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Pierce County Search and Rescue Council
Constitution and By-Laws

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME

This organization shall be known as the Pierce County Search and Rescue Council.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this Council is to provide an association of certified search and rescue units within Pierce County.

ARTICLE III - OBJECTIVES

1. To promote the exchange of information between persons who are knowledgeable in search and rescue disaster operations.
2. To promote cooperation with any other organizations or agencies that have search and rescue and disaster operation responsibilities.
3. To promote the continuing education of the public in wilderness and urban survival techniques.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

1. Any organization having an interest in promoting the purpose and objectives as stated above shall be eligible to request membership in the Council.
2. Membership to requesting organizations will be granted by a vote of the membership after having met the guidelines outlined in the By-Laws.

3. Any organization installed as a member unit of this Council shall be expected to respond as frequently as possible to the requests or assistance, when made by the law enforcement agencies of this area.

A unit's failure to respond as determined by the Pierce County Sheriff's Department or its designee will necessitate the unit being put on inactive status. Once a unit has been put on inactive status. They must become recertified, according to Article I, Section 2 of the By-Laws, within one year of institution of inactive status.

4. Upon Council Executive Board approval and recommendation at any regular meeting, individuals may be accorded a lifetime membership in the Pierce County Search and Rescue Council. Conditions/Requirements:

a. Members in question may not submit his/her own name for consideration.

b. Member in question must have served a minimum of 12 years as a member of a constituent unit.

c. As this award is a recognition of outstanding services to search and rescue community over time, it is understood that this is an honorary award and nothing further would be required of the individual(s). To continue to actively serve in search and rescue functions, one must still meet all requirements of the county regarding registration and fitness.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

1. A general membership meeting of this Council shall be held at least quarterly, unless rescheduled for some reason by the president, and/or Executive Board.

2. The Executive Board meetings of this Council shall be held at least quarterly-at a designated place, unless rescheduled for some reason by the President and/or the Executive Board members.

a. The Executive Board meetings are open to all members of the Pierce County Search and Rescue Council but may be closed for Executive Session.

b. Location of the meetings will be announced by the president of the Council, following a decision of the Council Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

1. To facilitate coordination and expedite the effective management of the membership of this Council, a slate of officers shall be elected by the membership of this Council and shall be known as the Executive Board. Those officers shall include:

President

Vice President
Treasurer
Two Members At Large
Secretary
Sergeant At Arms (appointed)

2. The immediate past president may also be a member of this Council Executive Board upon invitation.

3. Every officer, elected or appointed, shall be a member of a constituent organization of the Council.

4. The duties of these officers are outlined in the By-Laws of this organization.

ARTICLE VII - ELECTION AND VOTING

1. Nominations for officers shall be made at the regularly scheduled meeting in the third quarter

2. Election of officers shall be held during the regularly scheduled meeting in the fourth quarter. In the event of an emergency resulting in cancellation of the fourth quarter elections will take place at the next scheduled meeting.

3. Each unit will be given one vote. If no simple majority is received by the first ballot, the highest two names on the list will remain for re-ballot.

4. Further guidelines for nominations, elections and balloting are detailed in the By-Laws of this Council.

5. Officers take office on January 1st of each New Year.

ARTICLE VIII - CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

Amendments/changes shall be read before one general meeting with no discussion. At the next meeting, the Constitution change shall be read again with discussion and if no change, may be put to the vote.

1. Discussion will consist of no more than two (2) minutes per person and 10 minutes per subject.

2. The president will appoint a sergeant-at-arms prior to the discussion.

3. A majority vote of the unit delegates present will constitute passage.

4. The Bylaws Committee shall be comprised of the Pierce County Search and Rescue Council Executive Board.