

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION
UNITS

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

ARTICLE I
NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1 **NAME:** This organization shall be known as the North Texas Chapter of International Association of Special Investigation Units. The name of the association shall not be used publicly by any member other than by use of his/her membership card for identification purposes without the express written permission of the Board of Directors. This shall not restrict officers, appointees or agents of the Chapter in the use of the name to carry out the purpose of the Chapter.

Section 1 **PURPOSE:** The objectives of the Chapter shall be:

- A: To promote a coordinated effort within the industry to combat insurance fraud.
- B: To provide education and training for insurance investigators.
- C: To develop greater awareness of the insurance fraud problem.
- D: To encourage high professional standards of conduct among insurance investigators.
- E: To encourage members in the development and implementation of programs designed to facilitate the coordination and cooperation with law enforcement and criminal justice agencies in the investigation and prosecution of insurance fraud crimes.
- F: To support legislation which acts as a deterrent to the crime of insurance fraud.
- G: To promote higher education from time to time, by donation to a scholarship fund or funds to be established by the Corporation.

Section 3 **RESTRICTIONS:**

- A: This Chapter is to be considered a private, nonprofit organization.
- B: No funds from the Chapter may be used to align with any political body, group, or person to advance the candidacy of any individual.

ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 A: Regular membership shall include:

1. Insurance company employees whose primary purpose is the full-time investigation and/or supervision of investigations of insurance fraud.
2. An employee of a self-insured corporation who is employed and assigned to a Special Investigation Unit and whose primary purpose is the full-time investigation and/or supervision of investigations of insurance fraud. The individual and organization must be engaged in anti-fraud activities and must be in conformance with the goals and objectives of the Chapter. Provided, however, any such individual whose professional activities or personal background are considered adverse to the objectives and interests of the Chapter shall not be deemed eligible for membership.
3. A special agent or supervisory special agent of the National Insurance Crime Bureau.

B: Associate membership shall include:

1. A full time local, state, or federal law enforcement officer, or prosecutor who is involved in, or provides special expertise or services for the investigation and/or prosecution of insurance fraud crime.
2. A full-time investigator or investigations supervisor of a state insurance fraud bureau.
3. Any employee of an insurance company or representative of a governmental agency who is involved investigation of insurance fraud or who provides special expertise for investigation of insurance fraud provided that:
 - a) the proposed associate member is endorsed in writing by a regular member, and provided that
 - b) in the case of an insurance company employee, the proposed associate member is endorsed in writing by an SIU Manager of the insurance company that employs him or her.
4. Third Party Administrators/General Agency Associate. Employees of TPA's or General Agencies who are involved in, or provide special expertise or services for the investigation of insurance fraud, who is endorsed in writing by a "Regular" member.

C: Honorary Membership shall include:

1. Individuals who have retired from a Special Investigations Unit and who were members of the North Texas Chapter of I.A.S.I.U. at the time of retirement.

D: Life membership shall include those individuals nominated by any member, and Approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors of the North Texas Chapter of the IASIU, based upon the following guidelines:

The North Texas Chapter may bestow Life membership upon any qualified IASIU member who has met the minimum requirements:

1. Individual must be, or have been a regular or associate member of the North Texas Chapter of the IASIU for ten years; or have been an active participant of the establishment of this Chapter and a continuous member since; and
2. Individual must have rendered distinctive service to the North Texas Chapter through participation on committees, and/or service as an officer or member of the Board of Directors for a minimum of 5 years.

Life membership is to recognize outstanding contributions of those regular and/or associate members meeting the above minimum requirements. A life member shall have all the rights and privileges of a regular member without payment of dues. Nominations may be made at any time, and awarded 30 days after final vote of the Board of Directors.

- E: No person, firm, corporation or partnership shall be eligible for any class of membership if he/she/they are a member or associated with, or become associated with any corporation, firm, proprietorship, partnership, business entity, or association whose objectives, goals, and/or operations are inconsistent and or adverse to the purpose, objectives and interests of the Chapter.
- F. No person, firm, corporation or partnership shall be eligible for any class of membership if he/she/they provide investigative/support services as a private contractor to any class of membership or other individual that would qualify as a member. This includes but is not limited to private investigators, origin and cause experts, engineers, healthcare consultants, attorneys, etc.

Section 2

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

- A: Application for membership in the Chapter as a Regular or Associate member shall be submitted to the Chapter at an address designated by the Board of Directors on an approved Membership Application Form, containing the name and signature of a regular member as sponsor of the applicant.
- B: Payment of the application fee and one year's membership dues shall be submitted with the application. Membership dues and/or fees shall be prorated on a quarterly basis.
- C: All individual applicants must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age at the time of application for membership.
- D: The Board of Directors shall determine eligibility for membership for each applicant. Membership shall continue so long as membership dues are paid and the member meets all eligibility requirements.

Section 3 MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL

- A: All applications for membership shall be reviewed by the Membership Committee and then forwarded to the Board of Directors with a recommendation for approval or denial of membership.
- B: All applications for membership shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors. Membership shall be granted upon a three-fourth vote of the Board of Directors, upon applicant's demonstrating eligibility for membership pursuant to these Bylaws and a satisfactory personal and professional reputation and /or standing in the community.
- C: The decision of the Board of Directors in approving or rejecting an application for membership shall be final.

ARTICLE III
ELECTION AND TERMS OF OFFICES

- Section 1 OFFICERS: The officers shall be (A) President, (B) Vice President, (C) Secretary and (D) Treasurer.
- Section 2 TERMS OF OFFICE: The term of officers, (A) President, (B) Vice President, (C) Secretary, and (D) Treasurer will be two (2) years, commencing in 2005 or until the election of their respective successors at the annual meeting. The terms of Directors will be two (2) years and be staggered to commence with the 2006 election. Election of Officers and Directors will be held on alternate years commencing in 2005 at the annual meeting.
- Section 3 VACANCIES: Any vacancy occurring among the officers or the board shall be filled by appointment, by the President. If the office of the President becomes vacant, he/she will be replaced by the Vice President. The term will be the remaining portion of the term vacated.
- Section 4 ELECTION:
- A: All officers and directors will be elected at an annual meeting.
 - B: All companies and/or organizations represented by regular members at the annual meeting shall have one (1) vote for the purpose of election of officers and directors.
 - C: Each company must select one individual who is a regular member to cast the company's vote during the election of officers and directors. The company or organization must inform the Secretary, and his/her designee, of the individual authorized to cast the company vote prior to the start of the annual business meeting.
 - D: All regular members in good standing shall have the right to cast individual votes on all other association business placed before them at the annual business meeting, other than the election of officers and directors.
 - E: Absentee Voting:
 - 1) Every attempt should be made to vote in person.
 - 2) Requests for an absentee ballot must be submitted in writing 'to the Board of Directors no less than 30 days prior to the annual meeting.
 - 3) Absentee voting will be authorized only by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
 - 4) Approval of an absentee ballot request will be based on the legitimate business necessity of the absence. Including but not limited to:
 - a) Scheduled business travel of the company's only member eligible to vote.
 - b) Schedules company functions that conflict with the Chapter's annual meeting.