

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN FAMILY SUPPORT COUNCIL

CONSTITUTION

The purpose of the Southeast Michigan Family Support Council (“hereinafter referred to as “Council”) shall be:

1. To provide a representative organization for all domestic relations personnel in southeast Michigan comprised of membership from counties who have joined or may later join. At the time of the adoption of this Constitution those counties are: Lenawee, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair and Wayne.
2. To promote and maintain uniform standards and procedures within the statewide domestic relations system.
3. To encourage progressive legislation, resolutions, and desirable programs representing the common interest of the children and their families in the southeast region of the State of Michigan.
4. To provide a forum for continued study of improvements and problems with the child support enforcement/establishment program as it relates to the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, the Friend of the Court office, and the Support Specialists.
5. To sponsor, promote and present training seminars relating to domestic relations, as needed and desired by the membership.
6. To promote and foster effective communication among members of this Council, other regions and the State.

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this association shall be the Southeast Michigan Family Support Council.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership is limited to those persons who are Prosecuting Attorneys, Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys, their administrative staff, Friends of the Court, assistant Friends of the Court, their administrative staffs, Office of Child Support support specialists and their administrative staffs.

Section 2. Membership entitles the member to the right to attend all meetings of the general membership, to vote on all proceedings, to hold office and to attend all functions open to the general membership.

Section 3. Associate membership is open to any person actively or previously employed in child support within the Southeast region upon approval of the Board of Directors. Associate members shall enjoy every privilege of this Council except the right to vote and hold office.

Section 4. Membership dues shall be determined by the general membership.

ARTICLE III – BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Section 1. The business and affairs of the Council shall be managed and administered by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of the following: No more than two (2) directors per County shall be selected from members the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney and no more than two (2) directors shall be selected from members of the Friend of the Court. Six (6) directors shall be selected from members of the Office of Child Support.

Section 3. The term of the office of each Director shall be for two (2) years with staggered terms to insure that no more than one-half (1/2) of the membership shall have their terms expire annually. Unless no one else volunteers and the person remains. If two (2) directors from same agency and county are on the ballot in the same year, then the person getting the highest votes will serve a two (2) year term and the person with the least amount of votes will serve a one (1) year term.

Section 4. The Officers of the Council shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 5. The Officers shall be elected by the Board of Directors present at the first meeting following the annual meeting and shall serve as an Officer until the month following the annual meeting.

Section 6. If a vacancy occurs among the Directors, the Board shall appoint a successor to serve the remainder of the unexpired term of office, except as otherwise provided for in the by-laws, or as prescribed by a majority of the board.

ARTICLE IV – COMMITTEES

The Board of Directors and/or the President shall establish all committees and appoint the members and chairpersons to study and/or act on special issues and concerns of the Council.

ARTICLE V – LIMITATIONS

Section 1. The Council is nonpartisan.

Section 2. No debts shall be incurred in excess of the funds in the treasury of the Council.

Section 3. Any proposal to affiliate with any other association or organization must be approved by a majority vote of those present and voting at the meeting of the General Membership

ARTICLE VI – AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

The power to amend this constitution shall be exercised by either the general membership or the Board of Directors as prescribed in the following:

- a. By a majority vote of the general membership present and voting at an Annual Meeting. Notice of the proposed amendment(s) to the Constitution shall be made at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting; or
- b. By a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors.