

CONSTITUTION
DALLAS AREA COUNCIL of the BLIND
a chapter of
the AMERICAN COUNCIL OF THE BLIND OF TEXAS
Revised 8.21.2021

ARTICLE I
NAME

: The name of this organization shall be the Dallas Area Council of the Blind; DACB.

ARTICLE II
PURPOSE

The purpose of this non-profit organization is to strive for the betterment of our total community:

- A. By representing blind and visually impaired persons in the Dallas area of the state.
- B. By providing a forum for the views of the visually impaired and blind of the community.
- C. By elevating the social, economic, and cultural level of the visually impaired.
- D. By improving education and rehabilitation facilities.
- E. By encouraging and assisting the blind and visually impaired, especially the newly blind or visually impaired, to develop their abilities and potentialities and to assume their responsible place in the community.
- F. By broadening vocational opportunities.

- G. By cooperating with public and private institutions and agencies of and for the visually impaired.
- H. By providing for the free exchange of ideas, options and information relative to matters of concern to visually impaired people.
- I. And to do any other lawful thing in furtherance of the rights, responsibilities and interests of blind and visually impaired persons.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP, VOTING AND DUES

Any person residing in the area served by this chapter is eligible to become a member of this organization upon complying with the provisions hereinafter contained in the Bylaws.

- A. Definition of "visually impaired": This organization uses the words "visually impaired" to signify any person whose vision is impaired to the extent the individual cannot function as a sighted person, although the person may retain useful residual vision.
- B. The term "blind" is used to signify that the individual is either totally blind or has no useful vision.
- C. Dues: Dues shall be paid on an annual basis and the amount of dues shall be as set forth in the Bylaws.
- D. Suspension and Expulsion: Any member may be expelled or Suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership present and voting. In the proceedings to expel or suspend, the member charged shall have the right to vote.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

- A. The officers of this Chapter shall consist of a President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Director who will represent the chapter on the ACBT Board of Directors. The President may serve in this capacity. The officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years, by a majority of the members present and voting. Candidates for an office must be members in good standing of Dallas ACB and members for at least six (6) months.
- B. No officer of this organization shall be elected for more than three (3) consecutive terms. With the exception of the Secretary and Treasurer who shall serve unlimited terms. They may be replaced at any time at the majority vote of those attending any meeting.
- C. No officer, board member or contract person shall receive compensation for services to the Chapter. The officer or board member may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in the exercise of duties. No employee of the Chapter shall be eligible for election to any office in this organization.
- D. In case of resignation or death of any officer, the vacancy so created shall be filled as provided in the Bylaws.
- E. The Chapter board of directors shall consist of the five elected officers and the immediate past president.
- F. All officers have the responsibility of attending regular chapter business meetings. If an officer or board member fails to attend three consecutive business meetings without good cause as determined by majority vote of the board,

that position shall be considered vacant and proceedings instituted immediately to fill the vacancy.

G. Board meetings may be called by the president or any three(3) members of the board. Quorum for board meetings shall consist of at least three members.

ARTICLE V NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Nominations and elections shall be held in even-numbered years in the month of November and newly elected officers shall be installed at the next regular meeting.

ARTICLE VI QUORUM AND MEETING:

A. A quorum shall consist of eight (8) of the members in good standing.

B. Meetings shall be held as specified in the Bylaws.

C. If an in-person conference/convention or meeting is not possible or feasible due to unforeseen circumstances, a conference/convention or meeting of the members of DACB may be held using virtual communications technology including telephone conferencing, or other suitable technology, such as videoconferencing, the internet, or any combination of these means in accordance with state code.

D. Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern all proceeding except as otherwise provided in this Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII
AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS:

- A. This Constitution may be amended by a vote of two-Thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting after having been submitted, in writing, to the members at least thirty (30) days prior to the voting on said amendment, or by having first been read at two (2) consecutive open meetings.
- B. Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting by a simple majority vote.

ARTICLE VIII
CONFORMITY TO ACBT AND ACB CONSTITUTIONS

- A. A The Dallas Area Chapter is a part of the American Council of the Blind of Texas and the American Council of the Blind.
- B. This Constitution and the Bylaws thereunder shall not be in conflict with the Constitution of the American Council of the Blind of Texas or the American Council of the Blind.

ARTICLE IX
NONPROFIT STATUS INFLUENCING LEGISLATION
AND DISSOLUTION

- A. Nonprofit Status: No part of the net earnings of this organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services

rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in ARTICLE II hereof. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this constitution, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law).

B. Influencing Legislation: No substantial part of the activities of this organization shall consist of attempting to influence legislation, except as permitted by Section 501 (h) of the Internal Revenue Code.

C. Dissolution: Upon dissolution of this organization, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for payment of all of the liabilities of the organization, distribute all of the assets of the organization to the American Council of the Blind of Texas, or any successor organization thereto, or in the event of the prior dissolution of such organization, to one or more other nonprofit organizations within the State of Texas having purposes similar to those of this organization, serving blind and visually impaired persons, and qualified for exemption under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law).