

BYLAWS OF THE ALASKA CHAPTER OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS SOCIETY OF AMERICA
Revised November 2006

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this non-profit professional organization is the Alaska Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

In accordance with the objectives of the Public Relations Society of America, the objectives of the Chapter shall be to advance the art and science of public relations in the public interest; to encourage research, discussion and study of the problems and techniques of the public relations profession; to strengthen and maintain the highest standards of service and ethical conduct by all members of the profession; to exchange ideas and experiences and collect and disseminate information that may enhance or improve the professional knowledge, standards, ethics, standing of the membership; and to promote fraternalism within the profession.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility. To be eligible for membership in the Alaska Chapter (the boundaries of which are those of the state of Alaska), a person must be a member in good standing of the Society. Any such member of the Society is eligible for membership in the Chapter. Multiple chapter memberships are allowable in accordance with the bylaws of the Society.

Section 2. Admission to Membership. Admission to membership in the Society shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of the Bylaws of the Society. Any person admitted to membership in the Society may become a member of the Chapter, if eligible (in accordance with the policies of the Society), upon payment of Chapter dues.

Section 3. Retirement Status. Any member of the Chapter who has been a member of PRSA in good standing for at least five years and is gainfully employed for less than 50 percent of the time is eligible for retirement status. Members on retirement status shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of membership. The dues rate for members on retirement status shall be established annually by the National Assembly in the same manner as dues for the general membership.

Section 4. Termination of Chapter Membership. Any member who for any reason ceases to be a member of the Society or is dropped from the Society's roll for non-payment of dues shall cease to be a member of the Chapter and shall be dropped from the Chapter roll. Any member who does not pay Chapter dues in a timely manner shall be dropped from the Chapter membership roll but may still remain a member of the Society (in accordance with the Bylaws of the Society).

Section 5. Rights and Privileges of Membership. Subject to the Bylaws of the Society, the right to serve as professional advisor to a PRSSA chapter shall be limited to Members who have five years professional experience or who are Accredited.

ARTICLE IV - DUES

Section 1. Amount. The amount of Chapter dues shall be set by the Chapter Board of Directors and shall be payable in accordance with Chapter fiscal policies.

Section 2. Non-payment of Dues. Any member whose Chapter dues are unpaid for three months shall be considered not in good standing and shall not be entitled to vote, hold office or enjoy other privileges of Chapter membership, provided such member shall have been duly notified.

Section 3. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Chapter shall be the calendar year.

ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Composition. The governing body of the Chapter shall be a Board of Directors consisting of at least 13 members. The Board shall be comprised of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, immediate Past President, Ethics Officer, Assembly Delegate(s), and seven Directors-at-Large.

Section 2. Assembly Delegate(s). The Assembly Delegate(s) shall serve as the Chapter's representative at meetings of the PRSA Assembly and shall be elected by the Chapter membership for a three-year term in accordance with provisions of the Bylaws of the Society. It is preferred that at least one of the Delegates be Accredited.

Section 3. Directors-at-Large. Directors-at-Large shall be elected every year by the Chapter Membership at its Annual Meeting to serve a term of two years beginning the following January 1 and until their successors are elected and installed. Four directors shall be elected in even-numbered years and three directors in odd-numbered years.

Section 4. Vacancies. In the event of death, resignation, removal or expulsion of any officer, Director, or Assembly Delegate, or in the event a Director-at-Large is elected to an officer position before completing his/her full term, the Board of Directors shall appoint a successor who shall take office immediately and serve for the balance of the unexpired term.

Section 5. Removal. Any Director who misses more than three consecutive Board meetings without an excuse acceptable to the Board may be given written notice of dismissal by the Chapter President and replaced in accordance with Article V Section 4.

Section 6. Board Meetings. There shall be regular meetings of the Board of Directors at such times and places as it may determine. It shall meet at the call of the President or upon call of any three members of the Board of Directors. Notice of each meeting of the Board shall be given to each Board member at least seven days in advance.

Section 7. Quorum. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for all meetings of the Board.

Section 8. Compensation. No member of the Board of Directors shall be entitled to any salary. The Board may authorize reimbursement or stipends for Board members for expenses incurred in connection with the performance of their duties.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

Section 1. Chapter Officers. The officers of the Chapter shall be President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers shall be elected by the Chapter membership at its Annual Meeting for a term of one year beginning the following January 1 and until their successors are elected and installed. No officer having held the same office for two successive terms shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself in that office.

Section 2. President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Chapter and of the Board of Directors. He/she shall appoint all committees with the approval of the Board of Directors and shall be ex-officio member of all committees. He/she shall perform all other duties incident to the office.

Section 3. President-Elect. The President-Elect shall, in the absence or disability of the President, exercise the powers and perform the duties of the President. He/she shall also generally assist the President and perform such other duties as shall be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep records of all meetings of the Chapter and of the Board of Directors, make copies of such minutes available to Society Headquarters, send notices of all such meetings as directed by the President, and maintain or cause to be maintained the roll of membership, and perform all other duties customarily pertaining to the office.

Section 5. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and deposit all Chapter funds in the name of the Chapter into a bank or trust company selected and approved by the Board of Directors. He/she shall issue receipts and make authorized disbursements by check after proper approval by the President or the Board of Directors when invoices are due. He/she shall prepare the Chapter's budget, make regular financial reports to the Board of Directors, render an annual financial statement to the Chapter membership at its first meeting of each fiscal year and perform all other duties incident to the office.

ARTICLE VII - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominating Committee. There shall be a Nominating Committee of no less than three members (at least one of whom is accredited) appointed by the President at least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Chapter.

Section 2. Nominations. The Nominating Committee shall name a qualified nominee for each officer and for each Assembly Delegate and Director whose term is expiring. It shall ensure that each nominee has been contacted and agrees to serve if elected. Additional nominations, if any, shall be accepted from members at the Annual Meeting provided the nominee(s) has been contacted and agrees to serve if elected.

Section 3. Notice to Membership. At least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Chapter, the Secretary shall send all chapter members a ballot that includes a list of nominees prepared by the Nominating Committee, any proposed Bylaws changes and any other business to be voted upon by the membership.

Section 4. Elections. Officers, Directors and Assembly Delegates shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. Voting on proposed Bylaws changes and any other business before the membership for balloting shall be done at the Annual Meeting. Winners shall be those garnering the most votes of the voting members. Voting may be done by mail, electronically, or in-person at the Annual Meeting. Members who have not yet voted shall be issued a ballot for in-person voting at the meeting. The Secretary shall count the ballots, and election results shall be announced prior to the close of the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees. In addition to the Nominating Committee, the President shall appoint committees necessary to conduct the business of the Chapter. Among other things, committees may be charged with the responsibilities of Membership, Programs, Accreditation and Awards.

Section 2. Committee Reports. Committee activities shall be reported regularly to the Board of Directors. All committee activities and budgets shall be subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX - CHAPTER MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting. There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Chapter in the final quarter of each year at such time and place as the Board of Directors may designate.

Section 2. Regular Meeting. There shall be regular monthly membership meetings at least nine (9) times each year at such times and places as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Chapter may be called by the President, the Board of Directors or on written request by twenty-five (25) percent of the Chapter members.

Section 4. Notice of Meeting. Notice of the Annual Meeting and any other meeting where voting will take place shall be sent by mail or electronically at least thirty (30) days in advance, along with a ballot for voting if an election is being held in conjunction with the meeting. Notice of a regular meeting or special meeting shall be conveyed by mail or electronically to each member at least seven days in advance.

Section 5. Quorum. A majority of the Chapter members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the chapter. Elections shall be decided by a majority vote of the members voting in the election.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

Proposed Bylaws changes must be submitted to, and approved by, the Chapter Board of Directors prior to being placed on the ballot. These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the membership voting in an election, provided at least thirty (30) days' notice has been given to all members of the meeting where the election takes place, and provided a ballot for voting was sent electronically or by mail with the notice, along with a summary of any proposed Bylaws changes. Amendments adopted in accordance with Article X become effective only after approval by the Society's National Board of Directors.