

Buckeye Firefighters

**HEALTH & RELIEF
ASSOCIATION**

**CONSTITUTION
AND
BY LAWS**



**ORGANIZED
BY
UNITED BUCKEYE FIREFIGHTERS
LOCAL 4311**

**UNITED BUCKEYE FIREFIGHTERS
LOCAL #4311
HEALTH AND RELIEF AGREEMENT**

Originated
August 1, 2006

ARTICLE I
Name

This Association shall be the United Buckeye Firefighters Local #4311, Health and Relief Association

ARTICLE II
Purpose

The purpose of this Association is:

- 1) To offer assistance to members for unforeseen uncompensated medical and/or financial emergencies at the sole discretion of the governing board.
- 2) To donate to local charities in the name of the Buckeye Firefighters.
- 3) To appropriate the monies needed for fund benefits.
- 4) To appropriate monies for the needs requested by the membership, for the memberships benefit and no other resources are available. These appropriations must have two thirds of the membership's vote that are present for the vote.

ARTICLE III
Membership

- A) The Buckeye Firefighters Health and Relief Association shall be composed of the following members:
- Sworn Personnel: Firefighters, Engineers, and Fire Captains who are members in good standing with the United Buckeye Firefighters Local # 4311.
 - Fire Administration members in the following positions: Battalion chiefs, Deputy Chiefs, Fire Marshals, Assistant Chiefs and the Fire Chief.
- B) The Buckeye Firefighters Local # 4311, Health and Relief Association shall be composed of non-retired members. Membership shall cease upon a voluntary separation from the Buckeye Fire Department for any reason.

ARTICLE IV
Governing Board

- A) The Governing Board of this Association shall consist of five (5) members at large. All five (5) members shall be current sworn members in good standing with the United Buckeye Firefighters Local # 4311.
- B) The Chair person and the Secretary-Treasurer position shall be voted on by the Governing Board.
- C) Each Governing Board position shall be a two (2) year term.
- D) Prior to October 1st, commencing every even-calendar year, a notice will be posted requesting the membership's nominations. The vote shall take place at the next scheduled Union meeting. Members must attend the meeting to vote.
- E) After the votes are counted, the new positions will be officially filled on January 1st, commencing on odd-calendar years.
- F) Should a Governing Board member not be able to finish a two year term for any reason, that position shall be filled by an appointment of the governing board to finish the existing term.

ARTICLE V
Revenue

- A) The Governing Board of the Association shall have the authority to request each member to adjust their deduction sum to ensure the sovereignty of the Association. Any adjustments shall be affirmed by two thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership.
- B) All monies received as dues, gifts, contributions, donations and benefits from fund raisers (or any other resource conducted in the name of the Association) shall be deposited into the Associations account, in the Name of the Buckeye Firefighters Health and Relief Association. (Money Market!??)
- C) When the amount of money in the (money market) account becomes greater than necessary for the financial operation of the Association, the Secretary-Treasurer, when ordered to due so by the governing board, shall invest the surplus in other investments that would contribute to the good and welfare of the members. (These other investments shall be approved by the Governing Board and made through a licensed investment consultant, and carried by a majority vote of the Associations membership.) Further, providing that sufficient money shall be kept readily available at all times to meet the financial requirements of this Association.
- D) The Secretary-Treasurer shall turn over the books to the Buckeye Firefighters Health and Relief Associations Governing Board for an audit when directed to due so. (annually)
- E) The Secretary-Treasurer shall cause a financial report to be made to the membership annually in October. Quarterly updates shall be presented to the membership at the Local # 4311 meetings.

ARTICLE VI
Benefits

- A) Emergency benefits will be a one time pay out. The request will be handled by the Governing Board, on a case by case basis, at the Boards sole discretion, based on the following criteria:
- Member's individual need.
 - Was the need foreseen or unavoidable?
 - Are there other monies available elsewhere?
 - Does the individual participate in the fund?

ARTICLE VII
Miscellaneous

- A) Request for benefits shall be presented to any member of the Governing Board.
- B) All requests for benefit under Article VI, Section A shall be kept confidential.
- C) All decisions of the Governing Board shall be final in the settlement of all claims.
- D) A quorum (minimum 3) of the five Governing Board members shall approve all claims before claims will be paid. Therefore there should be a minimum of four (4) members contacted for each claim. After members of the Governing board have voted on the appropriation of the fund, the member that initiated the votes shall complete a hard copy for the records to the Secretary-Treasure containing:
- The criteria under Article VI and how those criteria were met.
 - Names and signatures of all members and/or alternates that voted.
- E) If there is a tie among the governing board concerning any issue of claim, it shall be tabled and readdressed as soon as possible in the presence of the United Buckeye Firefighters Association Local# 4311 President. At such time the President will cast the deciding vote.

ARTICLE VIII

Amendments

- A) This organization is organized exclusively for educational and charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- B) Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (A) by an organization 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) or (B) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (C) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.)
- C) Upon the winding up and dissolution of the organization, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and the obligations of the organization, the remaining assets shall be distributed to a non profit fund, foundation of corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for educational and charitable purposes and which has established its Tax Exempt status under Section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.