

BY LAWS OF THE  
NORTH TEXAS CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

**Article I.**

The name of this organization is the **North Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association** (Association or NTCDLA). The Association is currently and shall be a non-profit corporation organized and operating under the laws of the State of Texas.

**Article II.**

**Section 1.** The purpose of the Association shall be: To protect those individual rights guaranteed by the Texas and Federal Constitutions, preserve the public, criminal defense bar and judicial commitment to those rights, and to educate and further the professionalism of the Association's membership and promote competent and ethical representation of persons accused by the state or federal governments of crime.

**Section 2.** The Association may conduct any other lawful activities, not in contravention of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act or Articles Five or Six of the Association's Certificate of Formation of a Nonprofit Corporation or corrections or amendments thereto on file with the Secretary of State of Texas.

**Article III.**

**Section 1.** Any attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Texas and in good standing who engages in the defense of criminal cases in the counties of Wichita, Archer, Clay and Montague, is eligible for regular membership in the Association. Regular membership is recognized by the payment of dues by an eligible attorney. Other forms of membership, such as associate, student, honorary, affiliate or retired memberships may be created by a majority vote of the regular membership. Only regular dues-paying members may vote.

**Section 2.** The management of the affairs of the Association is to be vested in the Association's regular membership and, performed by the elected officers of the Association. Unless otherwise stated by these By Laws, management of the affairs of the Association shall be by a majority-vote of a quorum present at a regular or special meeting. A quorum consists of 10 regular members.

**Section 3.** The elected officers shall be the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. The president is the chief executive officer of the Association and, if for any reason, he or she cannot fulfill such duties, the vice president may act for the president on behalf of the Association. The secretary or his or her designee shall maintain the official papers and documents and take the minutes of all meetings. The Treasurer shall collect dues and handle all finances at the direction of the president or the membership.

**Section 4.** The president may appoint such committees and other positions (e.g. Activities Planner) as he or she deems necessary to assist in performing regular presidential duties or other activities directed by the membership. The president may, by appointment, fill the vacancy of any elected office until the next annual meeting.

**Section 5.** Membership of any member may be revoked, for cause, by a three-fourths vote of all regular members.

#### **Article IV.**

**Section 1.** Regular meetings of The Association shall be monthly, on the third Thursday of the month, or, special meetings may be called at either the direction of the president or by a two of the other three officers.

**Section 2.** One regular monthly meeting during the first six months of each calendar year — designated by the president — shall be called as an annual meeting. The secretary must provide notice to all regular dues-paying members by email or written mail of the annual meeting at least 20 days in advance of such annual meeting. Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting and the conduct of other business, as may be necessary, for the management of the Association, including, but not limited to, the amendment, addition or modification of these By Laws, the approval of an annual budget, and prescribing the dues-amount for the coming year.

**Section 3.** The election of officers and conduct of business at the annual meeting may proceed if a quorum of the Association membership is present. The election of officers may be by "yeas and nays," secret ballot or acclamation as may be determined by the secretary.

**Section 4.** These By Laws may be amended by majority vote at the annual meeting or at a special meeting called by the president for that purpose.

**Section 5.** The fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

**Article V.**

**Section 1.** Dues are due and owing within 30 days of the annual meeting.


**Section 2.** The address and location of the Association shall be determined by a majority vote of the regular membership.

**Section 3.** To the extent there may be any conflict between these By Laws and the Certificate of Formation on file with the Secretary of State of Texas the Certificate of Formation shall control.

ADOPTED and APPROVED by the Membership of the NTCDLA on the 19 day of April, 2010.

  
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President, NTCDLA

Attest:

  
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Secretary, NTCDLA