

Funeral Consumers Alliance of Stanislaus/Merced Counties

Bylaws

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www.fcasmc.org

Article I: Purpose

~~1. A non-profit corporation shall primarily serve Stanislaus and Merced Counties.~~

1. **The purpose** of this Alliance are: (a) to promote dignity, simplicity, and economy in the arrangements of death services for our members, (b) to educate the members and the public at large regarding end of life issues, (c) to serve as a consumer advocate and informed resource, and (d) to support the purposes of the Funeral Consumers Alliance as detailed in that organization's by-laws. **of FCASMC, a California nonprofit organization, is to protect the right of consumers to choose meaningful, dignified, and affordable final arrangements and to provide information and assistance in making end-of-life choices.**

2. The Alliance assumes no legal or financial responsibility for the final disposition of the **bodily** remains.

3. The Alliance is not organized for pecuniary profit and no part of the income or property shall be distributed to any member, board member, or officer.

Article II: Membership

1a. A member shall be any adult person (~~age 18 or older~~) who signs **and returns** the Alliance's application, ~~returns the completed instruction form,~~ and pays the membership charge fixed by the Board.

1b. Also qualifying for membership are minor children of adult members for whom the stipulated membership fee has been paid. To retain membership, a minor must apply on his/her own behalf upon reaching age 18.

2. ~~Membership applications that remain instruction forms not returned remaining unpaid after within six months will invalidate membership and the fee will be considered a donation. A membership may be withdrawn at any time, but the~~ **membership fees** ~~will be considered a donation~~ **are not refundable.**

3. Members of other FCA affiliates moving into our service area are welcome to transfer to FCASMC at no charge. Members of other FCA affiliates traveling or temporarily residing in our area will receive the benefits of FCASMC membership.

Article III: Trustees

1. The management and administration of this corporation shall be vested in the Board of Trustees, consisting of ~~nine~~ **five to seven** Trustees, **serving staggered three-year terms**, ~~electd at the Annual Meeting,~~ **and elected annually by and from the membership.** ~~The @S_tees shall serve terms of three years. Each year the terms of three trustees will expire.~~ Trustees may serve no more than ~~two~~ **three** consecutive terms. **Past officers may serve as ex-officio nonvoting members.**

~~2. A Nominating Committee created by the Board of Trustees shall annually present to the Annual Meeting the names of all persons needed to bring the Board to full membership.~~

~~2. At the first meeting following the Annual Meeting the Trustees shall elect~~ **from their number** the following officers of the Alliance: president, vice president, treasurer, and **secretary**. ~~membership secretary, recording secretary, and chairs of nominations, publicity, and recruitment, and newsletter editor.~~ **Terms of the Trustees and officers shall commence immediately upon election.**

~~3. Nominations of Trustees may be made from the floor at the Annual Election~~ **annual election.**

~~4. Whenever a Trustee vacancy exists, the remaining Trustees may appoint a successor to serve until the next Annual Meeting, at which time a Trustee shall be elected to serve the unexpired portion of the term.~~ **A successor's term shall commence immediately upon appointment.**

5. Trustees shall serve without pay. No Trustee shall be a paid employee of the Alliance.

~~7. The Board may appoint an advisory ad-hoc committee from time to time as the need arises.~~

7. At any general meeting of the Alliance, a quorum shall consist of ten percent of the membership or twenty (20) members, whichever is smaller. If a quorum is not met, **the Board may call** a second meeting with the stipulation that a quorum will be the number of members present.

8. Each adult member shall have one vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

9. FCASMC meetings may be conducted electronically.

10. The President may call a special meeting of the members to be held at the request of twenty-five members or upon the request of a majority of the Trustees. The Secretary shall inform members by mail or electronic means, at least two weeks prior to the meeting. The notice shall include a statement of purpose of the meeting.

Article IV: Officers

~~1. Officers shall be elected for two~~ ~~year~~ ~~terms~~ ~~of one-year terms.~~ A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Board. The president, vice president, treasurer **and** membership secretary ~~and recording secretary~~ shall constitute the Executive Committee.

~~2. The President may appoint, with the approval of the Board, a Legal Advisor, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.~~

~~2. Removal from office.~~ A Trustee may be removed from the Board (and from a titled position, i.e., president, etc.) for cause by **a majority of Trustees**. ~~at least five trustees.~~ A board member missing three consecutive meetings without cause may be removed.

~~3. Review of financial records. One month prior to the close of the fiscal year (June v 30), The President shall appoint one adult member of the Alliance to review the Alliance's financial records. The audit shall be completed in time for submission to the Annual Meeting.~~

3. The Treasurer shall submit **an annual report to members** ~~the Annual Meeting~~ showing income and disbursements since the end of the previous fiscal year. ~~(June 30)~~ **An audit of the Alliance's financial condition should be conducted every three years.**

4. **The Board shall have the authority to establish the amount above which two officers' signatures will be required for any check drawn on Alliance accounts. Checks for less than the established amount may be signed by any single officer of the Alliance.**

Article V: Procedure

Roberts Rules of Order Revised is hereby adopted as the Procedure and rules of order for the Alliance, subject to any contrary provisions of the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws.

Article VI: Amendments

The Bylaws of the FCASMC may be amended by a majority vote of the Trustees at two consecutive meetings. The Secretary shall inform members by mail or electronic means, at least two weeks prior to the first meeting of the text of any amendments.

Article VII: Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of the Alliance, the membership agrees that after all obligations have been paid, the assets of the Alliance will be transferred to another nonprofit organization with a similar purpose, provided such organization is tax-exempt under the current regulations of the Internal Revenue Service.

Article VIII:

This version of the bylaws of the Funeral Consumer Alliance of Stanislaus/Merced Counties, adopted by a vote of the members on _____, supersedes all previous versions.

Please plan to participate in the FCA's Special Meeting to Consider These Bylaw Changes

Saturday, December 4, 10 a.m.

ZOOM

<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/93820232964>