

Constitution of the Western Pacific Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries *(As Amended October 25, 1997)*

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Western Pacific Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The Western Pacific Chapter is established as a non-profit organization under IRC 501(c)(3) to promote law librarianship, to provide for the further professional education of law librarians, to foster a spirit of cooperation among members in the law library profession, to establish a continuing relationship between law librarians and legal entities in the Western Pacific region, to develop and increase the usefulness of law libraries, and to promote the exchange of information and ideas, especially among those law libraries in the states of Alaska, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming, and in the Pacific territories and possessions of the United States.

ARTICLE III. DOCUMENTS

The governing documents of the Chapter shall consist of a Constitution and bylaws.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Classes of membership.

Classes of membership shall be designated in the Bylaws.

Section 2. Antidiscrimination.

Membership in the Chapter or participation in any activity of the Chapter shall not be denied to any individual, or abridged, on account of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, national origin or disability.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

There shall be an annual Chapter meeting, which shall include a business meeting, and such other meetings as provided for in the bylaws.

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. Officers.

The officers of this Chapter shall consist of a President, a Vice-President/President-elect, a Secretary and a Treasurer. All officers of the Chapter must be members in good standing of the Chapter and the President and Vice-President/President-elect must also be members in good standing of the American Association of Law Libraries. No officer shall hold more than one office simultaneously. Officers shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in discharge of their duties, in accordance with the adopted policies of the Chapter.

Section 2. Terms of Office and Duties of Officers.

1. **President.** The Vice-President/President-elect shall become President of the Chapter at the conclusion of the fall annual meeting following his or her election and shall serve a term of one year as President, except as otherwise provided for in section 4 of this Article. The President shall be a member of the Executive Board. The President shall preside at meetings of the members and of the Executive Board and shall perform all other duties customarily pertaining to the office of President.
2. **Vice-President/President-elect.** The Vice-President/President-elect shall assume office at the conclusion of the fall annual meeting following his or her election and shall serve a term of one year as Vice-President/President-elect, except as otherwise provided for in section 4 of this Article. The Vice-President/President-elect shall be a member of the Executive Board. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President/President-elect shall perform the duties of the President, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. The Vice-President/President-Elect shall serve as chair of the Education Committee, and shall be responsible for program planning. The Vice-President/President-elect shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the President.
3. **Secretary.** The Secretary of the Chapter shall assume office at the conclusion of the fall annual meeting in even years following his or her election and shall serve a term of two years, except as otherwise provided for in section 4 of this Article. The Secretary shall be a member of the Executive Board. The Secretary shall in general perform all the duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the President.
4. **Treasurer.** The Treasurer of the Chapter shall assume office at the conclusion of the fall annual meeting in odd years following his or her election and shall serve a term of two years, except as otherwise provided for in Section 4 of this Article. The Treasurer shall be a member of the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall in general perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the President.
5. This section shall take effect immediately upon adoption and as terms of currently serving officers expire.

Section 3. Executive Board.

The incumbent officers and the immediate Past President shall constitute the Executive Board. The Newsletter Editor shall serve as an ex-officio (non-voting) member of the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall make recommendations to the Chapter, have general supervision of the affairs of the Chapter between its business meetings, determine the time and place of meetings, and perform such other duties as specified by the bylaws or parliamentary authority. The Executive Board shall have sole power, on behalf of the Association or any of its committees or subunits, to incur indebtedness, solicit funding, make public statements, issue public writings and establish and maintain relations with other organizations.

1. Terms of Office of Executive Board Members.
 1. President, Vice-President/President-elect, Secretary and Treasurer. Incumbent officers of the Chapter shall serve terms on the Executive Board coterminous with that of their respective offices, except as otherwise provided for in section 4 of this Article.
 2. Immediate Past President. The Immediate Past President shall serve a term of one year, commencing at the conclusion of the fall annual meeting following his or her term of office as President, except as otherwise provided for in section 4 of this Article.

Section 4. Succession of officers and Executive Board members.

In the event that the President is disabled, resigns, or is, in the judgment of the majority of the Executive Board, otherwise unable to perform the duties of the office, the title, duties and obligations of the office shall be assumed by the Vice-President/President-elect, who shall then serve until the end of his or her own term as President. A special election shall be held to fill the office of Vice-President/President-elect upon the assumption of the office of President by the Vice-President/President-elect. The new Vice-President/President-elect shall serve the unexpired term of his or her own predecessor and shall thereafter succeed to the office of President. In the event that the Vice-President/President-elect is disabled, resigns, or is, in the judgment of the majority of the Executive Board otherwise unable to perform the duties of the office, a special election shall be held to fill the office. The new Vice-President/President-elect shall serve the unexpired term of his or her predecessor and shall thereafter succeed to the office of President. The Executive Board shall have the power to fill any vacancy on the Executive Board, except that of President and Vice-President/President-elect. The active member so appointed by the Executive Board shall serve the unexpired term of his or her predecessor, or for an interim period extending to the conclusion of the fall annual meeting, whichever is shorter. Such appointed members may be nominated as any candidates for office in the next election.

ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES

There shall be such standing or special committees as the President or Executive Board shall create or as shall be created by a majority of those present and voting at any business meeting of the Chapter. Appointments of committee chairs and members shall be made by the President, by a committee formed for that purpose, or as otherwise provided for in the bylaws. Committee members' terms shall begin in October of the year in which they are appointed.

ARTICLE VIII. DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution, the net assets of the Chapter shall be distributed to the American Association of Law Libraries, so long as it remains a nonprofit, IRC 501(c)(3) organization. In the event this condition is not fulfilled, the net assets shall be distributed upon majority vote of the members to some other nonprofit IRC 501(c)(3) organization with a purpose similar to that of this Chapter, to be used in such manner as will best accomplish that purpose.

ARTICLE IX. REVISION OF CONSTITUTION AND bylaws

Section 1. Constitutional Amendments.

Any proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be filed with the Secretary at least 45 days prior to the annual Chapter meeting and notice thereof shall be sent to all members at least 30 days prior to such meeting. Proposed Constitutional amendments shall become effective when approved by two-thirds of the voting members present at said annual Chapter meeting, or when approved by two-thirds of the membership eligible to vote by a mail ballot, as determined by the Executive Board.

Section 2. bylaws Revision.

Any By-law may be adopted, repealed, amended, or suspended by a simple majority of the voting members present at the annual Chapter meeting, or when approved by a simple majority of the membership eligible to vote by a mail ballot, as determined by the Executive Board.

Section 3.

No revisions shall be inconsistent with the Constitution and bylaws of the American Association of Law Libraries.

Section 4.

The Constitution and bylaws, whenever revised, shall be submitted to the American Association of Law Libraries for review.