

**COLORADO CHAPTER OF APCO
CONSTITUTION
June 23, 2006**

ARTICLE I Name and Purpose

Section 1. Name and General Membership Requirements

1.1 This organization shall be known as the Colorado Chapter. Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials International, Inc. or simply APCO-CO or CO-APCO, and referred to in this document as “the Chapter”. As authorized by its charter, issued in 1945, by APCO-International, and as modified, the geographical area included within this Chapter shall be the State of Colorado.

Section 2. Purpose - The purpose of this organization shall be as follows.

2.1 Foster the development and progress of public safety communications and supporting information technologies by means of research planning, coordination, training and education.

2.2 Promote the rapid and accurate collection, exchange and dissemination of information relating to emergencies and other vital public safety communications among and between all levels of local, state, and federal governments and those who work with them.

2.3 Represent its members, public safety communications and supporting information technological interests in general before regulatory and policy-making bodies as may be appropriate.

2.4 Strive to protect the citizen and his property and provide for his welfare by these and other appropriate means.

2.5 Support the APCO organization.

2.6 Abide by the provisions, requirements and restrictions of the APCO Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 3. PUBLIC SAFETY

3.1 Public Safety is defined as that function of government which provides public services concerned with law enforcement, forestry, conservation, fire, highway maintenance, emergency rescue and medical services, emergency management, and other activities supported or endorsed by state and local governments

ARTICLE II Membership

Section 1. Classifications

The membership of this organization shall be open to persons of good character who meet its membership requirements as set forth in Bylaws Except as may be otherwise provided, the right to hold elected office in the Association and in Chapters within the United States of America is a privilege of the Active Member Category only, subject to the individual satisfying all eligibility criteria established for the office being sought. The membership of this Chapter shall be divided into the member classifications as set forth in the APCO Constitution and Bylaws, and other classifications as may be described here, as long as those other classifications do not conflict with the classifications set forth in the APCO Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. Chapter Life Member

2.1 This honor may be bestowed upon members who have, at the Chapter level, made significant contributions toward the fulfillment of the purpose of the Association and Chapter. To be eligible for this recognition the nominee shall, as a minimum have:

Have been a member of APCO a minimum of fifteen (15) years, at least five of which shall be as a member of this chapter; and Hold current membership in the appropriate membership category; and

Made five (5) major contributions toward meeting the needs of the Chapter such as:

Chapter President, one year

Chapter Secretary, three years

Chapter Executive Committee Member, three years

Association Executive Council Member, four years

Chapter Frequency Advisor, three years

Association Standing Committee Chair, two years

Chapter Standing Committee Chair, three years

Chapter Seminar/Meeting Chair, two times

Chapter Seminar/Meeting Committee Chair, two times

Regional or Annual Conference Chair, once

Regional or Annual Conference Committee Chair, once

Chapter Commercial Committee Chair for at least four (4) years

Major contribution to the art of communications

Any item from the requirements for Life Membership in the Association (Article I, Section 3.1.3 of the Association's By-Laws – within the specified limitations) that is not already listed above.

2.2 This honor shall be bestowed upon qualified members of the, Active Member, Commercial, Retired and Member class. The nomination shall be initiated at the Chapter level upon recommendation by the Chapters Executive Committee and a majority approval of the Chapter Quorum. This appointment shall be sent to the Membership Department at the Association Office.

2.3 The privileges of a Chapter Life Member shall be determined by the class of membership for which the member would otherwise qualify.

2.4 The Chapter shall pay annually to the Association Office the dues amount specified in the Association Policy Manual at the rate of the member's qualifying class for each such member during the membership term.

Section 3. Chapter Honorary Member

This honorary designation is reserved for those persons, including those who have retired (and held membership in any category for more than ten (10) consecutive years) due to age or physical disability, who have made significant contribution toward the objectives of the Chapter. This honor shall be bestowed upon a person in the following manner:

3.1 The Chapter Executive Committee shall make a recommendation to the Chapter that such an honor be bestowed; and

3.2 The Chapter quorum, during one of its regularly scheduled meetings, shall approve the recommendation by a majority vote.

3.3 The term of this recognition shall be at the discretion of the Chapter.

3.4 Privileges of a CHAPTER HONORARY member shall be determined by his other membership classification, if any; provided the Chapter shall pay the regular member annual subscription fee for the BULLETIN.

Section 4. Multiple Memberships

A member of this Chapter may affiliate with other chapters of this Association, and this Chapter shall offer reciprocity to members of other chapters in accordance with the APCO C&B pertaining to this classification.

4.1 They shall be a paid-up member with record of membership on file with the Secretary.

Section 5. Retired Members

The following shall be eligible for RETIRED membership in this Association:

Those former members of the Association, in any class, who have fully retired from their former regular occupational positions and are no longer regularly employed and may not have a conflicting commercial interest which provides a significant portion of their income.

5.1 RETIRED members are eligible to hold the elected office of Secretary / Treasurer, serve on special and ad hoc committees, but may not vote except as they may in such committees.

Section 6. Senior Membership Grade

The designation of "Senior" may be added to any category of individual membership. To be eligible for the honor, a member shall meet the following qualifications:

Membership of ten (10) consecutive years or more,
Not less than three (3) significant contributions to
APCO, including one on an Association Level,
Such as: Chapter President – one (1) or more years
Executive Council Member - two (2) or more years,
Regional or Annual Conference Chairperson,
Frequency Advisor - two (2) or more years,
Association Standing Committee Chairperson
Or other qualification as specified the APCO Bylaws Article I, Section 3, Article 3.2.2

Section 7. Changes in Membership Qualifications

Should the status of any member change so as to effect their membership qualifications, they shall automatically have their membership classification changed to conform to their new qualifications.

Section 8. Public Safety Entity Definition

For the purposes of this Constitution and By Laws, a Public Safety Entity is defined as an agency, department, division, or section of a separate function of government which:

8.1 Has been created by state and/or federal laws, and which is fully or to the largest extent, financially supported by tax revenue, and

8.2 Is concerned with the functions of police and general law enforcement, fire, highway safety, emergency rescue and/or emergency preparedness, forestry conservation and the various related activities of state and local government.

Section 9. Dues

The dues rate for each class of membership in this Association, and the policies pertaining thereto, are set forth in By Laws Article II

Section 10. Voting and Officer Restrictions

The right to vote and to hold elected office at all levels and in all areas of this Association is a privilege of ACTIVE members and Members in any membership category who have been granted the designation of "Life Member" in accordance with Article I, Section 3.1 of the Association Bylaws only, with the exception of Secretary / Treasurer, provided other classes of membership may exercise voting privileges only in those specific standing or special committees on which they are permitted and appointed to serve in accordance with the provisions of this Article as pertains to their particular classifications.

ARTICLE III Elected Offices

Section 1. Designation

The Elected Offices of this Chapter are a President, Vice-President (president-elect), Second Vice President, Executive Council Member and Secretary-Treasurer. Members elected or appointed to these offices shall serve their term of office as provided for in Article III, Section 3, but nothing herein contained shall be construed so as to prevent any officer or officers from succeeding themselves in office. For a member to be eligible for office, they must have been a member in good standing for a minimum of twenty-four months prior to the election or appointment.

Section 2. Election of Officers

The election of officers shall be held in the month of October in the following manner:

2.1 The President shall appoint a nominating committee as set forth in By Laws Article III, Section 17 and shall instruct said committee to nominate at least one candidate for each office. The selections of the nominating committee shall be placed on the ballot. Space shall be left on the ballot so that the voter may have the opportunity of writing in the name of a person or persons other than selections of the nominating committee.

2.2 Not less than one month before election of officers, ballots shall be mailed by the Newsletter Editor to each active member. Ballots shall be accompanied by the newsletter, or via separate mailing, advising the member as to the time and place a meeting will be held for election of officers. Said newsletter shall also advise the member that in case he/she cannot attend, he/she may vote by mailing the ballot in a sealed envelope. The envelope shall be marked, Ballots and enclosed in a "mailing" envelope with the senders name, address, and membership number in return address portion of the "mailing" envelope.

2.3 A majority vote cast for one candidate shall be sufficient for his/her election.

Section 3. Terms of Office

3.1 The President, Vice President (President Elect), and 2nd Vice President shall serve for a term of one year, the Executive Council Representative and Secretary/Treasurer for 2 years, all offices starting January 1st of the year their term begins. The President of the Chapter shall advance from the position of Vice President. The Vice President, 2nd Vice president, Executive Council Representative, and Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected by the eligible voting membership of the Chapter for the specific term of their respective office. Should the Vice President decline advancement to President, the Nominating Committee shall nominate those officers who are willing and able to advance, by passing rank for rank, replacing the officer declining advancement. The Nominating Committee may recommend re-nomination for any incumbent for the same rank, or may make recommendation of any active member otherwise qualified to serve in that rank.

3.2 If an elected Chapter Officer's membership status changes from Active to Commercial because of an employment change, they may remain in the elected position and complete the term. Not more than one chapter officer may hold Commercial status. In case this happens, either the first to have the status change may resign, or the second officer will immediately be removed, and the President shall appoint a replacement as per the Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 4. Vacancies

Should any elected office of this Chapter become vacant, the office shall be filled by advancement in rank to "acting" status for the remainder of the term. Should the office of Executive Council Representative, Secretary-Treasurer, or 2nd Vice President become vacant, it shall immediately be filled by a temporary appointment by the President. Such appointee shall serve in acting capacity until the next election of officers. The President shall also immediately notify the Membership Department at the Association Office of such temporary appointment.

ARTICLE IV Chapter Meeting

Section 1. Meetings

There shall be four (4) meetings (minimum) per year that shall meet the requirements as outlined in the

Constitution and Bylaws. A meeting of the Chapter active members held while in attendance at an APCO International Conference may qualify as one of the required meetings

Section 2. Quorum

A Quorum shall consist of the qualified voting members as defined in Article II, Section 10, present and voting at a meeting.

Section 3. Voting Majority

A Simple majority of qualified members present and voting at a meeting shall decide all issues except an amendment to the Constitution and/or Bylaws.

ARTICLE V Amendments

Section 1. Provisions for Amendments

The Constitution and/or Bylaws of this Chapter may be amended in accordance with Article 6 of the bylaws.

ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC-SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS OFFICIALS-INTERNATIONAL, INC

This Constitution and Bylaws were adopted by the voting body of the Colorado Chapter of APCO, Inc on June 23, 2006.

Witness: _____ President

_____ Secretary

_____ Constitution/Bylaws Chairman

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2006