# CONSTITUTION OF THE NEW YORK STATE CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER, INC.

# **MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

#### PREAMBLE

The general aims and objectives of this organization shall be:

To promote and stimulate love of our Country and our Flag;

To defend the honor, integrity and supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States;

To advocate military forces adequate to the defense of our Country, and to oppose any influence whatsoever calculated to weaken the National Security;

To aid active and retired personnel of the uniformed services, their dependents and survivors, in every proper and legitimate manner; and

To create harmony and a spirit of camaraderie among all retired officers of the uniformed services of the United States through an organization program of social and fraternal activities to accomplish these aims.

## **ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this organization shall be:

## NEW YORK STATE CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER, INC. MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

#### ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization will be:

1. To bring together commissioned officers and warrant officers, active and retired, and persons who have held a status as commissioned or warrant officers of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, the Public Health Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (and its predecessor, the Coast and Geodetic Survey) and the reserve components thereof, for the purpose of supporting the objectives as stated in the Preamble hereof, and for such other worthy causes as may be determined by the organization, and

2. To actively support the general aims and objectives of the Military Officers Association of America.

## **ARTICLE 111- MEMBERSIDP AND VOTING RIGHTS**

Section 1. The membership of the Chapter shall be composed of (a) men and women who are or have been commissioned or warrant officers of the seven U.S. uniformed services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service) or the reserve or other components of those services and (b) widows and widowers of any deceased individuals who would, if living, be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Subject to the eligibility requirements set forth above, these two classes of membership are established:

- 1. Regular members: Officers who meet the requirements for membership in the Military Officers Association of America.
- 2. Surviving spouses: Widows and widowers of any deceased individuals who would, if living, be eligible for membership.

Section 3. The Board of Directors may grant honorary membership to certain individuals in recognition of their services to the nation, the military officer community or the Chapter. Normally, an individual eligible for regular, or surviving spouse membership is not eligible for honorary membership. However, if a person holds an elective or appointive office at the national, state, or local level, that person may be granted honorary membership during the tenure of office. The Board of Directors may also grant honorary membership to certain foreign officers. Honorary membership shall not convey any voting rights and shall not entail any requirements for the payment of dues.

Section 4. Application for regular, or surviving spouse membership shall be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors. Recommendations for honorary membership shall be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors by regular, or surviving spouse members. The Board of Directors shall be empowered to accept or reject any application or recommendation for membership.

Section 5. No person otherwise qualified shall be denied membership in this Chapter solely on the basis of race, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability, age, genetic information, or other groups as identified in New York State of Federal Laws.

Section 6. Regular and surviving spouse members are required to hold and maintain membership in the Military Officers Association of America.

Section 7. The Board of Directors may drop any member for good and sufficient cause, after the member has been given an opportunity to be heard.

Section 8. All regular, and surviving spouse members shall be entitled to vote in this Chapter.

## ARTICLE JV- OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this chapter shall be:

- 1. President
- 2. First Vice President
- 3. Second Vice President
- 4. Secretary
- 5. Treasurer

Section 2. Any regular member shall be eligible for election as President, First or Second Vice President. Any regular or surviving spouse shall be eligible for any other elective office.

Section 3. A vacancy in the office of President shall normally be filled automatically by the First Vice President. A vacancy in the office of First Vice President shall be normally filled automatically by the Second Vice President. Vacancies in any other office shall be filled as the Board of Directors may decide.

## **ARTICLE V- STATUS**

Section 1. The Chapter shall be a non-profit organization, operated exclusively for the purposes specified in Article II above.

Section 2. Officers, directors and appointive officials shall not receive any stated compensation for their services, but the Board of Directors may authorize reimbursement of expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Section 3. Nothing herein shall constitute members of the Chapter as partners for any purpose. No member, officer, or agent of the Chapter shall be liable for the acts or failures to act on the part of any other member, officer, or agent. Nor shall any member, officer, or agent be liable for the acts or failures to act under these bylaws, excepting only acts or failures to act arising out of that person's willful misfeasance.

Section 4. The Chapter shall use its funds only to accomplish the purposes specified in ArticleII above, and no part of said funds shall inure, or be distributed, to its members.

Section 5. In the event of dissolution of the Chapter, and after the discharge of all its liabilities, the remaining assets shall be given to a nonprofit organization whose purposes and objectives are similar to those of the Chapter, such organization to be designated by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

# ARTICLE VI- THE AMERICAN FLAG

Section L The American Flag shall be displayed at all meetings of this Chapter.

#### ARTICLE VII- AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The Constitution of the Chapter may be amended, or a new Constitution may be adopted, as follows:

The reading of a proposed amendment(s), or a new Constitution is made by the Board of Directors at a given Chapter meeting and posted on the Chapter website. It is tabled until the following Chapter meeting, whereupon the Board of Directors presents its recommendation(s) as to its merits. The amendment(s), or new Constitution, is voted upon and may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present.

This is to certify that this Constitution was approved at the

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 York on 21 March 2004.
Ronald A. Neaton, CAPT, USNR, RE 21 March 2004 regular meeting of the New York State Capital District Chapter, Inc. , Military Officers Association of J

harles W. Marshall.

Officers Association of America at Rexford, New

CW04, USNR RET 21 March 2004

The original Constitution of this Chapter was adopted on 16 September 1971. It was revised on 20 April 1972, 6 April 1976 and 17 November 1983.

The proposed new Constitution was adopted unanimously by the Executive Committee on 26 January 2004. Approved by a majority of the voting members present, this new Constitution was adopted. A copy of the proposed new Constitution was mailed to all members prior to the Chapter meeting of 21 March 2004.

By Laws Committee:

Ronald A. Neaton CAPT, USNRRET President Arthur H. Small LTC USAF RET Legislative Chairman

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Charles W. Marshall CW04 USNR RET Treasurer