

## BY-LAWS

### FORENSIC ENGINEERING TECHNICAL GROUP LOS ANGELES SECTION AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

#### ARTICLE I. NAME AND OBJECTIVE

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the "Forensic Engineering Technical Group of the Los Angeles Section, American Society of Civil Engineers".

Section 2: The objectives of this Technical Group shall be:

- (a) To advance knowledge and skill in the practice of Forensic Engineering, primarily, but not exclusively, as a service to the Members of the Los Angeles Section, American Society of Civil Engineers.
- (b) To facilitate the exchange of specialized information related to Forensic Engineering, among all members of this Technical Group and the members of the Los Angeles Section.
- (c) To establish a high level of professional standards for the practice of Forensic Engineering.
- (d) To cooperate with other technical groups of the American Society of Civil Engineers in the promotion of the general welfare of the engineering profession and of the Society.
- (e) To encourage participation in this Technical Group by interested members of the Los Angeles Section, by other professionals and the general public at large, so as to expand the positive role of the American Society of Civil Engineers in issues of public policy.

Section 3: The Bylaws and actions of the Branch shall be consistent with the provisions as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Los Angeles Section.

#### ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Regular Membership shall be available to all members of the Los Angeles Section, American Society of Civil Engineers, who are current in the payment of their dues to the Section, and members so described and who subscribe to this Group shall be known as "Regular Members".

Section 2: Adjunct Membership shall be available, subject to individual appointment by the Executive Committee of this Group, to all those who are not eligible to be members of the American Society of Civil Engineers, such as other engineers and individuals who by their educational and/or professional credentials are deemed to hold interests related to the objectives of this Technical Group. Those so appointed who subscribe to this Group shall be termed "Adjunct Members." Adjunct Members may not hold office or vote in Technical Group proceedings, but may otherwise participate in Technical Group activities.

Section 3: Corporate Affiliation shall be available, subject to appointment by the Executive Committee of this Group, to corporations, partnerships and other organizations who sponsor and/or otherwise support activities of the Forensic Engineering Technical Group, and such organizations shall be termed "Corporate Affiliates". Corporate Affiliates may not hold office or vote in Technical Group proceedings, but may otherwise participate in Technical Group Activities. Corporate Affiliates may be recognized in publications and notices of the Technical Group by the reproduction of their business cards or use of their letterheads in such publications and notices, subject to each such individual use having authorization by the Executive Committee.

### ARTICLE III. DUES AND FINANCES

Section 1: The Executive Committee may require an initiation fee subject to the approval of the Section Board.

Section 2: The Executive Committee may require a membership fee subject to the approval of the Section Board.

Section 3: Adjunct Members and Affiliate Members shall be subject to the payment of annual dues as may be determined by the Executive Committee of this Technical Group and authorized by the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Section.

Section 4: The Forensic Engineering Technical Group shall be financially self-supporting and shall pay for its various activities by charging for attendance or participation in such activities, establishing charges for membership services, establishing dues for Adjunct and Affiliate Members, accepting contributions, and by other means authorized by the Executive Committee.

Section 5: The Treasurer shall establish a checking account in the name of the Forensic Engineering Technical Group, and shall maintain records of receipts and expenditures. Signature authority for the checking account shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 6: The Forensic Engineering Technical Group shall operate on a "pay-as-you-go" basis. No authority to create any debts or obligations is granted to the Forensic Engineering Technical Group by the Los Angeles Section or any of its Branches. Funds shall be on hand to cover the costs of any space rentals, catering or food service contracts, printing orders, or any other arrangements for meetings or for any other purpose, unless a prior commitment for guaranteed payment is first obtained from the Los Angeles Section Treasurer or from a Branch Treasurer to cover the cost of any such obligations.

### ARTICLE IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1: The governing of the Forensic Engineering Technical Group shall be vested in its Executive Committee, which shall be constituted of the duly established officers of the Group, consisting of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and the latest resident Past-Chairperson.

Section 2: Each officer shall serve for a term of one (1) year, beginning at the close of the fiscal year, or as may be otherwise established to conform to the close of the fiscal year of the Los Angeles Section, and the duties for each officer shall be as typical and usual for the respective office titles.

Section 3: Should a vacancy occur in any of the Executive Committee offices, such vacancy shall be filled by the then remaining members of the Executive Committee appointing to that office any qualified Regular Member of the Group.

Section 4: Prior to the end of the ASCE National fiscal year, the Chairperson of the Forensic Engineering Technical Group shall file an Annual Report prepared in accordance with the model supplied by ASCE National with the Technical Group Vice President of the Los Angeles Section.

Section 5: The Annual Report shall include a description of the activities of the Group during the year coming to close, a current roster of membership in the Forensic Engineering Technical Group, a financial statement of condition and operating record, showing all receipts and expenditures, and a budget for anticipated income and expense throughout the coming year.

## ARTICLE V. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1: The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Executive Committee.

Section 2: Candidates for elected office may be any Regular Member of the Forensic Engineering Technical Group. The Nominating Committee shall name one or more candidates for each office, and obtain the consent of each candidate to serve if "elected. The nominees shall be announced to the membership prior to July 1st of each year.

Section 3: The Secretary shall prepare a ballot, listing all official nominees for each office and providing a space for a write-in candidate for each office. The ballots shall be presented to all Regular Members in attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Forensic Engineering Technical Group. Voting shall occur by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

Section 4: For contested elections, ballots returned to the Secretary shall be opened and counted at the Annual Meeting by three Tellers, appointed by the Chairperson. The candidate for each office receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected for that office.

Section 5: For the first year of the Forensic Engineering Technical Group, the office of Past Chairperson shall be titled Acting Past-Chairperson and shall be filled by election. In subsequent years, the office of Past-Chairperson shall not be elected but shall be automatically filled by the latest resident Chairperson.

Section 6: The Technical Group Executive Committee shall report the elected state of officers to the Technical Vice President prior to September 20th of each year.

## ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

The Executive Committee may establish, set objectives and appoint members for any other committees it may deem necessary for effective operation of the Forensic Engineering Technical Group.

## ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

Section 1: The time and place of the Annual Meeting of the Forensic Engineering Technical Group shall be set by the Executive Committee prior to September 30th of each year.

Section 2: In addition to the Annual Meeting, The Forensic Engineering Technical Group shall hold at least two (2) regular meetings each year, scheduled at regular intervals by the Executive Committee.

Section 3: Meeting dates, when scheduled, shall be reported to the Los Angeles Section, American Society of Civil Engineers, for listing in their Master Calendar and any changes in such dates shall be subject to approval of the Los Angeles Section. Meeting locations shall be determined by the Executive Committee of the Forensic Engineering Technical Group.

## ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1: These Branch Bylaws may be adopted or amended by only the following procedure:

- (a) The proposed amendments of the Branch Bylaws shall be distributed to the subscribing membership of the Branch who shall be given the opportunity to vote.
- (b) The proposed amendment to the Bylaws may be distributed to the subscribing members of the Branch in attendance at a regular called Branch meeting if the intent of the proposed amendment was made known to the subscribing members along with the meeting notice.

- (c) To become effective it shall receive an affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the subscribing members voting, and receive the approval of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Section (Boundary changes shall also be subject to the approval of the ASCE National Committee on Sections and District Councils.)

ARTICLE IX. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1: No part of the net earnings of the Branch shall inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual and no substantial part of the activities of the Branch shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Branch shall not participate in, or intervene in, (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Section 2. Upon dissolution of the Branch, the assets remaining after the payment of the debts of the Branch shall be distributed to such corporation, community chest, fund, or foundation, organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, testing for public safety, literary or educational purposes, or for the prevention Of cruelty to children or animals, which would then qualify under the provisions of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended, as the Board of Directors shall have designated and in the absence of such designation they shall be conveyed to the American Society of Civil Engineers.

ARTICLE X - APPROVAL

Section 1. These Bylaws and any amendment thereto shall become effective only upon approval of both the Branch Board and the Los Angeles Section Board..

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_, by the \_\_\_\_\_ Forensic Engineering Technical Group of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

Approved \_\_\_\_\_, by the Section Board of Directors of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary