

Bylaws of the Navarro Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

ARTICLE I- NAME

The name of this group shall be the Navarro Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSES

The purposes of the Association shall be as follows: To encourage cooperation and fellowship amongst defense lawyers on a local basis, to achieve excellence in our profession and in furtherance of justice; to sponsor educational programs; to receive State reports on legislation; to promote civility and in our relationships with the judiciary and law enforcement; and to otherwise further the common goals, interests, and education of the criminal defense association of Navarro County. Nothing in these bylaws is intended to create a legal entity, only a fellowship of attorneys united in the purpose of criminal justice.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Qualifications for membership shall be:

- (1) Licensed in good standing with the Supreme Court of the State of Texas; and
- (2) Residency or office in Navarro County or counties that are entirely or partially located within a thirty (30) mile radius of Navarro County, Texas.

Section 2. Any member meeting the above shall be entitled to vote in the Association.

Section 3. Members must practice criminal defense law and not work for the District Attorney's Office or be in the process of attempting to gain employment by the District Attorney's Office.

Section 4. No dues shall be collected for membership to the Navarro County Defense Lawyers Association, however membership must be in good standing with the Navarro County Bar Association.

Section 5. Affiliate membership may be extended those in fields which contribute to the defense of criminal cases, upon endorsement of a member in good standing, and upon approval by the Board of Directors. Affiliate members may not vote or hold office.

ARTICLE IV- MEETINGS

Section 1. Monthly meetings shall be held on the first Thursday of each month at a time and place to be designated by the President.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President with the approval of the Board.

Section 3. Notice of meetings shall be given in writing or electronically at least one week in advance by any member of the Board.

ARTICLE V- OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Section 1. Officers: The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President and Secretary. Committees to be formed as needed.

Section 2. Duties:

(1) The President shall supervise and coordinate the activities of the Association, preside at its meetings, call special meetings, appoint members to committees and act as a spokesman for the Association.

(2) The Vice-President shall fulfill the roles of President should the president be unable. The Vice-President will also act in conjunction with the President in accomplishing their goals.

(3) The Secretary shall keep the minutes and books of the organization; preside at meetings in the absence of the President and Vice-President; and promote enrollment in the Association of qualified prospects.

ARTICLE VI- ELECTIONS

Section 1. At least two months prior to elections, the President shall appoint a Committee for the purpose of providing a list of candidates to the members for their consideration.

Section 2. The Committee will be comprised of the immediate Past-President, and two at large members of the organization, who will be selected by the President.

Section 3. The Committee will provide members with the list of prospects no later than the meeting before elections.

Section 4. Elections of officers shall be held at the March meeting of every third year. Election shall be by a majority vote of those members present and voting.

ARTICLE VII -ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

The meetings of the organization shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised Edition, unless otherwise governed by these bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII -AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at any meeting of the organization after submission of the proposed change by the Secretary in writing or electronically at least fourteen days prior to any meeting, designation of date and time proposed amendment is to be voted on, and opportunity for members to vote by proxy.