

CONSTITUTION

- I. The name of the Association is The Montana Correctional Association.
- II. The Association is a corporation as defined in the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of the State of Montana.
- III. The purposes and objectives of the Association are as follows:
 - a. To provide a professional association of persons, agencies, and organizations, both public and private, who hold in common the goal of bettering the profession of corrections and enhancing their contribution to that profession.
 - b. To encourage enrollment, as affiliates to the Association, of other organizations whose areas of interest, expertise, and concern have commonality with the field of corrections and whose goals and principles are consistent with those of the Association.
 - c. To establish corporate missions and promulgate and promote policies consistent with the Association's governing documents.
 - d. To support laws and administrative procedures to safeguard the rights of corrections workers, victims, and offenders in the adult and juvenile correctional process.
 - e. To conduct or sponsor corrections conferences, congresses, institutes, forums, seminars, and meetings.
 - f. To broaden and strengthen the support for Association goals by advocating Association policies, resolutions, positions, and standards to policymakers and the public and by forming coalitions with other professional organizations sharing these goals.
 - g. To implement an information program for legislators, government leaders, and the public in order to promote rational legislation governing the criminal justice process for adult and juvenile offenders.
 - h. To promote recognition of corrections as a profession, and those who work in corrections as professionals, and to ensure validity of that recognition by encouraging the recruitment and development of highly qualified staff.

- i. To ensure representation of minorities, women, and other protected classes in the ranks of corrections professionals and to inform policymakers and the public of the importance of such representation for a safe and effective corrections system.
 - j. To promulgate and promote a code of correctional ethics applicable to individuals and to public and private agencies, institutions, programs, and services throughout the correctional field.
- IV. The business affairs and the programs of the Association shall be conducted on a non-discriminatory basis.
 - a. Membership shall be available to anyone regardless of age, race, religion, color, national origin, marital status, disabilities, or sex.
 - b. The Association shall require non-discriminatory activities and programs within its affiliates and chapters.
- V. Individuals and organizations shall be admitted to membership in the Association as provided in the Bylaws.
- VI. The Association is not organized for profit and no part of its net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any Governor, officer, employee or individual, and no Governor, officer, employee or individual of the Association shall receive or be entitled to receive any income of any kind there from, except for reasonable compensation for services rendered to or for the Association in effecting one or more of its purposes. No Governor, officer, or employee of the Association or private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of the Association's property or assets in the event of liquidation or dissolution of the Association, whether voluntary or involuntary, and in such event all of the remaining property and assets of the Association shall, after deducting all necessary expenses of liquidation or dissolution, as the case may be, be distributed to such organizations as shall qualify under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).
- VII. This Constitution may be amended by the action of the general membership. Proposed amendments may be submitted to the general membership by the Board of Governors or by the petition of ten (10) percent or more members. Proposed amendments shall be presented to the general membership by mail ballot and upon majority vote of those voting the amendment shall be approved and the effective date of the amendment shall be contained within the amendment.

VIII. The principal office of the Association is in the State of Montana. The Association shall designate a registered office and agent in accordance with the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of the State of Montana and shall maintain it continuously. The Association may have offices at such other places within and the State of Montana as the Board of Governors may from time to time determine.