

ARTICLE VIII ELECTIONS

Section 8.01 Election of Officers: To insure that FDOA conferences and activities are maintained at the highest level of quality and consistency, the offices of President and Vice President will be filled by a system of progression. The highest office to be filled through the election process is First Vice President. The First Vice President will be elected for a four (4) year term, and will automatically advance through the offices as follows: serve first year as First Vice President, serve second year as Vice President, and serve third year as President.

Section 8.02 Election of District Representatives: Each District Representative shall be elected to a two-(2) year term of office. All Active members, in good standing within the designated region, shall elect their District Representative by ballot returnable to the person or committee designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 8.03 Nominations: An Active member, in good standing, may run as a candidate for office for any vacancy as stated in Article VI. Nominations must be submitted as set forth by the Nominating Committee.

Section 8.04 Election Procedures:

- A. Elections shall be done by written secret ballot (except as provide by "B") to be done at the Annual Conference.
- B. If an office is uncontested, a voice vote may be taken.
- C. Proxy ballots are not permitted.
- D. The Election Committee chairperson shall appoint the Election Committee members. The Election Committee shall consist of five (5) District Representatives; one (1) from each designated Region of the State.
- E. Each active member in good standing has voting privileges. Each voting member will vote within their respective district for persons nominated for positions with the Board of Directors. Each district's majority vote will be cast by the duly elected District Representative as a single electoral vote for persons nominated and running for an office of the Executive Committee.
- F. At the Annual Conference, the Election Committee Chairperson shall verbally describe the office(s) to be voted upon, and the qualifications of the individuals running for said office(s) as specified in the by-laws, Candidates will be given time to address the conference attendees. The following time allowances shall apply:

1. Candidate's speech	5 minutes
2. Rebuttal (if requested)	3 minutes
3. Questions from the floor	15 minutes
- G. The Elections Committee shall have the following duties:
 - 1. Shall verify and approve all filed applications to include a commitment from all candidates' agencies.
 - 2. Shall serve as a Nominating Committee, if necessary,
 - 3. Shall prepare, distribute, collect, validate, and tabulate all ballots.

4. Shall "man and supervise" the poll during the election.
 5. Shall ensure that all election regulations and procedures are followed.
 6. Shall review and monitor campaign materials and practices. If, in their opinion, any campaign is deemed to be unfair or unprofessional, they will recommend to the Board of Directors that such candidate be removed from the election process.
- H. The Election Committee chairperson shall monitor the tabulation of all ballots, and shall announce the results of the election at a reasonable time during the conference.