well as to promote harmonious cooperation between these agencies of the United States of America and other such agencies upon the North American continent, to end that the safety of human lives, the protection of property, and the general welfare of all people may be benefited to the highest degree;
- 3.3 To aid in the development of channels, methods, systems, and all other media for the rapid and accurate collection, exchange, and dissemination of information relating to crime and criminals, emergencies, and other vitally important information of public safety nature;
- 3.4 To further, by active effort and example, the cooperation between APCO and the Federal Communications Commission;

- 3.5 To provide technical and operational expertise to public safety organizations by assisting them in the matter of requirements relative to communications equipment and the operation thereof;
- 3.6 To participate before appropriate agencies, in the framing of legislation, regulatory rules and measures pertaining to public safety communications policy;
- 3.7 To provide for membership in the Chapter in accordance with the language of its Constitution and By-Laws now and which may later be provided and in effect. Memberships in this Chapter shall be of such classification and having such rights, requirements, privileges and restrictions so as to be in keeping with the purposes and intents of APCO International, Inc.;
- 3.8 To make formal petitions, by way of resolutions in proper format, and following established requirements, at such time as it is felt that changes are needed in the Constitution and/or By-Laws of APCO International, Inc.;
- 3.9 To encourage participation in the affairs of APCO International, Inc. by the authorized Chapter delegate to the National Executive Committee through financial assistance to offset part of his/her expenses involved in attending the APCO International, Inc. Conferences, if funds are available and approved at a chapter meeting;
- 3.10 To abide by the provisions and requirements of the Constitution and By-Laws of APCO International, Inc., which shall take precedence in all matters and question in this Chapter.

## ARTICLE II

### MEMBERSHIP

#### Section 1 CLASSIFICATIONS

The membership of this Chapter shall be divided into the following classes: ACTIVE, ENGINEER/TECHNICIAN; TELECOMMUNICATOR; COMMERCIAL; ASSOCIATE; CHAPTER HONORARY; RETIRED; MULTIPLE; LIFE; GOVERNMENTAL, SUSTAINING; AND SUPPORTING.

This Chapter also recognizes LIFE; GOVERNMENTAL; SUSTAINING; and SUPPORTING members as defined herein and in the Constitution of APCO International, Inc.

## Section 2 DESCRIPTION

By meeting the requirements established here, and in accordance with By-Laws, Article I, and in keeping with the requirements of APCO International, Inc., the following are descriptions of the various classes of membership in this Chapter.

### 2.1 ACTIVE MEMBER

Administrative and supervisory persons with responsibilities for planning, organizing, staffing, directing, and controlling functions required in the design, construction, installation, maintenance, command and/or operation of public safety communications systems, who are full time employed and salaried by the federal, state, county, or municipal government.

Administrative and supervisory personnel responsible for communications in volunteer, or non-governmentally salaried organizations which are public safety oriented, specifically Emergency Medical Service, Civil Defense agencies, and Fire Departments, provided no other employment of such personnel violates the commercial restrictions of this Section.

Active members only, may vote or hold elective office, and shall be the ruling body of this Chapter.

Any person who has maintained an Engineer/Technician or Operator membership, or combination thereof, for a minimum period of two (2) years shall be eligible to upgrade his/her membership to Active class by paying the required increase in dues.

No person shall be eligible for Active membership under any portion of this Section who engages in the commercial manufacture, lease, or sale of public safety communications equipment.

### 2.2 ENGINEER/TECHNICIAN MEMBER

Non-supervisory persons who are employed full time by public safety organizations for the purpose of designing and constructing communications systems, and for installing and/or maintaining communications equipment.

Non-supervisory persons responsible for the designing, constructing, installing and/or maintaining communications equipment in volunteer, or non-governmentally salaried organizations which are public safety oriented, specifically Emergency Medical Service, Civil Defense agencies, and Fire Departments, provided no other employment of such personnel violates the commercial restrictions of this section.

Engineer/Technician members may not vote and may not hold office, but may serve on special committees, and on certain standing committees as may be permitted in accordance with the intent for this class of membership in the of APCO International, Inc. Constitution and By-Laws. They may otherwise enjoy all benefits of this Chapter.

No person shall be eligible for Engineer/Technician membership under any portion of this Section who engages in the commercial manufacture, lease, or sale of public safety communications equipment.

Those persons who maintain their Engineer/Technician membership for a minimum period of two (2) years are eligible to be transferred into the Active membership classification upon payment of Active member dues.

### 2.3 TELECOMMUNICATOR MEMBER

Non-supervisory persons, who are employed full time by public safety organizations to operate communications equipment for the purpose of dispatching information; and Non-supervisory persons responsible for the operation of communications equipment in volunteer, or non-governmentally salaried organizations which are public safety oriented, specifically Emergency Medical Service, Civil Defense agencies, and Fire Departments, provided no other employment of such personnel violates the commercial restrictions of this section.

Operator members may not vote and may not hold office, but serve on special committees, and on certain standing committees as may be permitted in accordance with the intent for this class of membership in the of APCO International, Inc. Constitution and By-Laws. They may otherwise enjoy all benefits of this Chapter.

No person shall be eligible for Operator membership under any portion of this Section who engages in the commercial manufacture, lease, or sale of public safety communications equipment.

Those persons who maintain their Operator membership for a minimum period of two (2) years are eligible to be transferred into the Active membership classification upon payment of Active member dues.

## 2.4 COMMERCIAL MEMBER

An individual who, or employee of a company which, receives any amount or type of compensation which is derived from the design, manufacture, sale, service, maintenance, lease, rental or promotion of components equipment, systems or other related items which are used or can potentially be used by public safety entities; and

An individual who, or employee of a company which, engages in writing, publishing, advising, or consulting in the land mobile communications field.

Commercial members may not vote or may not hold office, but may serve on special committees.

## 2.5 ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Those persons not eligible for, nor restricted to, other classes of membership provided for in this Constitution.

Associate members may not vote and may not hold office, but may serve on special committees.

## 2.6 CHAPTER HONORARY MEMBER

This honorary designation is reserved for those persons who are not otherwise members of this Association, including those who have retired due to age or physical disability, who have made significant contribution toward the objectives of this Chapter. This honor shall be bestowed upon such a person in the following manner:

A. The Chapter Executive Committee shall make a recommendation to the Chapter Quorum at the Annual Conference that such honor be bestowed; and

B. The Chapter Quorum, during the same Annual Conference, shall approve the recommendation by a majority vote.

The term of this recognition shall be for a period of one year, but may thereafter be reinstated year by year at the pleasure of the Quorum.

Persons so honored shall not accrue any additional benefits or privileges, provided the Chapter shall pay the regular member annual subscription fee for THE BULLETIN in accordance with the requirements of APCO International, Inc. Honorary members may serve on special committees.

## 2.7 RETIRED MEMBER

Any former member of APCO, in any class, who has fully retired from his/her former, regular occupation position and is no longer gainfully employed or otherwise compensated for current services provided in any manner to the general field of commercial, private, or public communications.

Retired members may not vote and may not hold office, but may serve on special committees.

## 2.8 MULTIPLE MEMBER

A paid up member of another chapter, in any class, who wishes to affiliate with this Chapter as provided for by of APCO International, Inc.

His/her membership in this Chapter shall be in the same classification as that held in his/her home chapter and he/she shall be issued a membership card identical to the one issued by his/her home chapter, except that the word MULTIPLE shall be entered as a prefix to the membership classification.

His/her membership in this Chapter shall not be reported to APCO International, Inc. Only this Chapter's portion of dues shall be collected and it shall be retained by this Chapter as provided for by APCO International, Inc.

Multiple members of this Chapter may not vote and may not hold office, but may serve on special committees.

## 2.9 LIFE MEMBER

Any regular member of APCO who has made significant contribution beyond the normal call of duty toward the successful attainment of the objectives of APCO at the National level shall be eligible for LIFE membership.

This honor may only be bestowed upon nomination by the National Executive Committee, following recommendation by a chapter in accordance with the requirements for this class as outlined in the Constitution of APCO International, Inc., and the subsequent confirmation by a majority vote of the quorum of an annual National Conference.

The title of LIFE, when bestowed, shall be in addition to the regular membership title of the member, and he/she shall enjoy all of the

privileges of his/her regular membership classification and shall be exempt from the payment of any dues at the Chapter or National levels.

This Chapter shall recognize any member(s) within its chartered area so designated by APCO International, Inc., and shall welcome such member(s) into full membership privileges in keeping with regular membership classification of the member(s).

#### 2.10 GOVERNMENTAL MEMBER

This classification is defined in the Constitution of APCO International, Inc.

The individual members of an applicant group qualifying for Governmental membership shall be classified and governed in this Chapter, according to their individual qualification, in the ACTIVE, ENGINEER/TECHNICIAN, or OPERATOR classes, but shall be granted all the additional benefits specified for Governmental memberships by APCO International, Inc.

#### 2.11 SUSTAINING MEMBER

This classification is defined in the Constitution of APCO International, Inc. and may be bestowed only by the National Board of Officers.

This Chapter shall recognize and extend hospitality to any such member(s) so designated by APCO International, Inc.

Sustaining members may not vote and may not hold office, but may serve on special committees.

#### 2.12 SUPPORTING MEMBER

This classification is defined in the Constitution of APCO International, Inc.

The individual members of an applicant group qualifying as a Supporting member shall be classified and governed as COMMERCIAL members of this chapter, but shall receive all additional benefits pertaining to this class as provided for by APCO International, Inc.

The individual members of a Supporting membership group may not vote and may not hold office, but may serve on special committees.

### Section 3 MULTIPLE MEMBERSHIPS

A member of this Chapter may affiliate with other chapters of this Association, and this Chapter shall offer reciprocity to members of other

chapters in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of APCO International, Inc. pertaining to this classification.

#### Section 4 MILITARY MEMBER

A member of this Chapter in good standing who enters the Armed Forces of the United States of America during a declared war, or who is drafted involuntarily for military duty, shall be exempt from dues and shall be carried as a paid-up member in good standing for the period of such service plus six months thereafter.

#### Section 5 OTHER MEMBERSHIPS

In addition to the classes of membership outlined in this Article, this Chapter shall recognize any other membership classification(s) as may be provided for by APCO International, Inc. in a manner in keeping with the intent of APCO International, Inc. for such classification(s).

#### Section 6 CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Should the status of any member change so as to affect his/her membership qualifications, he/she shall automatically have his/her membership classification changed to conform to his/her new qualifications.

### ARTICLE III

#### BOARD OF OFFICERS

##### Section 1 DESIGNATION

The Board of Officers of this Chapter shall consist of the following: Chapter President, First Vice-President (President-Elect), Second Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, and National Executive Committeeman.

##### Section 2 HOW ELECTED

The Officers of this Chapter shall be elected by ballot in accordance with By-Laws Article III.

##### Section 3 VACANCIES

Should any of the presidential offices of this Chapter become vacant for any reason, the office shall be filled by advancement in rank, leaving the

office of Second Vice-President unoccupied until the next regular annual election of officers.

Should the office of Secretary-Treasurer become vacant for any reason it shall immediately be filled by a temporary appointment by the President. Such appointee shall serve until the next regular annual election of officers. The President shall also immediately notify the Executive Secretary of APCO International, Inc. of such a temporary appointment.

## ARTICLE IV

### MEETINGS

#### Section 1 REQUIREMENTS

This Chapter shall meet at least twice annually in accordance with the policies of APCO International, Inc.

#### Section 2 QUALIFYING MEETINGS

Customarily, there shall be six meetings annually that shall meet the requirements as outlined above.

- 2.1 The six (6) Chapter meeting locations will be decided at the Annual Chapter meeting which shall be held during the last quarter of the year.
- 2.2 In the event any special or emergency meetings are required, they may be called by the Executive Committee.

#### Section 3 MEETING QUORUM

A meeting quorum shall consist of the Active members present and voting at a regular Chapter Conference.

#### Section 4 VOTING MAJORITY

A simple majority of Active members present and voting at a business session shall decide all issues except an amendment to the Constitution and/or By-Laws.

## ARTICLE V

### AMENDMENTS

#### Section 1 PROVISIONS FOR AMENDMENTS

The Constitution and/or By-Laws of this Chapter may normally be amended only by a two-thirds majority vote at the Annual Meeting in accordance with By-Laws Article VI, Section 2.

If, in the interest of time in an effort to comply with the intent of APCO International, Inc., or if deemed in the best interest of this Chapter, it is desirable to make amendments, the procedure outlined in By-Laws Article VI, Section 3 shall be followed.