

## **BYLAWS OF THE EMPIRE STATE NY C.O.P.S. CHAPTER OF CONCERNS OF POLICE SURVIVORS, INC.**

### **MISSION**

Rebuilding the shattered lives of surviving family members and co-workers affected by a line of duty death.

### **VISION**

C.O.P.S. is the premier organization providing exceptional lifelong services and peer support to surviving family members and co-workers following a line of duty death, as well as vital law enforcement wellness and trauma training.

### **CORE VALUES**

**Integrity:** We uphold the values of confidentiality, respect, and honesty, setting the standard in every aspect of service to C.O.P.S.' mission.

**Support:** We are dedicated to providing exceptional service, advocacy, and peer support for surviving families, co-workers, and the law enforcement community for as long as they need us.

**Compassion:** We inspire hope through a safe, accepting and caring environment.

**Fiscal Responsibility:** We recognize the faith our partners have placed in us, embracing transparency and responsibility in the management of our financial resources.

**Diversity:** We value and embrace all survivors, recognizing that our different life experiences combined, make us stronger.

### **PREAMBLE**

In the implementation of its mission, C.O.P.S. ministers to the needs of families who have suffered the loss of a law enforcement officer in the line of duty (as reported by the Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI], Bureau of Justice Assistance's Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program [PSOB], the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund [NLEOMF], or the Fraternal Order of Police [FOP]). C.O.P.S. extends a helping hand to assist with their psychological, financial, and legal well-being. C.O.P.S. educates them with information that others suffering the same loss can be of service to them during their periods of helplessness. C.O.P.S. also focuses on the problems of the law enforcement profession that directly or indirectly may lead to the loss of an officer's life. C.O.P.S. provides training to law enforcement agencies regarding survivor/victimization issues.

**ARTICLE I**  
**NAME OF CHAPTER**

This Chapter shall be known as the Empire State NY Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.), Inc. This Chapter is being/was chartered in the state of New York on August 7, 2025. This Chapter shall encompass the counties of Albany, Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Chemung, Chenango, Clinton, Columbia, Cortland, Delaware, Dutchess, Erie, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Genesee, Greene, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Livingston, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Ontario, Orleans, Oswego, Otsego, Rensselaer, Saint Lawrence, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Sullivan, Tioga, Tompkins, Ulster, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates. From this point forward, the Empire State NY Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors shall be referred to as “the Chapter”.

**ARTICLE II**  
**PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION**

Section 1. The Chapter of C.O.P.S. shall address the emotional, psychological, financial and legal problems that arise from the loss of a loved one in the law enforcement profession. The family survivors and co-workers affected by the loss of an officer dying in the line of duty who are members of the chapter, may use the services of C.O.P.S. C.O.P.S. members, while providing support to fellow survivors, shall also address the problems that affect active officers, their families and their law enforcement agency/community and help them better understand the mission of C.O.P.S.

Section 2. It shall be the aim of this organization to minister to the needs of law enforcement survivors in offering support during troubled times, securing financial aid for counseling, and focusing on the problems that affect the law enforcement community and law enforcement survivors.

Section 3. C.O.P.S. will also engage in community awareness campaigns to encourage communities and citizens to recognize the daily sacrifices made by law enforcement officers and their families.

**ARTICLE III**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. C.O.P.S. membership is limited to surviving family members (spouse, child {natural, adopted and step}, parent, and sibling), “significant others”, fiancés, other family members, and co-workers affected by the loss of any law enforcement officer dying in the line of duty as determined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Bureau of Justice Assistance’s Public Safety Officers’ Benefits Program (PSOB), National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund

(NLEOMF) or Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) criteria.

Section 2. C.O.P.S. membership will also be provided to United Kingdom, Care of Police Survivors (UK C.O.P.S.) survivors, residing in the United States, after verification of such survivorship from the President or Executive Director of UK C.O.P.S.

Section 3. Survivors shall be an official member of only one Chapter. If the survivor wishes to be a member of a chapter outside of their geographical residency boundaries, they may do so with approval of C.O.P.S. Executive Director. They may attend other chapters' functions.

Section 4. All members shall be advocates for and supporters of the C.O.P.S. organization and dedicated to work in the best interest of the C.O.P.S. organization.

Section 5. The Chapter shall make provisions for termination of membership for failure of any member to adhere to the Bylaws or policies of this organization.

Section 6. Affiliate memberships may be made available to local law enforcement personnel, business leaders, and/or citizens who are interested in the work of C.O.P.S. Affiliate members shall not be eligible to vote or hold office.

#### **ARTICLE IV** **FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the Chapter shall be from April 1 to March 31, inclusive.

#### **ARTICLE V** **OFFICERS**

Section 1. The Board shall consist of the following elected positions: President, Secretary and Treasurer. In addition, there may be an elected Vice President and elected Trustees. These elected positions are voting members of the Board and there shall be no others. All voting Board members shall be law enforcement survivors of line of duty death and shall be at least one year out from their officer's death.

Section 2. The President, with the approval of the Board, may also appoint the non-voting Board positions of Parliamentarian, Police Liaison, Trustees, Chaplain and there shall be no others. Non-voting Board members for this Chapter are Trustee(s) and Police Liaison(s). Appointed Board members have no voting privileges and may not make motions, but have the right to debate. Appointed Board members shall not have duties or responsibilities that are those of the elected officers.

Section 3. Only one family member and one co-worker of the same officer can serve as a voting member of the Board.

Section 4. The Vice President shall replace the President should the President be unable to fulfill the term of office. If the Vice President cannot fulfill the President's term, then Secretary shall fulfill the term.

Section 5. Should any Board member be unable or unwilling to fulfill their term, the President with the approval of the Board, shall appoint someone to that position after that person has been vetted to assure criteria has been met. The appointed person shall serve the unexpired term of his/her predecessor's term in office.

Section 6. No individual can serve in more than one elected position. If there is a situation that does permit an individual to hold multiple positions, he/she will be entitled to only one vote on an issue.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **DUTIES OF OFFICERS/MEMBERS**

#### **General Duties:**

Section 1. C.O.P.S. shall expect its officers/members to serve in the best interests of the organization. They are entrusted with responsibilities of promoting the organization, securing funding for the organization, and ensuring that the integrity of the organization is preserved. They shall also perform the duties of their office as described in these Bylaws.

Section 2. Honorariums, consulting fees, presenting fees (as distinguished from reimbursement for expenses), and instructor's fees earned by any officer/member as a result of their status with C.O.P.S. will be turned over to the Chapter.

Section 3. Any officer/member accused of violating Sections 1 or 2 of this Article shall be notified in writing by the Chapter President of the alleged violation(s) and given the opportunity to present his/her defense of the violation(s) before the Board.

Section 4. Should the Chapter President be in violation of Sections 1 or 2, it is the responsibility of the Board member designated to replace the Chapter President to notify the Chapter President in writing of the alleged violation(s) and give him/her the opportunity to present his/her defense of the violation(s) before the Board.

Section 5. Any member of the Board found to be in violation of Sections 1 or 2 of this article shall be dismissed from the Board pending a vote from the Board and the Chapter President shall declare the position to be vacant. If it is the Chapter President who is removed from office, he/she will be replaced according to the Bylaws.

Section 6. Any member found to be in violation of Sections 1 or 2 shall be referred to the National Grievance Committee for review of the Chapter's investigation and to determine any further action.

Section 7. The officers/members shall maintain the confidentiality of the Chapter mailing lists and provide the National Office with additions or corrections to the Chapter survivor mailing list.

Section 8. The Board shall monitor government activities at the state level which affect C.O.P.S. programs, activities, and goals.

Section 9. The Board shall be responsible for fundraising activities of the Chapter.

Section 10. Board officers shall assure an annual audit or financial review of the financial records is conducted in accordance with the Financial Ethics & Accountability Form and the IRS regulations pertinent to the Chapter's finances.

Section 11. Any member of the Board and/or Board Officer shall deliver all accumulated Chapter property and records to his/her successor within 14 days of the effective date of succession.

Section 12. Any member of the Board and/or Board Officer shall function in a volunteer capacity and receive no compensation. In addition, the Chapter shall not hire any part-time or full-time employees. The Chapter may however, contract the services of an accountant, financial advisor, or lawyer, et al, as needed.

Section 13. All expenses shall be pre-approved by the board, or included as part of an approved budget, and documented in the minutes.

Section 14. Unless otherwise directed by National C.O.P.S. Executive Director, only elected officers shall be signatories on the chapter bank accounts.

**Duties of the Chapter President:**

Section 1. Shall act as an official spokesperson for the Chapter.

Section 2. Shall be the presiding (Chief Executive) officer of the Chapter.

Section 3. Shall preside over all Chapter meetings and events.

Section 4. Shall preside at local/territorial conferences within the Chapter area. Representation outside of the Chapter area shall receive approval from the C.O.P.S. National President or C.O.P.S. Executive Director.

Section 5. Shall have the option to call special meetings of the Board when deemed necessary or upon petition of the majority of the Board.

Section 6. Shall submit to the Board a full and complete report in writing at each Business Meeting of any official business transacted by the Chapter President outside of any meetings of the Chapter.

Section 7. Shall make appointments to any Board position with approval of the Board should a

position become vacant after a candidate has been properly vetted to assure criteria is met.

Section 8. Shall be responsible for overseeing the submission of reports requested by National C.O.P.S. and government documents, e.g., IRS, incorporation documents, and any other required report.

Section 9. Can, with the approval of the Board, enter into contracts.

Section 10. Shall perform other duties on behalf of the organization as he/she deems necessary.

Section 11. Shall be a liaison with various organizations and agencies.

**Duties of the Secretary:**

Section 1. Shall act as an official spokesperson for the Chapter when authorized by the Chapter President.

Section 2. Shall take and transcribe minutes of all conferences, meetings, and Board meetings, submitting the same to the Chapter President for additions, deletions and/or corrections, providing copies, including meeting agendas, to the Chapter's Board and the National Office, thirty (30) days following the end of each quarter (i.e., due April 30, July 30, October 30 and January 30).

Section 3. Shall safely keep the Bylaws/SOPs of the Chapter, all official amendments and meeting minutes.

Section 4. Make sure current Bylaws, SOPs, and current year meeting minutes are available at every meeting for members to review as well as an annual review during the Annual Meeting.

Section 5. Shall make available any reports of the Board or committees upon request by the National Board or the members of the Chapter.

Section 6. Shall notify the National Office of any and all changes of the membership including names, addresses, phone numbers, etc. in a timely manner.

Section 7. Shall perform other duties on behalf of the organization as assigned by the Chapter President.

**Duties of the Treasurer:**

Section 1. Shall act as an official spokesperson for the Chapter when authorized by the Chapter President.

Section 2. Shall be responsible for and have the custody of the books, records, documents and other office paraphernalia and equipment inventory under the general authority and orders of the Chapter President and the Board.

Section 3. Shall file a quarterly financial statement with the National Office and send a copy to each Chapter Board member thirty (30) days following the end of each quarter (i.e., April 30, July 30, October 30, and January 30). Include all bank/investment/CD/PayPal, etc. accounts along with copies of the statements to the financial reports. If using a software accounting program, include Profit & Loss Detail, Balance Sheet, and General Ledger, and Merchandise/Asset Inventory Tracking.

Section 4. Shall provide copies of other financial reports (990s, reviews/audits, state annual report and Net Income Assessment) to the Chapter's Board and the National Office by July 31 each year to assure compliance with necessary state and federal reporting requirements.

Section 5. Shall establish and maintain checking and/or savings accounts as determined by the Board and National SOP 3.0.

Section 6. Shall assure a prompt deposit of all funds received by the Chapter in the appropriate Chapter bank account.

Section 7. Shall at the direction of the Board assure an annual audit or financial review of the financial records is conducted in accordance with the Financial Ethics & Accountability Form.

Section 8. Shall provide a Treasurer's report listing all expenditures and deposits at every meeting in which business is conducted. Have available upon request financial documents to the general membership.

Section 9. Shall prepare, file, and maintain all permits, forms, registrations, including state fundraising permits, etc. required by the Chapter's (state, territory, commonwealth or district) as required by law.

Section 10. Shall perform other duties on behalf of the organization as assigned by the Chapter President.

**Duties of the Vice President:**

Section 1. Shall act as an official spokesperson for the Chapter when authorized by the Chapter President.

Section 2. Shall perform other duties on behalf of the organization as assigned by the Chapter President.

**Duties of the Immediate Past President:**

Section 1. The Chapter President upon leaving his/her position may become Immediate Past President. This position shall mentor the new Chapter President and guide him/her in learning his/her role.

Section 2. The Immediate Past President shall serve as a non-voting member of the Board unless

they are needed to break a tie.

Section 3. Shall act as an official spokesperson for the Chapter when authorized by the Chapter President.

Section 4. Shall perform other duties on behalf of the organization as assigned by the Chapter President.

**Duties of the Trustees:**

Section 1. The Trustee(s) shall be appointed and serve as a non-voting member of the Board. Appointment terms shall end at the next annual meeting.

Section 2. Shall act as an official spokesperson for the Chapter when authorized by the Chapter President.

Section 3. Shall perform other duties on behalf of the organization as assigned by the Chapter President.

**ARTICLE VII  
MEETINGS**

Section 1. The Annual Meeting of the Chapter shall be held during the month of March in conjunction with the fiscal year. The Chapter shall hold quarterly Business Meetings, one of which shall be the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. All meetings and events shall be announced to the current membership in writing, mail and/or email, a minimum of 30 days in advance of the meeting or event.

Section 3. Definitions:

A. Annual Meeting:

1. General Membership invited.
2. Meeting takes place in person, virtually or hybrid provided everyone can hear and speak simultaneously.
3. All eligible members at least 18 years of age in attendance (in person or virtual) may vote.
4. Minutes shall be taken and a Treasurer's report shall be submitted.
5. Elections are held at an Annual Meeting.
6. The dates of the Annual Meeting and the chapter contact information shall be reported to the NCL not less than 45 days in advance of the meeting.

B. Business Meeting:

1. General Membership invited but does not vote.
2. The Board votes.
3. Minutes shall be taken and a Treasurer's report shall be submitted.
4. The Board shall meet as necessary to conduct Chapter business. Conference calls and virtual meetings are considered Business Meetings.
5. The dates of the Business Meeting prior to the Annual Meeting and the chapter contact information shall be reported to the NCL not less than 45 days in advance of the meeting.

C. Peer Support Events:

1. Chapters are strongly encouraged to hold peer support events throughout the year, e.g., Christmas party, counseling, breakfasts, etc.
2. Announcements for events should be sent to the National Office.
3. Minutes and Treasurer's Reports not required at peer support events.

D. Executive Session:

The Chapter President may call for Executive Session anytime during a Business Meeting or Annual Meeting should a personnel and/or confidential issue arise. The Chapter President shall ask all non-Board members to leave the room. The Chapter President has the discretion to ask relevant people to stay in the session. General minutes showing action taken shall be made available to the Board and the National Office and approved in Executive Session. Any action taken shall be recorded in Business Meeting minutes. Executive Session minutes do not need to be as detailed as the Business or other membership meetings, as they serve to keep a brief record of what was discussed and what actions were taken.

E. Quorum:

1. For Business Meetings, the presence of 2/3 of the voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.
2. For Annual Meetings, those members present at the meeting shall constitute a quorum.

F. Motions, other Chapter Business Proposals and Voting by a Chapter Board:

1. A motion and any other proposals related to chapter business or issues requiring Board action between regular physical Board meetings can be accomplished by electronic media, e.g., telephone, email or other social media, as well as "in person" by the chapter Board.

2. In addition to voting “in person”, chapter Boards may conduct business, e.g. approve an expenditure outside of a budgeted item, to send a representative to an upcoming conference or training, etc., by electronic communications.

3. Voting and other business issues may be conducted by any electronic means provided all votes are treated as roll call votes excluding the election of officers of the Chapter or National office unless permission is granted to hold the election via telephone, video, or teleconferencing.

4. By email, in person, or by a telephone conference call, the chapter President can call for a vote by a method other than an “in person” vote with the approval of a majority of the chapter Board members in agreement.

5. Chapter Board votes are to be tallied, copies of all the related emails, etc. kept, and the results recorded in the next Board meeting minutes.

6. Electronic voting by a chapter Board is permitted for Board business only, leaving it up to the chapter Board to determine how that electronic voting will be accomplished.

## **ARTICLE VIII** **COMMITTEES**

Section 1. The Chapter President shall appoint standing committees as needed with the approval of the Board at the first Business Meeting following the Annual Meeting. These committees will serve until the next Annual Meeting. Special committees may be appointed as deemed necessary by the Chapter President with the approval of the Board. These committees will remain in effect until the outcome has been met at which time the committee will be dissolved.

Section 2. No committee shall keep monies of the organization. All funds generated by the committee belong to the Chapter and shall be forwarded to the Treasurer ten days within receipt of the funds.

Section 3. Each committee shall consist of one or more chairperson(s) and as many members as appropriate to complete the task. Committee members do not have to be survivors of line of duty death.

Section 4. The committee chairperson(s) shall make a written report to the Board prior to each meeting where business shall be conducted and/or upon completion of a task.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS**

Section 1. Anyone wishing to be nominated for any of the Chapter's elected office positions (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) shall have followed the procedure and meet the criteria necessary to hold said office as set forth in these Bylaws.

Section 2. Anyone wishing to be nominated for an elected office (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) shall be present at the Business Meeting prior to the Annual Meeting in order to be nominated, unless absence is approved by the C.O.P.S. National President or C.O.P.S. Executive Director. This meeting shall be announced to Chapter roster members, by mail and/or email, at least thirty days prior to the meeting.

Section 3. Anyone elected to a Chapter Board position shall be an official member of that Chapter and be at least 18 years of age.

Section 4. The Chapter shall hold their elections at their Annual Meeting in March.

Section 5. Members shall be on National C.O.P.S.' database thirty days prior to the Chapter election to be eligible for office.

Section 6. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by a majority of votes cast by eligible members present at the Annual Meeting.

Section 7. There shall be no write-in votes in chapter elections nor proxy votes allowed.

Section 8. All candidates for office shall be an advocate for and supporter of the Concerns of Police Survivors organization and dedicated to work in the best interest of C.O.P.S.

Section 9. Terms of office shall be two years. Officers may hold the same office for no more than two consecutive terms. The officer may run for a different office immediately, or may wait a term before running again for the same office.

Section 10. When an individual is appointed to fill a vacant elected office, the time they serve through appointment does not count toward their term limits.

Section 11. It is recommended that a candidate for Chapter President has served on the Board in another position first.

Section 12. All members of the Chapter who attend the Annual Meeting and are at least 18 years of age are afforded the right to vote in the Chapter elections as per National SOPs. Members must be present in order to cast a vote. To be considered "present" is discussed further in Article VII, Section 3.A.3.

Section 13. Terms for elected Board Members shall begin on April 1st following the elections.

Section 14. Terms for appointed Board Members shall begin immediately upon appointment.

**ARTICLE X**  
**CHAPTER STATUS**

Section 1. The Empire State NY Chapter of C.O.P.S. agrees to the general supervision and control of the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors. The Chapter may have its designation as a Chapter revoked if it is determined by the National Board of C.O.P.S. that its continued operation is contrary to or inconsistent with the best interests of C.O.P.S., other C.O.P.S. Chapters, or the requirements for exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service.

Section 2. The Empire State NY Chapter of C.O.P.S. has entered into an affiliation agreement with National C.O.P.S. and has been granted a limited license to use the name, trademark, and logo of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. This limited license is subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, and as further amplified from time to time by National's promulgation of rules and regulations. All contemplated uses of the name, trademark, and logo of National C.O.P.S. will be provided to the National Office for the National Board's review and approval.

- A. The Chapter understands and agrees to the condition of this grant of nonexclusive license that the Chapter shall utilize the National logo as outlined in the National SOP 3.0. It is a condition to the grant of nonexclusive license by National C.O.P.S. that the Chapter acknowledges the value and goodwill of the name, trademark and logo of National and agrees not to use same or its own variation in any manner that would adversely reflect on National C.O.P.S. The Chapter is further prohibited from making any changes, alterations, or modifications to the trademark and logo of National C.O.P.S.
- B. The grant of license for the Chapter to use the name, trademark and logo of National C.O.P.S. is terminable at the discretion of National Board at any time. Such termination shall be deemed effective immediately upon notice.

Section 3. Fundraising activities of the Chapters shall not be in conflict with the activities of National C.O.P.S.

- A. Chapters may not contract for direct-mail or telephone solicitations.
- B. Chapters may not apply for federal grants or solicit major national/international corporations at the corporate level or solicit any corporation doing business outside the Chapter service area.
- C. Chapters may raise money only in their territorial areas.

Section 4. The Chapters shall encourage its members to attend National C.O.P.S. programs. Chapters shall not be in conflict and/or competition with any programs hosted by National

C.O.P.S.

Section 5. Chapters making local presentations exceeding two hours shall have prior approval by the C.O.P.S. National President or C.O.P.S. Executive Director. These presentations may consist of survivor experience, Chapter business and C.O.P.S. survivor benefits.

Section 6. The Chapter shall make an annual contribution to National C.O.P.S. of at least fifteen percent (15%) of the Chapter's annual net income for the fiscal year ending March 31. Chapter contributions and Net Income Assessment Report, even if there is no Net Income Assessment, are required to be submitted to the National Office no later than July 31 each year.

## **ARTICLE XI** **STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY**

Section 1. Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. requires that all staff, volunteers, vendors, Chapter officials, and board members respect the confidentiality of all information pertaining to the families of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. At no time shall surviving family information be released without the knowledge and consent of the surviving family.

Section 2. At no time shall the Chapter sell, relinquish, or otherwise distribute the Chapter's mailing list in part or whole. Legal action may be taken if the mailing list is used for personal gain.

## **ARTICLE XII** **PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be recognized as the Parliamentary Authority in all cases to which they are applicable and when they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE XIII** **AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. The governing documents of the Chapter shall be these Bylaws, the Articles of Incorporation, the Articles of Affiliation, and the National SOP 3.0.

Section 2. The Chapter Bylaws committee, when appointed by the Chapter President, will present proposed amendments to the Board.

- A. Proposed amendments to these Bylaws shall be voted upon at a meeting of a quorum of voting members of the Board of the Chapter.

- B. All proposed amendments approved by the Board will be submitted and reviewed by the National Office for approval by the National Board.
- C. Upon approval by the National Board, the proposed amendment will be submitted to the Chapter roster membership in writing 30 days prior to the Chapter Business Meeting when the amendment will be voted on.
- D. The proposed amendment will be adopted by  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of the Chapter roster membership present at the Business Meeting.
- E. After adoption of amended Bylaws, signatures of all members of the Board and the date shall become the last page of this document. The Bylaws in their entirety shall then be submitted to the National Office for filing.
- F. This process shall take no longer than 6 months to complete.

Section 3. Chapter Bylaws may be amended for all chapters by the National Board. When this happens, the National C.O.P.S. Office will provide each chapter with their new bylaws reflecting the newly adopted amendments within 6 months of adoption, based on the most recent copy on file.

Section 4. The Chapter shall, under no circumstances, have the power or authority to amend or repeal the Articles of Incorporation of the Chapter, the Articles of Affiliation, or the National SOP 3.0. Said power lies solely with the National Board. **If the Chapter is requesting a change to the National SOP 3.0, that change shall be proposed to the National Office who shall refer it to the National Bylaws/SOP Committee.**

Section 5. The Chapter may develop and/or amend their own SOPs. Chapter SOPs shall be developed and approved by the Board and shall be shared with the Chapter membership. At no time will a Chapter SOP be in conflict with a National SOP. At all times, the National SOP shall prevail. A copy of the SOP shall be forwarded to the National Office for filing.

Section 6. The National C.O.P.S. SOP 3.0 governing Chapters takes precedent over the Chapter SOPs at all times.

#### **ARTICLE XIV** **DISSOLUTION PROVISION**

Upon dissolution or final liquidation, the Chapter Board shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all lawful debts and liabilities of the incorporated Chapter, distribute all assets of the Chapter within 30 days to Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. of Camdenton, MO, an organization recognized as exempt from Federal Income Tax under IRS Code 501(c)(3), or, should C.O.P.S. National organization no longer exist, to one or more regularly organized and qualified charitable, educational, or scientific organizations to be selected by the Board of Directors, as more fully specified in the Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., July 23, 2000, Sullivan MO; Molly Winters, National President.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., May 12, 2001, Washington DC; Molly Winters, National President.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., May 17, 2003, Washington DC; Linda Hintergardt-Soubirous, National President.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., July 11, 2005 Potosi, MO; Shirley Gibson, National President.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., January 11, 2006 Camdenton, MO; Shirley Gibson, National President.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., November 15, 2008, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida: Jennifer Thacker, National President.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., July 14, 2011, Shirley, MO; Linda Moon Gregory, National President.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., November 13, 2011, San Antonio, TX; Linda Moon Gregory, National President.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., by Board vote January 18, 2012. Linda Moon Gregory, National President.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., by Board vote February 27, 2012, Linda Moon Gregory, National President.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., by Board vote July 9, 2015, Madeline Neumann, National President.

Major revisions to Bylaws were effective as of July 9, 2015, with the first election governed by these Bylaws being held prior to March 31, 2016.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., by Board vote February 2, 2016, Brenda Donner, National President.

Revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., by Board vote May 11, 2017, Brenda Donner, National President.

Article V, Section 6: Added and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., by Board vote July 13, 2017, Brenda Donner, National President.

Article III Section 2 & Article V Section 3 adopted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. on December 4, 2017, Cheryl Schultz, National President.

Mission, Vision, Core Values, multiple sections regarding NCL Adopted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. on July 25, 2018, Cheryl Schultz, National President.

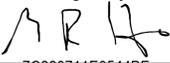
Article IX, Section 8.C. was revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., by Board vote August 18, 2018, Cheryl Schultz, National President.

Article VII Section 3 and Article IX Section 11 revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., by Board vote June 24, 2021, Emilio Miyares, National President.

Article V, VI, VII, IX, XIII revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., by Board vote November 26, 2024, Connie Moyer, National President.

Mission and vision revised and accepted by the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., by Board vote January 25, 2025, Connie Moyer, National President.

**Chapter Name: Empire State NY C.O.P.S. Chapter**

| Officer                             | Signature   | Date      |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Dianne Bernhard, Executive Director | Signed by:<br>                          | 8/27/2025 |
| George Hill, President              | 833F194ED8F1408...<br>DocuSigned by:<br> | 8/27/2025 |
| Sandra McKee, Vice President        | 7C880711E0544BF...<br>Signed by:<br>    | 8/28/2025 |
| Patty Pierson-Roberts, Secretary    | AE59E11D24484DC...<br>Signed by:<br>    | 8/28/2025 |
| Lori Baldwin, Treasurer             | 64D43B21756D4F3...<br>DocuSigned by:<br> | 9/1/2025  |
| Vacant, Immediate Past President    | 1CD314EB7406478...  |           |