

INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE CRIMESTOPPERS, INC.
CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS and MISSION STATEMENT

APRIL 27, 1998

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this association shall be International Wildlife Crimestoppers, Inc.

ARTICLE II - MISSION

International Wildlife Crimestoppers' Mission Statement is simple: We Are Dedicated to Stopping ALL Poaching. We are a non-profit membership organization created by wildlife resource officers dedicated to reducing the illegal taking of fish and wildlife resources through the exchange of information with anti-poaching organizations. We strategically partner with effective like-minded organizations that support sustainable use of our natural resources. With special emphasis on youth education, we provide public education on the difference between sustainable use and poaching, creating a force multiplier for law enforcement charged with protecting the world's natural resources.

ARTICLE III - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the association shall be:

1. To encourage the collection and exchange of information on wildlife poaching crimes from member agencies and organizations.
2. To provide information and education for the members and the public on reporting and preventing wildlife poaching crimes.
3. To encourage and promote close cooperation between civilian organizations and wildlife law enforcement agencies to recognize and reduce violations through the use of crimestopper programs.
4. To assist in developing training programs and funding ideas for programs for the apprehension of violators of wildlife crimes.
5. To sustain a cash reward program to assist state agencies and provincial entities with funds needed to achieve convictions for wildlife crimes.
6. Partnering with youth education programs to provide instruction on the ethical use of our natural resources.

ARTICLE IV – NON-PROFIT STATUS AND DISSOLUTION

1. The purposes for which the association is organized are exclusively charitable, religious, and educational within the meaning of section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.
2. The Association shall continue to function until it is officially voted out of existence by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the membership. In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the association will be turned over to one or more natural resource organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in Sections 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code or to the Federal, State, or local government for exclusive public purpose.
3. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law.

ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP

1. Requirements for Full Membership

Any agency or organization whose primary responsibility is the collection and passing on of information relating to violations of laws and regulations resulting in the immediate loss of fish, wildlife, or habitat in their state, province or country is eligible to apply for membership and will become members upon payment of the annual dues.

2. Members Defined for Full Membership

All sworn law enforcement of a member state agency or organization and individuals authorized by a member state agency or organization will be considered as members of the association; however, for the purposes of conducting business and voting, each member agency shall appoint one person to act as the voting representative.

3. Associate Members

Individuals, businesses and institutions of higher education will have no voting rights, nor hold an elected office.

4. Honorary Members

Any member, official, or individual, who has demonstrated meritorious service to the furtherance of Association's mission through significant and ongoing participation in the Association's activities and responsibilities, may be nominated by any member and presented to the membership for an affirmative vote by the majority of members. Such persons may not hold elective office, may serve on an advisory committee, have no voting rights, and shall be exempt from annual dues.

5. Lifetime Associate Members

Individuals, who were granted Lifetime Associate Member status before July, 2018, are "grandfathered" as Lifetime Associate Members. This membership was conferred upon individuals who have supported the organization at an extraordinary level of work or financial contributions. Grandfathered Lifetime members may participate in all activities, are not eligible to vote, and are not required to pay annual membership dues or conference registration

6. Dues

Dues are payable annually by April 1 to the Executive Assistant of the Association. Failure to pay these dues prior to the annual meeting automatically cancels membership to the Association. Reinstatement shall require payment of the current year's due. Due fees are as follows:

- Member State Agency or Organization is three hundred dollars \$300.00 (US)
- Associate Member is thirty-five dollars \$35.00 (US)
- Honorary and Lifetime Members do not pay dues.

7. Membership Disqualification/Revocation

Members shall conduct themselves in a manner that does not damage or bring the public image, integrity or reputation of the IWC into discredit or disrepute. Members who do not support the mission and vision of the IWC may be removed from IWC membership status.

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

1. Voting Officers

The Executive Board of International Wildlife Crimestoppers, Inc. shall consist of:

- President – voting member; elected by the membership to serve a two-year term and serve as Executive Board Chair. (Elected Odd Years)
- Vice President – voting member; elected by the membership to serve a two-year term and shall serve in the place of the President as Executive Board Chair in absence of the President. (Elected Even Years).
- Treasurer, voting member, elected by the membership to serve a two-year term. (Elected Odd Years).
- Active Sworn At-Large Member- – voting member, elected by the membership to serve a two-year term. (Elected Odd Years)
- Active Sworn At-Large Member – voting member, elected by the membership to serve a two-year term. (Elected Even Years)
- Retired / Active Sworn At-Large Member- voting member; elected by the membership to serve a two-year term. If no retired candidates are nominated, then an active sworn member may occupy this board seat in lieu of a retired sworn member. (Elected Even Years)
- Retired / Active Sworn At-Large Member- voting member; elected by the membership to serve a two-year term. If no retired candidates are nominated, then an active sworn member may occupy this board seat in lieu of a retired sworn member. (Elected Odd Years)

2. Non-voting Officers

- Executive Director – non - voting member shall serve a term consistent with their current or established contract, reporting to the executive board, focused on and monitoring all organizational business matters for growth, marketing, and fund raising. Primary focus of the Executive Director is to grow the annual budget through soliciting donations, applying for grants, and establishing partnerships with like-minded organizations. Secondary focus should be on contacting and building relationships with Conservation Agencies Senior Leadership to become directly involved with IWC to reach its mission and goals.
- Executive Assistant, - non - voting member shall serve the term consistent with their current or established contract, working with all executive board members and reporting to the executive board.

3. Each of the officers above shall annually sign the Association's Conflict of Interest Policy. This policy is presented outside the bylaws in the Association's duties, procedures and guidelines.

4. Resignation from the Executive Board must be in writing and a board member may be removed by a 75% vote by the remaining Executive Board members if sufficient cause exists for removal.

Duties of the Executive Board members are presented outside these by-laws in the association's duties, procedures and guidelines.

The Executive Board may initiate action on issues of importance to the association subject to ratification of a majority of the members either by telephone, E-mail or at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. One representative from each agency or organization shall represent their agency on the Board of Directors. Membership in the Board of Directors will be used to fill positions on the standing committees.

ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS

1. The Annual Meeting

The association shall hold at least one annual meeting in each calendar year at a location to be selected by the President. The date and location of such annual meeting shall be transmitted to the membership at least six (6) months prior to the meeting date.

2. Expense of the Annual Meeting

It is the intention of the association that the expense of the annual meeting is, as far as possible, covered by the participants of the meeting in the form of a registration fee and from donations and sponsors. However, should the fees not be sufficient to meet the reasonable expenses of holding the meeting, then the balance left shall be paid from the Association treasury.

3. Special Meetings

The President and Executive Director are authorized to call special meetings throughout the year as needed to conduct business.

ARTICLE IX - COMMITTEES

1. Standing committees may be established to monitor issues of interest to the Association during the year. Members may serve a minimum two-year term on the committee of assignment. The Executive Board shall appoint members to the following standing committees:

- a. Audit/Finance – Shall annually review the finances and investments of the Association. The committee shall present its findings to the membership at the annual conference. The committee shall prepare a written report of its findings at the annual conference.
- b. Regional Director – Shall maintain communication with states/provinces in their established region concerning association issues.
- c. Special Ad Hoc Committees – As needed for a particular issue.

2. Committee Chair and Members

The President shall name the Chair of all committees and, after consultation with the Chair, shall name the members of each committee. The Chair is responsible for the activity of the committee throughout the year and is further responsible for presenting a written report of its accomplishments at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE X - EXPENDITURES

Expenditures of association funds for items other than operating expenses shall require a written proposal outlining the project and providing a projected cost. Such proposals may be approved by the Executive Board if under \$25,000 any proposed project in excess of \$25,000 is subject to ratification by a majority of the member agencies or organizations through a phone or E-mail poll taken by the Executive Assistant or by a vote at the annual meeting. If an immediate business decision in the best interest of the Association is necessary, for expenses other than regular operating, such proposals may be approved by the Executive Board. When no expectation of expediency exists, then the decision may be approved by the Executive Board upon ratification by the member body.

Expenditures of association funds for items other than operating expenses under \$1,000.00 may be authorized by the Executive Director without Executive Board approval. Expenditures over \$1,000.00 up to \$10,000.00 may be approved by majority vote of the Executive Board through phone or e-mail poll.

Upon approval from the Executive Board, solicitations for grants, donations and similar items may be made in the name of the association for merchandise, gifts or funds from non-members of the association for purposes that meet the mission of the association.

ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS

1. Submittal and Approval

Any changes or amendments to this Constitution and by-laws may be proposed by any member, but must be submitted in writing to the Executive Assistant. The Executive Assistant shall then ensure that every member receives the proposal in writing. Such changes or amendments may be approved by the Executive Board subject to ratification by a majority of the member agencies or organizations through a phone or E-mail poll taken by the Executive Assistant or by a vote at the annual meeting.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE SUBMITTED AND APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN RENO, NEVADA ON APRIL 27, 1998.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN HELEN, GEORGIA ON APRIL 18, 1999.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN NASHVILLE, INDIANA ON APRIL 17, 2000.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO ON AUGUST 5, 2001.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE NOT VOTED ON BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN REHOBOTH BEACH, DELAWARE ON MAY 21, 2002.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN CANMORE, ALBERTA, CANADA ON JUNE 16, 2003.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE APPROVED WITH NO AMENDMENTS BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS ON APRIL 14, 2004.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN GREAT FALLS, MONTANA ON APRIL 26, 2005.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN PORTLAND, MAINE ON JUNE 6, 2006.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY ON JUNE 20, 2007.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN MADISON, WISCONSIN ON JUNE 17, 2008.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE APPROVED WITH NO AMENDMENTS BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING AT DANIELS SUMMIT, HEBER CITY, UTAH ON JULY 15, 2009.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE APPROVED WITH NO AMENDMENTS BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN DESTIN, FLORIDA ON AUGUST 31, 2010.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE APPROVED WITH NO AMENDMENTS BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN BAR HARBOR, MAINE JULY 12, 2011.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE APPROVED WITH NO AMENDMENTS BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN TUCSON, ARIZONA JULY 24, 2012.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN SAVANNAH, GEORGIA JULY 23, 2013.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE APPROVED WITH NO AMENDMENTS BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA JULY 16, 2014.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE APPROVED WITH NO AMENDMENTS BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN POST FALLS, IDAHO JULY 21, 2015.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS, JULY 20, 2016.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN NORTH CONWAY, NEW HAMPSHIRE, JULY 19, 2017.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN HURON, OHIO, JULY 25, 2018.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, NEVADA, JULY 18, 2019.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP VIA A SPECIAL EMAIL VOTE, OCTOBER 31, 2019.

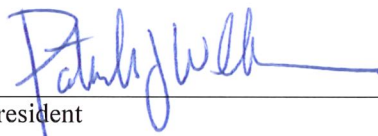
DUE TO COVID-19, THE ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN CLEMSON, SOUTH CAROLINA WAS POSTPONED UNTIL 2021.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN CLEMSON, SOUTH CAROLINA, JULY 14, 2021.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN EAST BURKE, VERMONT, JUNE 29, 2022.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE AMENDED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, JUNE 13, 2024

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE APPROVED WITH NO AMENDMENTS BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN WINTER PARK, COLORADO JUNE 19, 2025.



President



Executive Assistant