


M.A.R.C.A.N.

Mid-America Regional Crime Analysis Network

www.marcan.org

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Preamble

The Mid-America Regional Crime Analysis Network (MARCAN) hereby organizes to create a new sense of cooperation, communication and unified standards for improved education, training and awareness within the crime analysis field.

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ARTICLE I: Name

The name of our association shall henceforth be known as the Mid-America Regional Crime Analysis Network (MARCAN).

ARTICLE II: Purpose, Vision, and Functions

SECTION I. PURPOSE:

The mission of the MARCAN is to provide guidance and assistance to local, state and federal agencies in an effort to ensure that the law enforcement field benefits from effectual training, progressive education and a high degree of sensibility. Toward this goal, MARCAN advocates the highest professional standards in fostering a cooperative, informed and communicative crime analysis network, to assist the exchange of information.

SECTION 2. VISION:

The future success of MARCAN is contingent on a shared vision, one that all interested parties believe and invest in.

The vision of MARCAN includes several long-term goals:

1. The advancement of a regional intelligence exchange system;
2. The acquisition and use of progressive training technology;
3. The advancement of community-oriented policing;
4. The enhancement of the quality of our training courses; and
5. The professionalization of MARCAN's organizational structure.

SECTION 3. FUNCTIONS:

The functions of the MARCAN are:

- A. To create and maintain a comprehensive knowledge base which will provide, among other things, points of contact for technical, legal, and crime analysis policy issues;
- B. To provide a leadership role in the training community for administrative, operational, strategic and intelligence analysis;
- C. Support high standards for professionalism, education and achievement within fields of crime and intelligence analysis;
- D. To actively support critical and progressive research and writing on crime analysis topics;
- E. To promote the integration of data systems across jurisdictions;
- F. To enjoin as many cities and community agencies to our collaborative process;
- G. To support community-oriented problem-solving initiatives employing models such as SARA;
- H. To provide support and instruction in the grant writing process;
- I. To advocate crime analysis as a professional field;
- J. To foster multi-agency collaboration; and
- K. To utilize print, radio and television mediums to advance the image of the crime analysis field and to disseminate information as needed.

ARTICLE III: Affiliations of MARCAN

Pursuant to the goal of enhancing the field of crime analysis, MARCAN will, with the majority approval of the Executive Board, be empowered to establish affiliations with other organizations espousing compatible goals and doctrines. There will also be a provision for the dissolution of any affiliations entered into by the executive board of MARCAN if due cause is demonstrated.

ARTICLE IV: Executive Board of MARCAN

Section 1: The Executive Board

The Executive Board shall be composed of a President, a Vice President of Administration, a Vice President of Membership, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Training Coordinator, as elected under Article VI.

Section 2: The President

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the MARCAN. He shall preside at meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board. He shall call all special meetings of the Executive Board by notice to the Secretary.

The President will hold an ex-officio membership in all committees and boards of the MARCAN. He will appoint all committee members, except those mandated by other provisions in these by-laws.

Section 3: The Vice President of Administration

The Vice President of Administration shall assume the office and powers of the President in the event that the President is unable to perform. He shall preside at meetings of the MARCAN in the absence of the President and will perform all other duties assigned to him by the President.

Section 4: The Vice President of Membership

The Vice President of Membership shall hold the primary responsibility for recruitment and maintenance of the membership of the MARCAN. He shall chair the Membership Committee, if formed, and perform all other duties assigned to him by the President.

Section 5: The Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondence of the MARCAN and the transcription and distribution of the minutes of all meetings of the MARCAN and the Executive Board.

Section 6: The Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive and process membership dues and distribute the Annual Financial Report no later than January 31 of each year. The Treasurer will present a monthly financial report at each monthly meeting. The Treasurer will chair the Financial Committee, if formed, and be responsible for the distribution of funds as approved by the executive board or the general membership.

Any distribution of funds requires consent of at least two board members.

Section 7 – The Office of Training Coordinator

The Training Coordinator is responsible for all training, in-house or outside the organization, on subjects relating to crime and/or intelligence analysis.

Section 8 - The Office of Past President

The Past President will be held by any or all of the previous individuals who have held the Office of President. This position will be in an advisory capacity and have no voting authority.

Section 9: Succession of Office

In the event that the President is unable to perform the duties ascribed—whether permanently or for individual meetings or tasks—the office shall be assumed by the Vice President of Administration, followed by the Vice President of Membership. Vacancies in either of the Vice President positions shall be filled by appointment by the Executive Board for the remainder of the term of office.

ARTICLE V: Membership

SECTION 1. NON- DISCRIMINATION

MARCAN does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age and non-disqualifying mental or physical handicap or veterans status.

SECTION 2. MEMBERSHIP TYPES:

1. Full Membership is given to professionals (sworn, non-sworn or civilians) of any law enforcement, criminal justice entity or a member of an organization having a direct working relationship with law enforcement (if sponsored by a member of that law enforcement agency's command staff). Such members will have voting authority. Full Members will be required to pay full membership dues. Such status will be approved by the Membership Committee. Based on MARCAN's financial status, the payment of yearly IACA dues for those MARCAN members holding full membership status may be included with the yearly MARCAN membership.
2. Sponsor/Corporate Membership is given to private concerns, such as vendors, etc. Such members will not have voting authority. Sponsor/Corporate Members will be required to pay membership dues at a rate set forth by the voting members.
3. Associate membership is available for students majoring in law enforcement/crime analysis related fields. An associate member must be sponsored by a full member of MARCAN. An associate member has no voting authority and may have membership to IACA provided through MARCAN.

MARCAN is provided the latitude to extend Corporate Sponsor status to any business or organization that is supportive of the goals and doctrines of MARCAN. Sponsorship shall be conferred by majority vote of the Executive Board, based upon recommendation by the Membership Committee.

SECTION 3. STATUS OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the MARCAN is a privilege, not a right. Membership will be restricted to those law enforcement professionals who demonstrate interest in crime and/or intelligence analysis and support the doctrines and goals of MARCAN. Membership is retained by the individual, not the agency.

To be considered a member in good standing of MARCAN, one must have all dues and fees paid and current by the testimony of the Treasurer. Members will remain in good standing for up to three (3) months after their renewal date.

All membership eligibility shall be determined on a preliminary basis by the Vice President of Membership, subsequent to affirmation by action of the Membership Committee.

Each full member shall have one (1) vote and he/she must be present at the meeting to vote. Electronic voting will be allowed in the case of important, time-sensitive issues.

SECTION 4. PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP:

All Full Members of MARCAN in good standing shall hold a right to cast ballots in the election of officers of MARCAN, to hold office in the organization and to sit on any committee of MARCAN.

All Associate and Sponsor/Corporate members of MARCAN in good standing hold the right of access to all general meetings of organization, publications produced by MARCAN and to information maintained by the organization which is in the public domain (pending payment of necessary dues).

SECTION 5. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP:

Application for membership in MARCAN can be made by submitting the application paperwork to the office of the Vice President of Membership along with all applicable dues and fees (See Attachment #A). Upon receipt of the documents and fees, the Vice President of Membership will review the application and, if finding the applicant in compliance with the germane regulations and by-laws of MARCAN, he/she will approve the membership. The membership list will be updated and the dues will be forwarded to the Treasurer.

SECTION 6. DUES AND FEES:

The Executive Board of MARCAN shall hold the responsibility of mandating the dues and fees schedules for membership and sponsorships. These schedules will be set by the Executive Board and shall be approved by a simple majority of the voting membership of the Executive Board. It will be the responsibility of the Treasurer to distribute billings to members annually. Membership year will be July first (1st) to June thirtieth (30th).

The costs of membership will be as follows:

1. Full Membership: All membership fees will be determined by the executive committee and posted on the MARCAN website.
2. Sponsor/Corporate Membership: to be determined. Corporate members may offer an equivalent value in goods or services in lieu of their membership fees.
3. Associate Membership: Associate members will pay the same fees as full members.

SECTION 7. SUSPENSION/ EXPULSION:

Suspension or Expulsion will be a result of non-payment of dues, following the expiration of the three (3)-month grace period.

ARTICLE VI: Election of Officers

SECTION 1. QUALIFICATIONS:

Qualification to hold office is for any Full Member in good standing.

SECTION 2. TERM LIMITATIONS: (Upon the creation of MARCAN)

Term limits will be staggered as follows:

All Executive Board Members will be elected for a two-year term. The offices of Vice President of Administration, Secretary and Training Coordinator will be elected in the same year; the Office of President, Vice President of Membership and Treasurer will be elected the following year. NOTE: due to the initial formation of the Executive Board, the terms of offices for Vice President of Administration, Secretary and Training Coordinator will expire January 31st of odd years. The terms of office for President, Vice President of Membership and Treasurer will expire January 31st of even years.

SECTION 3. ELECTORAL PROCESS:

Nominations and election will be held at the January meeting, with new electees taking office effective the first of February. Election results will be made from a tally of a written ballot from Full Members present.

SECTION 4. NOMINATING PROCESS:

Nominations are open and can be made by any Full Member present.

ARTICLE VII: MARCAN Meetings

SECTION 1. MEETINGS:

There shall be a general meeting of the membership of MARCAN held monthly. The Executive Board will decide the dates, times and location of this meeting. The Executive Board will have the right to alter dates of meetings for specific reasons.

SECTION 2. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS:

The President of MARCAN may call a meeting of the Executive Board at any time. There will be at the least one Executive Board meeting scheduled to coincide with the annual meeting of the general membership. Such notice will be given not less than 72 hours in advance.

SECTION 3. SPECIAL MEETINGS:

Special meetings may be held to discuss or disperse sensitive law enforcement issues and information. On these occasions, attendance will be restricted to members with Full Membership status. Such meetings may be held before or after a general meeting or may be held on a different date.

ARTICLE VIII: Committees

SECTION 1. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

Appointed members of all committees must be members in good standing of MARCAN. The President will appoint all committee members, except those mandated by other provisions of these by-laws, contingent with the approval of a 2/3 vote of the Executive Board.

SECTION 2. FINANCE / BUDGET COMMITTEE:

The Executive Board may establish the Finance Committee to audit and publish the Annual Financial report for MARCAN. The committee will be chaired by the Treasurer and shall consist of two other appointed members. If no Finance Committee exists, the Treasurer will assume these responsibilities.

SECTION 3. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

The Executive Board may establish a Membership Committee to hear the grievances of the membership and to recruit and promote membership in MARCAN. The committee will be chaired by the 2nd Vice President (Membership) and shall consist of two other appointed members.

SECTION 4. TRAINING COMMITTEE:

The Training Committee may exist to establish a training agenda, based upon needs and requests of the membership. This committee will be chaired by the Training Coordinator and shall consist of up to five additional members.

SECTION 5. AD HOC COMMITTEES:

The Executive Board has the authority to establish, compose, and dissolve committees with specific agendas, as the need is perceived. The composition and authority of these committees will be duly reported and recorded in the minutes of the Executive Board. The ad hoc committees shall be considered chartered and in force with a 2/3 vote of the Executive Board, or by a majority vote of the membership.

ARTICLE IX: Provisions of Governance

The rules and provisions of these by-laws, and any applicable and approved committee regulations will govern MARCAN. Where the standards and provisions of these by-laws are insufficient to resolve disputes, the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be consulted. The conduct of all meetings and actionable votes of any component of this organization must be held in compliance with MARCAN.

ARTICLE X: Amendment of Bylaws

Amendments of these by-laws must be submitted in writing to the membership prior to or at the next scheduled meeting of the general membership of MARCAN.

The proposed amendment(s) will be distributed to the voting membership with the registration materials for the next meeting. Members will discuss the proposed change and make amendments before submitting them to the membership for approval.

For approval and amendment of the by-laws, the proposed amendment(s) must receive 2/3 of the voting membership. Each amendment will stand for approval as a single measure. This approval will occur by official ballot. An official ballot will consist of a paper ballot or a show of hands.