

**CONSTITUTION
FOR
RETIREE CHAPTER 15**

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

The name of this organization shall be Connecticut Retired Police Officers Association Chapter Number 15 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO.

**ARTICLE II
AFFILIATIONS**

This Retiree Chapter shall be affiliated with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

**ARTICLE III
OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Retiree Chapter shall be to carry out on a local basis the objectives of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees' Retiree Organization.

**ARTICLE IV
MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

Section 1. Eligibility.

All retired police officers of any AFSCME Council 15 local union or the deceased member's eligible surviving spouse, or any Connecticut retired municipal police officer or the deceased police officer's surviving spouse currently not represented by a Council 15 local union are eligible for membership in this Retiree Chapter subject to the requirements of the Constitution of the International Union.

Section 2. Application.

Application for membership shall be made on a standard application form. Unless such form includes a valid authorization for pension deduction of dues, the application shall be accompanied by one year's dues as described in Section 3 and Section 4 of this Article.

Section 3. Amount of Dues.

The monthly membership dues of the Chapter shall be \$1.25 per member.

Section 4. Payment of Dues.

Membership dues shall be payable monthly in advance by regular pension payroll deduction to the Chapter Treasurer. In the event a municipality declines to allow for regular pension payroll deductions of monthly dues, and until such municipality participates in a system of regular pension payroll deductions, dues shall be \$15.00 annually and paid in advance by the member on an annual basis by personal check or cash, and shall be paid not later than the 15th day of the month in which they become due.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

Section 1. Time and Place.

Regular meetings of this Chapter shall be held once each month, at a time and place to be fixed by the membership or the Chapter Executive Board.

Section 2. Special Meetings.

Special meetings may be called by the Chapter president, the Chapter Executive Board or by petition filed with the president and signed by 10% of the members of the Chapter. Special meetings may also be called by the International President or by an authorized representative of the International President.

Section 3. Quorum.

The quorum for this Chapter shall be fifteen members in good standing.

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS, NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Titles and Terms of Office.

The officers of this Chapter shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and three executive board members, and these seven shall constitute the Chapter Executive Board. In addition, there shall be elected three members who shall serve as trustees. The trustees shall be elected to three-year terms of office, except that in the initial election, one shall be elected for a one-year term, one for a two-year term, and one for a three-year term. All other officers shall be elected for a term of one year in 2009 and two years, beginning in 2010.

Section 2. Nominations.

Nominations shall be made at a regular or special meeting of the Chapter. At least fifteen days' advance notice shall be given the membership prior to the nomination meeting. A nominating committee may be appointed or elected to make nominations, but whether or not such nominating committee is used, nominations shall be permitted from the floor at the nomination meeting. All regular nominations and elections shall be held in the month of June.

Section 3. Eligibility.

To be eligible for office, a member must be in good standing for one year immediately preceding the election, except in the initial election held in this Chapter.

Section 4. Conduct of Election.

Officers shall be elected by secret ballot vote, and the balloting shall be so conducted as to afford to all a reasonable opportunity to vote. At least fifteen days' advance notice shall be given the membership prior to the holding of the election.

Section 5. Election Code.

All matters concerning nominations and elections in this Retiree Chapter shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the Retiree Election Code as adopted by the International Executive Board.

Section 6. Vacancies.

Vacancies in office shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by vote of the Chapter Executive Board.

Section 7. Obligation of Officers.

Every officer shall, upon assuming office, subscribe to the Obligation of an Officer contained in Appendix B of the International Union Constitution.

**ARTICLE VII
DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Section 1. President.

The president shall:

- A. Preside at all meetings of the Retiree Chapter and of the Chapter Executive Board.
- B. Be a member of all committees except election committees.
- C. Countersign all checks drawn against the funds of the Chapter.
- D. Appoint all standing committees and all special committees of the Chapter, subject to the approval of the Chapter Executive Board.
- E. Report periodically to the membership regarding the progress and standing of the Chapter and regarding the president's official acts.
- F. By virtue of election to that office, serve as automatic delegate to the AFSCME International Convention.

Section 2. Vice-President.

The vice-president shall:

- A. Assist the president in the work of the president's office.
- B. In the absence of the president or in the president's inability to serve, preside at all meetings and perform all duties otherwise performed by the president.
- C. Upon approval by the Chapter Executive Board, be authorized to act as co-signer of checks drawn on the Chapter funds in place of either the president or the treasurer.
- D. By virtue of election to that office, serve as automatic first alternate to the AFSCME International Convention.

Section 3. Treasurer.

The treasurer shall:

- A. Receive and receipt for all monies of the Retiree Chapter.
- B. Deposit all money so received in the name of the Retiree Chapter in a bank or banks selected by the Chapter Executive Board, and money so deposited shall be withdrawn only by check signed by the president and the treasurer.
- C. Prepare and sign checks for such purposes as are required by the Constitution or are authorized by the membership or the Chapter Executive Board.
- D. Prepare and submit the monthly membership report to the International Union office and see that a check is drawn in payment of the Chapter's per capita tax each month and sent to the International Secretary-Treasurer.
- E. Keep an accurate record of receipts and disbursements and shall, once each month, submit to the membership a monthly operating statement of the financial transactions of the Chapter for the previous month.
- F. Act as custodian of all properties of the Retiree Chapter.
- G. Give a surety bond for an amount to be fixed by the executive board of the Chapter at the expense of the Chapter and through the International Union.
- H. See that any financial reports required by the International Union Constitution are submitted in accordance with the International Union Constitution.
- I. By virtue of election to that office, serve as the automatic second alternate to the AFSCME International Convention.

Section 4. Secretary.

The secretary shall:

- A. Keep a record of the proceedings of all Chapter meetings and of all Chapter Executive Board meetings.
- B. Carry on the official correspondence of the Chapter, except as the Chapter Executive Board may direct otherwise.
- C. Perform such other duties as the Chapter Executive Board may require.
- D. By virtue of election to that office, serve as automatic third alternate to the

AFSCME International Convention.

Section 5. Trustees.

The trustees shall make or cause to be made at least semi-annually an audit of the finances of the Chapter, including the finances concerning any health and welfare, pension, insurance or other benefit programs covering members of such Chapter, and shall report to the membership on the results of such audit.

Section 6. Chapter Executive Board.

The Chapter Executive Board shall be the governing body of the Retiree Chapter except when meetings of the Retiree Chapter are in session. All matters affecting the policies, aims and means of accomplishing the purposes of the Chapter not specifically provided for in this Constitution or by action of the membership at a regular or special meeting shall be decided by the executive board. The board shall meet at the call of the president or of a majority of the members of the board. A report on all actions taken by the executive board shall be made to the membership at the next following meeting. A majority of the members of the executive board shall be required for a quorum.

**ARTICLE VIII
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

Section 1. International Constitution.

This Retiree Chapter shall at all times be subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

Section 2. Authorization Necessary to Represent Retiree Chapter.

Except to the extent specified in this Constitution, no officer of the Retiree Chapter shall have the power to act as agent for or otherwise bind the Retiree Chapter in any way whatsoever. No member or group of members or other person or persons shall have the power to act on behalf of or otherwise bind the Retiree Chapter except to the extent specifically authorized in writing by the president of the Retiree Chapter or by the executive board of the Retiree Chapter.

Section 3. Rules of Order.

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern this Retiree Chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution and special rules of this Retiree Chapter or of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

**ARTICLE IX
AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended, revised, or otherwise changed by a majority vote of the members voting on such proposed change and such change shall take effect only upon written approval of the International President; provided that the Retiree Chapter may establish a two-thirds requirement for such change and such action will be effective notwithstanding the provisions of Article IX, Section 40 of the International Constitution. Proposed amendments to this Constitution must be read at a regular or special meeting of the Retiree Chapter and read and voted on at a subsequent meeting of the Chapter, adequate and proper notice having been given to the membership prior to the date on which the vote is taken. A written copy of the proposed amendment shall be furnished to every eligible voter at the meeting at which the vote is taken.