

San Jacinto County First Responders  
Bylaws

Amended 30 November 2023

# San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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## ARTICLE I

### Name and Principal Office

#### 2.1 **Name:**

The corporation's name is **SAN JACINTO COUNTY FIRST RESPONDERS, INC** hereinafter called **"SJCFR"**.

#### 1.1 **Principal Office:**

SJCFR Principal Office is at 20 Counts Road, Point Blank, Texas 77364. Its mailing address is P.O Box 1023, Coldspring, Texas 77331-9998.

## ARTICLE II

### Scope and Policies

#### 2.2 **Scope:**

**SJCFR** shall organize, support, maintain, and operate a non-profit entity to render and teach first aid/CPR/AED, provide First Responders emergency medical services, and rescue those in need in San Jacinto County, Texas. **SJCFR** shall engage in mutual aid and have a signed agreement with the contracted ambulance provider for the San Jacinto County Emergency Service District Board. **SJCFR** shall be a member-driven organization that exists for the benefit of the people of San Jacinto County.

#### 2.3 **Policies:**

- a. **SJCFR** shall be a non-partisan non-profit corporation;
- b. The name of **SJCFR** or the names of any member in their official capacities shall not be used in any connection with a commercial concern or with any partisan interest for any purpose not appropriately related to the promotion of the above-defined purpose for which **SJCFR** was created;

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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- c. **SJCFR** shall be strictly non-political in that no vote shall ever be taken by the Board of Directors related to political advancement of any individual or special interest groups and facilities/resources of this membership shall not be used for such purpose. Nor shall **SJCFR**, directly or indirectly, participate or intervene in any way (including the publishing or distribution of statements) in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office. **SJCFR** shall not attempt to influence legislation.
- d. **SJCFR** shall abide by all contractual obligations in and between **SJCFR** and the San Jacinto County Emergency Service District 1 and/or duly passed resolutions of the San Jacinto County Emergency Service District 1 board.
- e. Membership in **SJCFR** shall be open to all citizens of San Jacinto County or surrounding counties, who are eighteen (18) years or older without regard to race, national or ethnic origin, color, religion or creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, family status, genetic characteristics or disability. However, such a person must have the ability to read, write, and speak the English language, and to satisfy the statutory, physical, and training requirements as set forth in these by-laws and/or as may be promulgated by the Department of Health of the State of Texas.
- f. Notwithstanding any other provision of these by-laws. **SJCFR** shall not carry on any other activities not permitted by a corporation exempt from Federal income Tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).
- g. No part of the net earnings of the **SJCFR** shall benefit or be distributed to its members, directors, officers, or other private persons. Except that

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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the **SJCFR** shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distribution in furtherance of the purpose set forth in Article VI - Meetings.

h. Drug and Alcohol Policy:

- Members shall not drink or be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs while representing SJCFR while on official business or responding to a call.
- Members shall not drive, ride, or perform any tasks on any motor vehicle owned by San Jacinto County Emergency Service District 1 after drinking alcoholic beverages and/or taking drugs while on or off duty.
- Members found in violation of drinking alcoholic beverages and/or taking drugs will be subject to ARTICLE IX (9) of these bylaws.

### ARTICLE III

#### Membership

**3.1 Application for Membership:**

Application may be obtained from any officer of **SJCFR**. Each person desirous of becoming a member of **SJCFR** must apply. Completed applications shall be given to an officer of **SJCFR**.

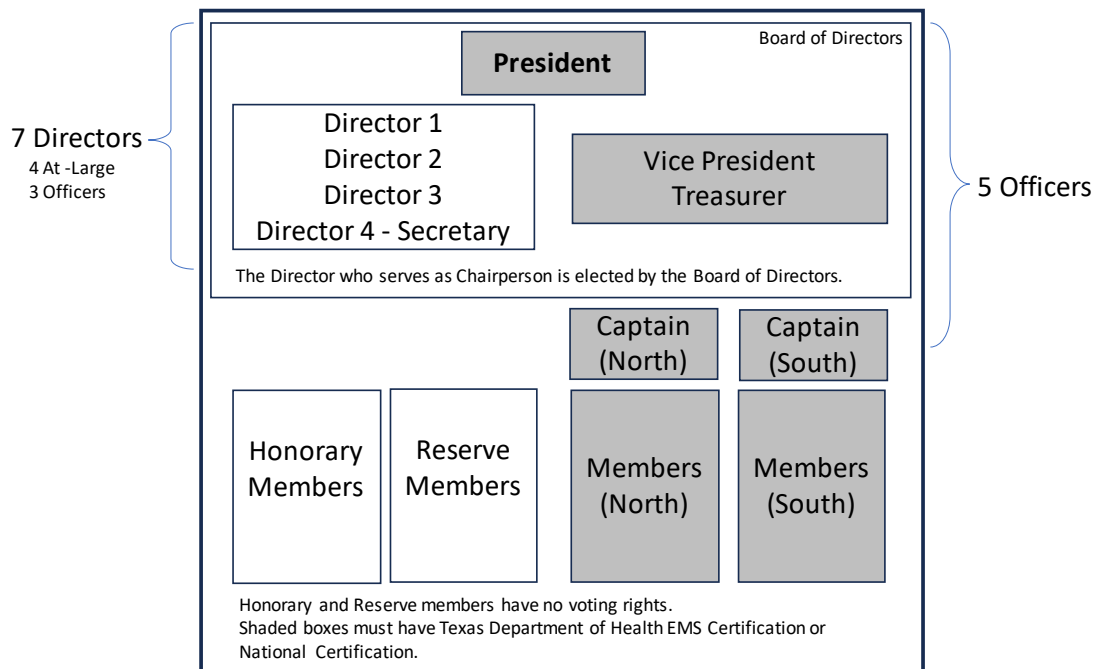
The President has the sole responsibility of reviewing each application per **SJCFR** membership requirements as set forth in these bylaws. The Board of Directors has the authority to request a closed meeting to discuss applications. Once an applicant is verified by the Board of Directors, the applicant must receive a majority vote of the membership. Applicants shall be on probation for six (6) months as defined as expulsion from SJCFR by a majority of members, or a majority of Directors with or without cause.

# San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

## 3.2 Classification and Voting Rights:

SJCFR has four (4) membership classifications. These are as follows:

- a. Regular members hold Texas Department of Health EMS Certification or National Certification and reside in San Jacinto County or surrounding counties. The certification level will include EMRs and EMT-B only. Advanced EMTs and Paramedics will only be able to use skills up to the EMT-B level of certification. Regular members are entitled to vote as per Section IX – Grievance, Complaints, and Discipline Action.
- b. At-large Directors are at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and need not be certified by the Texas Department of Health but should meet the qualifications of Section 4.3. There are four (4) At-large Directors, which includes the Secretary, and they are entitled to vote as per Section IX – Grievance, Complaints and Discipline Action.
- c. Reserve Members are at least eighteen years of age and need not be certified by the Texas Department of Health. They must participate in and enhance the organization of **SJCFR**. Reserve members are not entitled to vote.
- d. Honorary Members are persons specially designated by the Board of Directors and/or membership (may reside outside of San Jacinto County). Honorary members are not entitled to vote.



## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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### 3.3 **Maintaining Membership:**

Regular members must do the following to be active members of **SJCFR**.

Failure to maintain active membership requirements will result in a review with possible disciplinary action decided by the membership.

- a. Abide by rules, regulations, and bylaws.
- b. Submit written or e-mail reports on all first responder calls.
- c. Respond to at least one (1) call per year.
- d. Maintain EMS credentials

## ARTICLE IV

### Board of Directors

#### 4.1 **Election of Officers and Directors:**

The members shall elect officers and directors of **SJCFR**. Only members in good standing of **SJCFR** can be nominated for elected positions. President, Vice President, and Treasurer must have Regular Member service time with **SJCFR** as below before being serving in these positions.

#### 4.2 **Power and Duties:**

Subject to any provisions that may be set forth in **SJCFR**'s articles of incorporation, (ii) the Texas Business Corporation Act, (iii) the Texas Miscellaneous Corporation Law Act, and (iv) the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, all business affairs of the corporation and all corporate powers shall be managed by or exercised under the direction of the Board of Directors. Among other things, the Board of Directors shall have the power and duty to do the following:

- a. Transact necessary business for **SJCFR** as may be referred to it by the various members of **SJCFR** or elsewhere;

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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- b. Establishes a bank account and check signing procedures, including which officer(s) have the power to sign checks;
- c. Establish financial management, auditing, and internal control systems.
- d. Create standing and/or special purpose committees;
- e. Approve routine bills within the limits of the budget;
- f. Recommend the approval of or deny applications based upon the criteria set forth in these bylaws;
- g. Establishes a mandatory system for maintaining (1) member's information, (2) copy of certifications (3) CE hour records, (4) run reports, (5) problem or disciplinary actions.

### **4.3 Numbers:**

The authorized number of directors shall be seven (7) unless changed by an amendment to these bylaws. Four (4) of such directors shall be known as "AT LARGE DIRECTORS". These directors will represent San Jacinto County. Officers elected as President, Vice President, and Treasurer shall serve as the remaining three (3) directors. No member may hold more than one Board position at one time. The majority of board members shall be unrelated.

### **4.4 Qualifications for At-Large Directors:**

At large directors shall be citizens of San Jacinto County who (I) are automatically designated to be Reserve Members of SJCFR during the period they serve on the Board of Directors, (II) persons who are respected in the community for being persons of highest moral and ethical character, (III) persons who have demonstrated their ability to promote community-minded projects, and (IV) persons who ensure that adequate finances, leadership, and proper internal controls exist to carry out the non-profit organization's goals.

### **4.5 Term of Office for At-Large Directors:**

At-large directors shall be nominated at the membership meeting held previous to the November meeting and elected at the November monthly membership business meeting of the same year and once elected, at-large directors shall serve two (2) calendar years effective January 1. Odd and even years are determined by when at-large directors assume office on January 1. In odd-number years, the members shall elect at-large directors for positions One (1) and Three (3). In an even number of years, the members shall elect at-large directors for positions Two (2) and Four (4). The at-large director position Four (4) is the secretary and is defined in section 4.8. Directors may serve successive terms.

### **4.6 Vacancies:**

A vacancy on the Board of Directors shall exist in the case of the death, resignation, or removal of any director. Upon such vacancy, the Board of Directors shall call a special meeting to nominate a director and an election will be held at the end of the next monthly membership business meeting. A director elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of their predecessor.

### **4.7 Chairperson of the Board of Directors:**

The first order of business of each newly constituted Board of Directors shall be to elect a Chairperson for the forthcoming year. The Chairperson leads the Board of Directors while the President leads the organization. The Chairperson must demonstrate exceptional commitment to the organization, first-rate leadership qualities, and personal integrity. As head of the Board of Directors, the Chairperson has a strategic role, ensures proper governance/compliance with bylaws, resolves legal issues, helps set long-term objectives/plans, reviews financial reports, and is the representative to the San Jacinto County Emergency Services Board (ESD) for any grievances or investigations. The Board of Directors is the authority/appeal on grievance issues for all members and officers



## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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unless overruled by a majority vote of members. Though the Chairperson is the leader of the Board of Directors, they are not responsible for the leadership, management, operations, or performance of the organization. To preserve checks and balances the Chairperson and President shall not be related unless the membership votes otherwise.

### **4.8 Secretary:**

The Secretary shall be one of the at-large directors. The Secretary will be elected by the membership.

The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings (including training meeting attendance) of SJCFR and the Board of Directors and have edited transcripts of the recording to be submitted as minutes at the next monthly meeting. All recordings will be retained for future reference as deemed necessary. Board of Directors' meeting minutes will be approved at next meeting and signed by the Secretary and President or Chairperson.

The Secretary will assist the Chairperson, President, Vice President, and Treasurer with paperwork, such as preparing and archiving documents. The Secretary shall prepare ballot material and assist with counting votes for the election of Board members. Ballots will be kept by the Secretary for two (2) years.

The Secretary will assist with the execution of the bylaws and government-related documents.

### **4.9 Frequency and Notice of Meetings:**

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall coincide with the regular business meeting.

The Chairperson, the President, or at least three Directors, shall be authorized to call a special meeting of the Board of Directors upon in-person, phone text, email, or mail notice to all the Directors at least ten (10) days but

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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no more than twenty-one (21) days in advance of the special meeting and provide the time, date, venue, and purpose of the special meeting.

Waiver of the notice period: An emergency board meeting may be called by the Chairperson or the President or by any two Directors other than the President, if there are circumstances that could not have been reasonably foreseen which require immediate attention and possible action by the board, and which of necessity make it impracticable to provide notice.

Regular Board of Director meetings may be held with or without a notice period.

### **4.10 Quorum and Board Action:**

A quorum of all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be four (4) of the authorized number of directors set forth in these Bylaws, providing the directors are unrelated. If two (2) of the Board members are related, a minimum of five (5) directors is required for a quorum. The maximum number of related Board of Directors shall be three (3). The act of most of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be an act of the Board of Directors, unless a greater number is required by law.

### **4.11 Action Without Meeting:**

Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting, if all members of the Board of Directors are notified and consent to actions being taken. The consent shall be filed with the minutes of the next meeting of the Board of Directors and shall have the force and effect as a unanimous vote of all directors.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Officers**

#### **5.1 General:**

The officers of **SJCFR** shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, and two (2) Captains.

Officers shall be nominated at the membership business meeting preceding

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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the November meeting and elected annually at the November membership business meeting and shall assume their official duties at the January membership meeting. Officers shall serve for a term of one year.

Members can be nominated by another member and/or nominate themselves for the role of officer. A voting ballot can be requested by a member for voting purposes. The ballot will be counted by two separate members and an oral report will be given to the membership. Due to organizational issues in 2023, Regular Member service time qualifications for President, Vice-President, and Treasurer are suspended for the elections taking place in 2023 and 2024.

### 5.2 **President:**

The person elected to this office shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The President shall: lead the organization and preside at all meetings of **SJCFR**, perform such duties as may be prescribed in these by-laws or assigned to such office by **SJCFR** or by the Board of Directors, and coordinate the work of other officers and committees. The President is accountable for overseeing the **SJCFR**'s overall operations, organization structure, capital allocation, and achieving performance of goals, plus general relations with the Emergency Services District (ESD) and the community. The President's name and Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) certification/license number (if applicable) are to be logged with the Texas DSHS as the **SJCFR** organization's administrator. Qualifications for President are as follows:

- a. Must be 21 years of age or older;
- b. Must be a person who has a vested interest in the community;
- c. Should have demonstrated the abilities of leadership and communications;
- d. Must have at least two (2) years of Regular Member service with **SJCFR**.
- e. Must be a Regular Member in good standing for a least six (6) months before the date of his or her nomination and election.

### 5.3 Vice-President:

The person elected to this office shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The Vice-President, in the absence of the President, shall perform the duties of the President. Qualifications for the Vice-President are the same as the President, except the Vice-President shall require only 18 months (1-1/2 years of Regular Member service with **SJCFR**.

### 5.4 Treasurer:

The person elected Treasurer shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, shall perform the duties of the President.

The Treasurer shall have custody of all the funds of **SJCFR**, shall keep a full and accurate account of all receipts and expenditures, and per the budget approved by a majority of the Board of Directors, shall make disbursements as authorized by the Board of Directors. The annual budget will be presented to the members during the fourth quarter of each fiscal year. If the majority of the full membership objects to the budget, the budget shall be considered unapproved.

The Treasurer shall present a financial statement at the business meeting of **SJCFR** and at other times when requested by the Board of Directors and shall make a full report at the meeting at which new officers and directors assume their duties. A copy of the treasurer's report will be given to each member at the business meeting of the membership. Finances, particularly non-ESD expenditure details, should be available to the public.

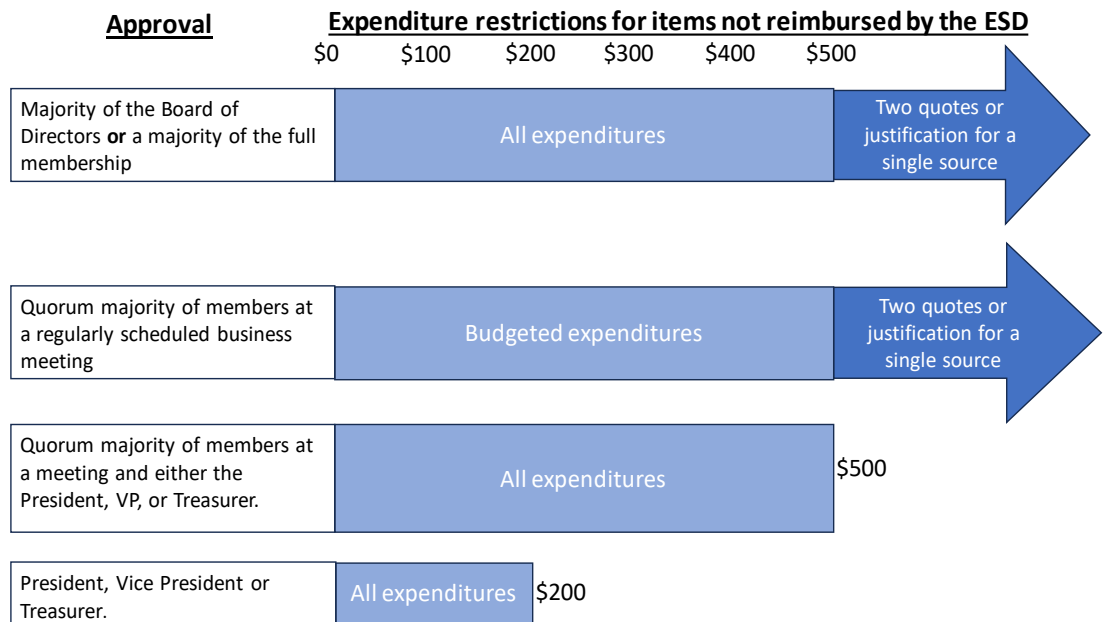
The Treasurer will ensure the proper procurement process is followed. For items that are not reimbursable from the ESD:

- All unbudgeted expenditures must be approved by a majority of the Board of Directors or a majority of the full membership, but for unbudgeted expenditures above \$500 two quotes or justification for single sourcing is needed.

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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- Budgeted expenditures above \$500 require approval by a quorum majority of members at a regularly scheduled business meeting with at least two quotes or justification for single sourcing.
- All expenditures at or below \$500 require approval by a quorum majority of members at a meeting and either the President, VP, or Treasurer.
- All expenditures \$200 or below are at the discretion of the President, Vice President, or Treasurer.



Qualifications of the Treasurer are as follows:

- a. Must be 21 years of age or older
- b. Must be a person who has a vested interest in the community
- c. Must be a detail-oriented person of the highest moral standard since they are responsible for safeguarding the financial integrity of SJCFR.
- d. Good with planning, budgeting, reconciling, and numbers.
- e. Must have at least 18 months (1-1/2) years of Regular Member service with **SJCFR**.

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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- f. Must be a Regular Member in good standing for a least six (6) months before the date of his or her nomination and election.
- g. Able to knowledgeably procure EMS goods and services.

### **5.5 Northern and Southern District Captains:**

Purpose: Northern and Southern District Captains are responsible for the management of daily activities for their designated district. Responsibilities include but are not limited to resolving minor incidents with personnel, maintaining and scheduling fleet maintenance, planning organization-wide activities, collecting documents from personnel, and reporting/collaborating with the President/V. President an overview of events.

Examples of Duties: The duties listed are only intended as a general overview of the various duties that may be performed.

- a. Respond to medical emergencies and provide direction, instruction, and overall coordination until relieved by a superior or the county's designated EMS service.
- b. Maintaining rules and policies with personnel and recommending, if necessary, disciplinary actions to the President.
- c. Confer with the President/V. President over clarification of policies and procedures.
- d. Help facilitate the distribution of supplies to members
- e. Accurately maintain fleet check-off sheets and schedule units for regular maintenance.
- f. Collect and turn in run reports by the designated date put out by the President.
- g. Represent the district and organization at public and educational activities and events.
- h. Perform other tasks and assignments as delegated by the President/V. President

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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Qualifications of a Captain are:

- a. Not lost good standing with the SJCFR within the past 6 months
- b. At least 21 years of age
- c. An active and good-standing member of the community
- d. Knowledge of EMS protocols and scope of practice
- e. Knowledge of SJCFR by-laws and protocols

### ARTICLE VI Meetings

#### 6.1 **Special Meetings:**

The Board of Directors shall be authorized to call a special meeting via in-person, phone text, email, or mail notice to the membership at least ten (10) but no more than twenty-one (21) days in advance of the special meeting to the membership as the time, date, venue, and purpose of the special meeting.

Waiver of the notice period: An emergency member meeting may be called if both the President and Chairperson agree circumstances could not have been reasonably foreseen that require immediate attention and possible action, and which of necessity make it impracticable to provide notice. Regular business meetings may be held with or without a notice period.

#### 6.2 **Quorum:**

A quorum for conducting the business meeting shall consist of at least three (3) voters (at-large Directors and regular members) present or attending virtually. To be eligible to vote the member shall be in good standing.

#### 6.3 **Certification of Names:**

Upon the request of any member or Board member, the Secretary shall certify the names of members in good standing with **SJCFR**.

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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### 6.4 **Format:**

All voting shall be by a show of hands unless a member requests a written ballot. All written ballots will be tallied by two members independent of each other, and such persons shall give their report orally to the members present.

### 6.5 **Order of Business:**

The officer responsible for conducting a monthly business meeting will adhere to a defined order of business that shall include, but not be limited to the following: Call to order, Reading of the minutes of the previous monthly business meeting, Financial Report, Committee Reports, Old Business, New Business, Announcements, Speaker or Training Session and Adjournment.

### 6.6 **Rules of Order:**

Rules and/or procedures not covered by these By-Laws shall be handled according to " ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER - REVISED" or the most current revision thereof.

### 6.7 **Voting Options**

At the discretion of either the President or the Chairperson of the Board of Directors, universal voting by phone text or e-mail may be allowed. The Secretary shall send a ballot to each member in good standing. Ballots will be given to the President and the Chairperson of the Board of Directors and a notification sent back to each member as to the results. Voting by e-mail shall be binding as voting at any general or special meeting. The Secretary will keep all ballots for two years.

## ARTICLE VII

### Fiscal Year

#### 7.1 **Fiscal Year:**

The fiscal year shall commence January 1st and end December 31st.



ARTICLE VIII  
Standing and Special  
Committees

**8.1 Committees Created by the Board of Directors:**

The Board of Directors may create committees as it may deem necessary to promote the objectives of and carry on the business of **SJCFR**. The nominating committee is designated as a permanent and/or standing committee. Only members of **SJCFR** in good standing shall be eligible to serve on a committee and/or appointed position. Unless otherwise limited by the resolution creating a committee, the term of each committee shall correspond with the fiscal year.

**8.2 Plan of Work:**

The Chairperson of each committee shall present their findings to the Board of Directors and/or membership. No committee work shall be undertaken without the prior consent of the Board of Directors.

**8.3 President as a Non-Voting Member:**

While the President may be a non-voting member of all committees, the President shall not be required to attend committee meetings, unless requested to do so by the committee Chairperson.

**8.4 Quorum:**

A committee quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of that committee.

**8.5 Nomination Committee:**

The duties of the nominating committee shall include the following:

- a. Select a list of qualified individuals to nominate for each office, and select a list of qualified individuals to nominate for each at-large position on the Board of Directors to be filled at the January monthly business meeting.

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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- b. Verify that each proposed candidate for election is willing to serve if elected.
- c. Submit the names of those verified candidates who are willing to
- d. serve to the membership during the September monthly meeting.
- e. Nominate those verified candidates who are willing to serve at the October monthly business meeting.
- f. Additional nominations may be made from the floor and at the November monthly business meeting.

### 8.6 **Bylaws Committee:**

The duties of the bylaws committee shall include the following on an as-needed basis:

- a. Monitor the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of **SJCFR** to ensure that they are fulfilling the stated purpose and policies of **SJCFR** as set forth under Article II.
- b. Receive and diligently review all written recommendations submitted to the committee by members in good standing of **SJCFR** and/or members of the Board of Directors as such may pertain to amending the Articles of Incorporation and/or Bylaws.
- c. Recommend to the Board of Directors the disposition of all written recommendations submitted by members.
- d. Upon being notified by the Board of Directors that various proposed amendments have been reviewed by the Board of Directors then proceed to present proposed amendments for full membership vote, and adoption or rejection at the next business meeting. Members shall have the proposed amended bylaws at least ten (10) days before the next meeting.

**Note:** Amendments and deviations from the bylaws will require a full membership vote as per the original approval.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**Grievance, Complaints**  
**and Disciplinary Action**

**9.1 Submission of Grievances and/or Complaints**

Complaints against members and/or grievances shall be made to the Board of Directors and shall be made in writing within thirty (30) days after the alleged occurrence of such complaint of event, action, or utterance, and shall be described, signed, and dated.

**9.2 Disciplinary: Action:**

Upon the thorough investigation of a grievance and/or complaint, including giving the member so complained the right to be heard, the Board of Directors shall determine which of the following actions should be taken to resolve the matter:

- a. Probation for a period not to exceed one year. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, probation may mean loss of voting privileges, loss of good standing, ability to respond to calls, representing **SJCFR** in the community, and/or attending **SJCFR** meetings.
- b. Suspension for a period not to exceed one year. Suspension means loss of good standing within **SJCFR**, ability to respond to calls, and returning all **SJCFR** equipment/material.
- c. Expulsion for any period of up to two years. A former member whose membership was terminated is required to complete and submit a new application for membership if they desire to regain their membership status.
- d. Create a corrective plan of action that is tailored to fit the grievance/complaint/issue against the member.
- e. No action to be taken.

The ESD Board contracted Advanced Life Support (ALS) provider has the

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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right to ask for the removal of a member of **SJCFR** for sub-standard duties per the level of certification.

The Board of Directors shall be the **SJCFR** authority to determine the proper ethical behavior and any related disciplinary action to the members.

The Board of Directors will advise the person making the complaint in writing of the disposition of such complaint within sixty (60) days of receipt of a formal complaint.

### **9.3 Removal of Director or Officer:**

Upon the tender to the Board of Directors of a petition containing the names of a majority of the voting regular members, the Board of Directors will adopt a resolution authorizing the Secretary to notify the membership of a special meeting within four (4) days of receipt of the petition.

As part of the **SJCFR's** governance checks and balances, any or all directors may be removed, with or without cause, at a special meeting expressly called for that purpose by a majority ballot vote of the membership entitled to vote at the election of directors. Votes may be cast in-person, by phone text, and email. Removal may constitute removal from Office (including loss of voting rights or good standing), and/or expulsion from SJCFR.

In-person, phone text, email, or mail notice of the purpose, time, and place of such special meeting shall be given at least ten, but no more than twenty-one (21) days in advance of the date of the special meeting. Any such removal, however, shall be subject to the provisions of Article 2.32 of the Texas Business Corporation Act.

Any Director who misses more than three (3) consecutive Board of Director meetings will automatically be removed unless the Chairperson or President intervenes.

The President or Chairperson of the Board will advise the person of the results of the petition for removal.

# San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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## ARTICLE X Resignation

### 10.1 Resignation:

A member wishing to resign shall submit their resignation in writing to the President or Secretary. When a member resigns by making a verbal disclosure of such intent to an Officer or Director, such statement shall be deemed for all purposes to be the resignation of such member unless a written retraction is submitted to the Secretary within five (5) days following the making of such statement.

### 10.2 Equipment and/or Identification:

Upon a member's voluntary or involuntary termination of their membership, such member shall promptly surrender all **SJCFR** equipment, such as communication equipment (radios, scanners, etc.), jump kits, medical supplies, and other such equipment, that is in their possession and/or was signed for at the start of service.

Upon a member's voluntary or involuntary termination of their membership, such member shall promptly remove any stickers, signs, pennants, and/or symbols that may be on such person's motor vehicles and personal items that indicate or imply that such person is a member of **SJCFR**.

## ARTICLE XI Dissolution

### 11.1 Dissolution:

Upon the dissolution of **SJCFR**, The Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of **SJCFR**, dispose of all the assets of **SJCFR** exclusively for **SJCFR**, to such organization or

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, education, religious, or scientific purposes and shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 © of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of **SJCFR** is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

### ARTICLE XII Indemnification

#### 12.1 Indemnification:

**SJCFR** shall indemnify its present or former directors and officers fully permissible by Article 2.02 of the Texas Business Corporation Act. Such indemnification shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which a director or officer may be entitled under these By-Laws, agreement, vote of the members, or otherwise.

#### 12.2 Legal:

The Bylaws will be construed per the laws of the State of Texas. All references in the Bylaws to statutes regulations or other sources of legal authority shall refer to the authorities cited or their successors as they may be amended from time to time.

If any bylaw is held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect the invalidity illegality, or enforceable shall not affect any other provision and the bylaws shall be construed as if the invalid or unenforceable provision had not been included in the Bylaws.

## San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws

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The headings and paragraph numbers used in the bylaws are for convenience and shall not be considered in construing the terms of the Bylaws.

Whenever the context requires all words in the bylaws in the male gender shall be deemed to include the female or neutral gender. All singular words shall include the plural and all plural words shall include the singular.

The bylaws shall be binding upon and insure to the benefit of **SJCFR** officers and members.

### ARTICLE XIII

#### Request for leave of absence.

#### **13.1 Absence:**

Members and the Board of Directors may ask for a medical leave of absence to stay in good standing with **SJCFR**. Upon a vote of the members present at the monthly meeting, said member can be given up to six (6) months of leave.

### ARTICLE XIV

#### Telecommunication

#### **14.1 Telecommunication:**

Members and the Board of Directors may phone into the general meeting when unable to attend the meeting. Phone-ins are to be logged in by the Secretary and treated as in-person attendance for the meeting.

**San Jacinto County First Responders Bylaws**

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**CERTIFICATE**

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Bylaws of the San Jacinto County First Responders, Inc. and that such Bylaws adopted by the Board of Directors of San Jacinto County First Responders, Inc. on the date set forth below.

**Amended 30 November 2023 Business Meeting**

Approved By: Kaitlin Cook  
Kaitlin Cook, President SJCFR

Date: 12/7/23

Approved By: Wyatt Cook  
Wyatt Cook, Chairperson,  
SJCFR Board of Directors

Date: 07 Dec 23



