

**FIRE MARSHALS ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA
CONSTITUTION**

**Article I
NAME**

SECTION 1. The name of the organization shall be the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota.

SECTION 2. Within the organization of the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota, there shall be a Fire Safety Educators Committee.

**Article II
OBJECT**

SECTION 1. The objectives of the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota and the Fire Safety Educators shall be:

- A. To provide training and education of public officials involved in fire prevention duties;
- B. To enhance public education in fire safety and fire prevention methods and practices;
- C. To preserve the welfare of the community through advocacy of improved legislation concerning fire safety and fire prevention;
- D. To further the understanding of fire prevention practices through interaction and communication of ideas of the membership.

**Article III
MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 1. ACTIVE MEMBER - any public official of the state, county, city, or organized fire department in Minnesota who is engaged in the prevention of fire through property inspection, enforcement of fire laws and regulations or through public education.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER - any person not qualifying for active membership may apply for associate membership. An associate member shall have no voting power, nor be able to hold any office within the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota. Application shall be in writing and shall state why the applicant has an interest in joining the organization. Approval of the membership shall be by 2/3rds majority of members present. Vote shall be by secret ballot.

LIFE MEMBER – any person may apply for life membership who has met the following requirements:

- A. Been an active member of FMAM in good standing for ten years.
- B. Has retired from the fire service.
- C. Rendered distinctive service to the association through participation on committees and/or has held office for a minimum of five years.

Life Members shall have all rights and privileges of an active member. Life Members shall have voting power and shall be able to hold any office within FMAM. Application shall be in writing to the Board of Directors stating their eligibility to become a Life Member.

The Board of Directors shall review the application at the next scheduled board meeting and take action and advise the applicant in writing within 30 days.

RETIRED MEMBER – any person may apply for retired membership who has met the following requirements:

- A. Been an active member of FMAM in good standing for five years.
- B. Has retired from the fire service.

Retired Members shall have the privilege to vote but shall not be eligible to hold any office. Application shall be in writing to the Board of Directors stating their eligibility to become a Retired Member.

The Board of Directors shall review the application at the next scheduled board meeting and take action and advise the applicant in writing within 30 days.

SECTION 2. Termination of membership shall occur upon failure to pay the annual dues on or before the second regular quarterly meeting.

SECTION 3. Reinstatement of membership shall occur upon payment of annual dues.

**Article IV
OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SECTION 1. The officers of the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota shall be:

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer

SECTION 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers and six other members, one of whom shall be the immediate past president, if there is one, the chairperson of the Fire Safety Educators Committee and the Minnesota State Fire Marshal.

SECTION 3. The President shall appoint the "Chapter Representative" for both the International Fire Marshal's Association (IFMA) and the International Code Council.

SECTION 4. The President, Vice-President, Secretary Treasurer, and IFMA Chapter Representative shall be members or associate members of the International Fire Marshal's Association.

SECTION 5. Officers, Board of Directors, and Association Representatives shall be Active or Life Members in accordance with Article III.

**Article V
ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SECTION 1. Officers and Board of Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting of the year in which their term expires. Officers shall be elected as follows:

- President - odd year
- Vice President - even year
- Secretary - odd year
- Treasurer - even year

One Board of Director shall be elected in the odd year and two shall be elected in the even year.

The Minnesota State Fire Marshal shall serve on the Board of Directors.

In case of a vacancy, the Board of Directors shall have the power to fill the same position until the next annual meeting.

**Article VI
COMMITTEES**

SECTION 1. Committees shall be formed at authorized meetings of the membership by a majority vote of the members present.

SECTION 2. Committees shall be for the good of the organization and shall report to the membership.

SECTION 3. PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE: There shall be a permanent Fire Safety Education Committee whose chairperson shall be appointed by the President and become a member of the Board. Any special funds of this committee shall be recorded separately by the Treasurer.

**Article VII
RATIFICATION**

SECTION 1. The constitution and by-laws shall be submitted to all members and shall be ratified by a majority of the members voting.

**Article VIII
AMENDMENTS**

SECTION 1. Amendments to the constitution or by-laws of the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota shall be made only at the annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present. No proposition to amend shall be acted upon unless written notice thereof has been given to the secretary at least 60 days prior to the meeting. A copy of such a proposition shall be sent to every member of the association 30 days before the date of the annual meeting at which time the amendment is to be voted upon.

**Article IX
FINANCIAL DISCLAIMER**

SECTION 1. No financial obligations or financial responsibilities of the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota shall be incurred or assumed by the International Fire Marshal's Association, the National Fire Protection Association, and the International Code Council.

Approved 03/10/2004