

**CONSTITUTION OF THE  
NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL JUDGE'S ASSOCIATION**

**A Sub-section of the New Mexico Municipal League**

**ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the New Mexico Municipal Judges' Association.

**ARTICLE II. HEADQUARTERS**

The New Mexico Municipal Judges' Association is a sub-section of the New Mexico Municipal League, with headquarters at Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**ARTICLE III. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this association shall be to aid in the improvement of the municipal courts and increase the proficiency of the municipal judges of New Mexico.

**ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION I. ELIGIBILITY:**

- A. Any person who is a judge of a municipal court in New Mexico shall be eligible for full membership in the association. It shall be the duty of the president to invite each eligible person to exercise his rights to such membership.
- B. Alternate or temporary municipal judges, and former municipal judges, shall be eligible for associate membership in the association. Application for such membership shall be approved by the Board of Directors before election to membership.
- C. Any Municipal Judge who was a member of the Municipal Judges' Association for five (5) years or more who is no longer a Municipal Judge shall be eligible for emeritus membership. Emeritus members may serve on committees in an ex-officio capacity, and may not hold office or be a Director.
- D. Honorary members shall be chosen because of distinguished service to the judicial profession. They shall be proposed by at least three active members, and shall be elected only upon a unanimous recommendation of the Board of Directors and a majority vote of the members present at a semi-annual meeting. An election of an honorary member shall be cancelled if an acceptance is not received within six months after the candidate has received the notice of his election.
- E. Eligibility for any class of membership shall be as determined by the Board of Directors.

**SECTION 2. VOTING RIGHTS:**

Each full member whose dues are current shall be allowed one (1) vote on each matter submitted to this association. A full member may designate, in writing, another full member or an associate member to cast his vote by proxy.

**SECTION 3. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS:**

The Board of Directors may, upon the preferring of written charges by four or more full members setting forth reasons, censure, suspend, or expel any member for cause. Notice of such proposed action and reasons therefore shall be mailed or given to the accused within ten (10) days after charges have been preferred; and the accused shall have an opportunity within ten (10) days after notice to present his answer to such charges in writing directly to the Secretary-Treasurer for consideration by the Board of Directors, or to request a hearing before the Board of Directors to be held at such time, place, and manner as may be designated by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall, in determining the time, place, and manner of such hearing, consider the desires of the member, as well as the convenience to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall, in any event, consider the case within thirty (30) days after the accused's answer or, if no answer is presented, within thirty (30) days after the accused has been given notice. An appeal from the decision of the Board of Directors may be taken at the next semi-annual meeting of the Association where, by a majority vote of full members present, such decision may be sustained, reversed, or modified. If suspension is imposed, the period of such suspension shall not exceed one (1) year. A member who has been expelled may only be restored to membership by a three-fourths' majority vote of the full members at a semi-annual meeting.

**SECTION 4. RESIGNATION:**

Any member may resign his membership by a written notice to the Secretary-Treasurer of his desire to do so, after which his resignation shall be accepted.

**ARTICLE V. OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 1. OFFICERS:**

The officers of this association shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, and a Secretary-Treasurer. The President of the Association is a member of the New Mexico Municipal League Board of Directors for a period of one year from the time he is elected to the end of his term. The Secretary-Treasurer shall always be the Executive Director of the New Mexico Municipal League. Election procedures for the President and the Vice-Presidents shall be as specified in the By-Laws of this Association.

**SECTION 2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers, the Immediate Past President and 7 appointed Directors. The President shall appoint the Directors at the N.M. Municipal Judges Association Training Conference Annual Business Meeting.

- A. Each Director shall be a full member in good standing of the association as defined in Article IV of this constitution.
- B. There shall be only one Director from any one municipality.
- C. The Directors shall serve for a term of one year, from the conclusion of the annual business meeting of the Association until the conclusion of the next annual business meeting.
- D. Any Director not attending three successive general or executive board meetings shall automatically forfeit the office held unless such absence is excused upon request of the Director by a majority of the Board.
- E. Vacancies shall be filled by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors.

**SECTION 3. STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE:**

The President shall appoint, with the approval of the Board of Directors, such standing and special committees as the majority of the Board of Directors may deem advisable.

**ARTICLE VI. DUES**

**SECTION 1. AMOUNT:**

The annual dues shall be specified in the By-Laws, but shall not be less than \$150.00 for full members and \$75.00 for associate members. Emeritus members and honorary members shall not pay dues.

**SECTION 2. FISCAL YEAR:**

The fiscal year shall begin on the first day of July 1 of each calendar year and end on the last day of June of the following calendar year. Dues shall be due and payable in full on or before the first day of each fiscal year.

**SECTION 3. DELINQUENCY:**

Any full or associate member whose dues are in arrears for a period of three (3) months shall be suspended from membership and notified by the Secretary-Treasurer in writing of his suspension.

**ARTICLE VII. CHECKS, DRAFTS, AND NOTES**

All checks and drafts or other orders for the payment of money, and notes or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the Association, shall be signed by the President and the Secretary-Treasurer.

## **ARTICLE VIII. GIFTS AND SOLICITATIONS**

### **SECTION 1. GIFTS:**

The Secretary-Treasurer may accept on behalf of the Association any contribution, gift, bequest, or device for the general purpose or for any special purpose of the Association.

### **SECTION 2. SOLICITATIONS:**

No subscriptions or solicitations shall ever be allowed to be made in the name of the Association unless approved by the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Municipal League.

## **ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENT OR REPEAL**

### **SECTION 1. VOTE REQUIRED:**

This constitution may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds' vote of the full members of the association present at a semi-annual meeting, provided at least one-third of the full members are present at the meeting.

### **SECTION 2. NOTICE:**

Any proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Board of Directors not less than sixty (60) days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is to be considered, and the Board of Directors shall report its recommendation to the Association.

### **SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE:**

Any amendment adopted by the Association shall become effective upon approval by the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Municipal League.

## **ARTICLE X. SAVING CLAUSE**

### **SECTION 1. FULL OR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:**

All persons who are full or associate members of the New Mexico Municipal-Magistrate Judges' and Municipal Attorneys' Association on the effective date of this Constitution shall continue in the same category of membership in this Association until the end of the fiscal year for which their dues have been paid.

### **SECTION 2. HONORARY MEMBERS:**

All persons who are honorary members of the New Mexico Municipal Magistrate Judges' and Municipal Attorneys' Association on the effective date of this Constitution shall continue indefinitely as honorary members of this Association.

SECTION 3. OFFICERS:

The officers of the New Mexico Municipal-Magistrate Judges' and Municipal Attorneys' Association on the effective date of this Constitution shall continue indefinitely as honorary members of this Association.

**ARTICLE XI. REPEAL OF PRIOR CONSTITUTION**

The Constitution adopted by the New Mexico Municipal-Magistrate Judges' and Municipal Attorneys' Association on June 16, 1972, is hereby repealed.

**ARTICLE XII. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Constitution shall become effective after adoption by a two-thirds' vote of the full members present at the meeting during which it is considered, provided at least one-third of the full members are present, and upon approval of the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Municipal League.

**ADOPTED BY THE NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL JUDGES ASSOCIATION THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_.**

**AMENDED BY THE NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL JUDGES ASSOCIATION ON JUNE 16, 1989, AND APPROVED BY THE NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON MAY 19, 1990.**

**AMENDED BY THE NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL JUDGES ASSOCIATION ON AUGUST 28, 1996, AND APPROVED BY THE NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON OCTOBER 5, 1996.**

**AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI OF THE CONSTITUTION APPROVED BY THE NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL JUDGES ASSOCIATION ON JUNE 13, 2003.**

# **BY-LAWS OF THE NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL JUDGES ASSOCIATION**

A Sub-section of the New Mexico Municipal League

## **ARTICLE I. DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

### **SECTION 1. PRESIDENT:**

The President shall be the principal executive officer of the Association and shall, in general, supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the Association. The President shall, except as provided in Section 2 of this Article, preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors.

### **SECTION 2. VICE-PRESIDENTS:**

In the event the President is absent, or is unable to perform the duties of President, the First Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President. In the event of the absence or inability of both the President and First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President. The Vice-Presidents shall perform such duties as, from time to time, may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.

### **SECTION 3. SECRETARY-TREASURER:**

The Secretary-Treasurer, or his designated alternate, shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors in one or more books provided for that purpose; see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws; be custodian of the Association records; keep a register of the post office address of each member, which shall be furnished to the Secretary-Treasurer by such member; have charge and custody of, and be responsible for, all funds and securities of the Association; receive and give receipts for all money payable to or by the Association from any source whatsoever; and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors. The Secretary-Treasurer may designate any member of the staff of the New Mexico Municipal League to perform any of the duties of the Secretary-Treasurer.

### **SECTION 4. BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

The Board of Directors shall assist and advise the President and Officers with the business and affairs of the Association.

## **ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

### **SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY:**

Any full member of this Association whose dues are current shall be eligible for election to any office, except that of Secretary-Treasurer, but shall not be eligible for re-election to the same office.

### **SECTION 2. NOMINATIONS:**

- A. Nominations shall be made at the annual business meeting by a nominating committee of not less than three members, appointed by the President, with the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors.
- B. At the time the nominating committee makes the nomination for each elective office, additional nominations shall be permitted from the floor.

**SECTION 3. ELECTION:**

The candidate receiving a majority of the votes for each office shall be declared elected. In the event no candidate receives a majority of the votes on the first ballot, another ballot shall be taken between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes on the first ballot, and the one receiving the majority of votes shall be elected. The officers elected shall take office at the conclusion of the annual business meeting of the Association, and shall hold office until the conclusion of the next annual business meeting.

**SECTION 4. FILLING VACANCIES:**

In the event any officer, except the Secretary-Treasurer, ceases to be a full member of this Association, the Board of Directors shall declare that office vacant. If the vacancy occurs in the Office of President, the First Vice-President shall become President. If the vacancy occurs in the Office of First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President shall become First Vice-President. If the vacancy occurs in the Office of the Second Vice-President, the Board of Directors shall fill such vacancy by appointment from the eligible full membership of the Association. Such appointment shall be effective only for the balance of the current term of office.

**ARTICLE III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**SECTION 1. DUTIES:**

The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the Association, and shall have authority to take all appropriate measures and perform all duties required to accomplish the objectives of the Association.

**SECTION 2. MEETINGS:**

The Board of Directors shall convene from time to time at the call of the President.

**ARTICLE IV. DUES**

The annual dues for each full member of the Association shall be \$150.00 and the annual dues for each associate member of the Association shall be \$75.00.

## **ARTICLE V. MEETINGS**

### SECTION 1. SEMI-ANNUAL MEETINGS:

- A. Meetings of this Association shall be held at least semi-annually. The annual business meeting shall be held during the annual judicial training program required by statute, and the second semi-annual meeting shall be held during the annual conference of the New Mexico Municipal League. Written notice of the time and place of each semi-annual meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary-Treasurer to all members not less than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting date.
- B. At semi-annual meetings of the Association, the order of business shall be as follows, but may be suspended by a majority vote of full members present: (1) Roll Call; (2) Reading and Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting; (3) Reading of Communications; (4) Report of the Secretary-Treasurer; (5) Old Business; (6) Committee Reports (except Nominating Committee); (7) New Business; (8) Report of the Nominating Committee (Annual Business Meeting only); (9) Election of Officers (Annual Business Meeting only); (10) Adjournment.

### SECTION 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS:

- A. Special meetings may be held upon call of the President or a majority of the Board of Directors. Notice of any special meeting shall be provided by the Secretary-Treasurer as early as practicable.
- B. The order of business at a special meeting shall be as determined by the Board of Directors.

### SECTION 3. RULES OF ORDER:

- A. All questions of order shall be decided by the presiding officer, subject to appeal by any member of the Association.
- B. Any question coming before the meeting for which no provision has been made in the Constitution or By-Laws, shall be governed by the rules laid down in "Robert's Rules of Order."

### SECTION 4. QUORUM:

Twenty percent (20%) of the full membership shall constitute a quorum of the Association, and a simple majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENT OR REPEAL**

### SECTION 1. VOTE REQUIRED:

These By-Laws may be amended or repealed by a majority vote of the members present at a semi-annual meeting.



SECTION 2. NOTICE:

Any proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Board of Directors not less than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is to be considered, and the Board of Directors shall report its recommendations to the Association.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE:

Any amendment adopted by the Association shall become effective upon approval by the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Municipal League.

**ARTICLE VII. REPEAL OF PRIOR BY-LAWS**

The By-Laws adopted by the New Mexico Municipal Magistrate Judges' and Municipal Attorneys' Association on June 16, 1972 are hereby repealed.

**ARTICLE VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE**

These By-Laws shall become effective after adoption by a majority vote of the full members present at the meeting during which are considered and upon approval of the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Municipal League.

**ADOPTED BY THE NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL JUDGES' ASSOCIATION THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_.**

**AMENDED BY THE NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL JUDGES ASSOCIATION ON JUNE 16, 1989, AND APPROVED BY THE NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON MAY 19, 1990.**

**AMENDMENT TO ARTCLE IV OF THE BY-LAWS APPROVED BY THE NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL JUDGES ASSOCIATION ON JUNE 13, 2003.**