

AMEND ARTICLE 5

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Officers and Elections

Section 4. Method of Nomination and Election. All members in good standing shall be given at least *fifteen* (15) days' advanced notice, in writing, to be posted on the Local's bulletin board at each designated fire station, of the date, time and place at which nominations shall be made, and date, time and place at which elections shall be held. All members in good standing shall be given **at least *fifteen* (15) days' advance notice, in writing, sent by postal mail to the last known address of the member, of the date, time and place at which elections shall be held.** Any member in good standing may nominate eligible members for office. Elections shall be by secret ballot; write-in voting shall not be permitted, if there is only one candidate for a given office, such candidate will be declared elected **and not appear on the ballot.** There shall be no voting by proxy in the election of Local officers. The candidate receiving a majority of the ballots cast shall be declared elected. If no candidate receives a majority of the ballots cast, there shall be a run-off election between the two candidates who received the most votes. If the final ballot of any officer election results in a tie between the candidates, the winning candidate for office shall be selected by the drawing of lots in the presence of both candidates.

Section 5. Election Committee. **The Executive Board** shall appoint an Election Committee, it shall be responsible for the distribution and **tabulation** of ballots, **preparing the Annual Election notices, and making the necessary arrangements in conjunction with the Executive Board for timely mailing of the Annual Election notices.** Each candidate for office shall be entitled to appoint one observer, **the observer cannot be a candidate**, who shall be permitted to witness the manner of distribution, casting of ballots, and attend the meeting of the Election Committee at which the votes are tabulated. Members serving as observers must be declared and registered with the Election Committee during nominations.. The Election Committee shall consist of up to **five (5)** members which will be appointed at the November meeting. No member running for any office will be appointed to the committee. The committee will be in possession of the ballots and ballot box for the Annual Elections, **the ballot box and key will not be held by the same individual.** The Annual Elections will be held on the second Thursday of December. The polls will be open on the *three* (3) days prior to and including the December meeting so each of the *four* (4) groups will have an opportunity to cast their vote. The polls will close at the start of the

December meeting. The final vote will be conducted at the December meeting by the Election Committee and the results will be read at the meeting. This voting practice will apply to any special vote or election.

Section 6. Preservation of Ballots and Annual Election Notice. The ballots and a copy of the election notice with mailing date shall be preserved by the Secretary for one year following such election.

Section 7. Vacancies in Office. When an office becomes vacant by reason of death, resignation, or removal of the incumbent, the Executive Board shall elect a successor by majority vote, no later than *thirty* (30) days from the date the office is vacated.