

BYLAWS
VOICES INSISTING ON PURSUITSAFETY
Updated September 22, 2015

ARTICLE 1. NAME AND LOCATION

Section 1. Voices Insisting on PursuitSAFETY (hereinafter referred to as "PursuitSAFETY") is a California and Federal Corporation.

Section 2. The principal office of the corporation for the transaction of its business is located in Butte County, California. The physical address is 47 Edgewater Court, Chico, CA 95928

ARTICLE 2. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The specific purpose of this corporation is to save the lives of innocent bystanders and police officers. PursuitSAFETY's goals are (1) to connect with family members and friends of innocent bystanders killed or injured as a result of vehicular police chases and response calls and (2) increase public awareness by joining together communities, police officers, other public safety professionals and organizations with the families and friends of the innocent victims.

PursuitSAFETY's mission is to prevent innocent bystanders and police officers from being needlessly killed or injured.

- PursuitSAFETY provides 24/7 assistance to injured, innocent victims and to bereaved families of the innocent. People who have experienced the tragedy of pursuit provide support to new individuals and families who now find themselves in need of help. PursuitSAFETY's services include, but are not limited to, emotional support, letter writing campaigns and circulating petitions to judges requesting appropriate penalties for drivers who flee. PursuitSAFETY also provides assistance with other types of correspondence and research. Emotional support and referrals to support groups is essential for the well being of these crime victims. PursuitSAFETY's support system lets the victims know they have a place to turn to for the support they need, i.e., someone cares about their individual needs.
- PursuitSAFETY works to keep the lines of communication open between families of innocent victims and law enforcement. Family members share that their loved ones are often dismissed as collateral damage. PursuitSAFETY is a safe place they can turn to for the support they need and not be judged.

- Some states do not require independent investigations into police pursuit crashes, even when innocent bystanders are killed or injured. PursuitSAFETY promotes a requirement that all vehicular police pursuits and response call crashes ending in the death of or injury to innocent bystanders be investigated independently by an agency not directly involved in that pursuit or response call.

PursuitSAFETY will achieve its goal to save lives and prevent innocent bystanders and police officers from being needlessly killed or injured through:

- Educational seminars and presentations, e.g., driver training classes and presentations to young drivers
- Community forums and presentations to members of law enforcement and other public safety/victim organizations
- Research on successful pursuit policies, officer training, pursuit practices, technology, and
- Sponsorship and promotion of legislation designed to strike an appropriate balance between apprehending drivers who flee and public safety.

ARTICLE 3. MEMBERSHIP

Voting rights in the corporation are restricted to members of the Board of Directors, the composition of which is set forth in Article 4.

ARTICLE 4. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section 1. The corporation shall have not less than five (5) Directors, and collectively they shall be known as the Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as “the Board”).
- Section 2. Efforts shall be made to locate members who will bring a wide-range of expertise to the Board thus enhancing the Board’s capabilities to achieve the purpose of the corporation.
- Section 3. Members of the Board shall be nominated for terms of three years, such terms to begin on July 1 of the year of first appointment. The terms shall be staggered so that, normally, the three Board members will not have terms that terminate in the same year. Members may serve consecutive terms.
- Section 4. A vacancy on the Board may be filled by action of the Board at any regular or special meeting.

Section 5. The Board consists of volunteers. No member of the Board shall profit financially by reason of his or her membership on the Board.

Section 6. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held annually, at such time and place as shall be designated by the board. Special meetings shall be held upon the call of the Board Chair. Notice of a special meeting shall be given at least forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting.

When circumstances demand immediate action, the Board, if a majority of members agree, may make a decision via telephone or Internet.

Section 7. A simple majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for meetings of the Board. There shall be no proxy voting. The Board will strive for action by consensus.

Section 8. The fiscal year for the corporation shall be October 1 through September 30 of each year.

ARTICLE 5. BOARD OF DIRECTORS POWERS AND DUTIES

In addition to any powers granted to the Board by the Articles of Incorporation, the governing board shall:

- a. Conduct, manage and control the affairs and business of the corporation;
- b. Supervise the allocation of all funds received by the corporation so that they best serve the purposes for which the funds were intended. This includes reviewing and approving the budget;
- c. Appoint, supervise and assign duties to the Executive Director who shall be the administrative head of the corporation and have general supervision and charge of its work subject to control and direction of the governing board; and
- d. Set corporation policies.

ARTICLE 6. OFFICERS, POWERS AND DUTIES

Section 1. The officers of this corporation shall be:
Chair
Secretary,
Treasurer and
Executive Director

- Section 2. Nomination and election of officers shall be by majority vote of the Board at the first Board meeting of the fiscal year (July 1 – June 30), with new officers assuming their duties immediately.
- Section 3. The vacancy of any office shall be filled by nomination and election by the Board at any regular or special meeting.
- Section 4. The powers and duties of the officers of the corporation shall be:
- A. Chair. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Board and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. In addition, he or she shall have other powers as directed by the Board, consistent with these bylaws, as required to conduct the business of the corporation.
 - B. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes or supervise the keeping and distribution of the minutes by a staff person designated with that responsibility. These minutes shall be provided to each member before the next meeting. The Secretary shall give notice of all meetings of the Board.

In the absence or resignation of the Chair, the Secretary shall perform the duties of the Chair, or other duties as are designated by the Chair.

The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him or her by the Board. A copy of the signed minutes shall be kept at the principal office of the corporation. The Secretary shall keep the original or a copy of the articles of incorporation and the bylaws, as amended to date, which shall be open to inspection by the members of the Board at all reasonable times.
 - C. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be responsible for oversight of the corporation's fiscal activities in order to satisfy the Board's need for information that will enable it to direct the fiscal activities of the programs.
 - D. Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible for overall management and operation of PursuitSAFETY and protection of the organization's financial assets while ensuring compliance with the board directives and applicable grantor, federal and state requirements. Other duties as defined by the Board of Directors.
- Section 5. The Executive Director shall attend all meetings of the Board. Currently there are no paid staff members. In the future when staff members are hired, the Executive Director shall hire and dismiss the staff members according to personnel policies, as approved by the Board. The Board shall approve salary schedules and personnel policies in consultation with the Executive Director.

Section 6. If so decided by the Board, the Executive Director, all employees handling funds, and Board members, shall be furnished bond for any amount which may be determined by the Board, according to established bonding practices and procedures. Program funds may be used to provide directors and officers with liability insurance as well as errors and omissions coverage.

Section 7. The Board of Directors, beginning February 1, 2015, will be the following:
Candy Priano – Board Chair
Jeffrey G. Vesely – Treasurer
Mark Priano – Secretary
Esther Seoanes – Executive Director
David Ehrenspurger
Aaron Nafziger

ARTICLE 7. COMMITTEES

The Board Chair shall have full power to form committees from time to time and designate their duties and responsibilities as needed to conduct the business of the Board.

Section 1. An initial committee, known as the National Professional Advisory Board for PursuitSAFETY (hereinafter referred to as “the Advisory Board”) consists of volunteers and shall have not less than seven (7) or more than thirteen (13) members. Members of the Advisory Board will have equal voting rights.

Section 2. Members of the Advisory Board shall be nominated and elected for terms of three years, such terms to begin on July 1 of the year of first appointment. The terms shall be staggered so that, normally, the members will not have terms that terminate in the same year. Members may serve consecutive terms

Section 3. The Advisory Board consists of volunteers. No member of the Advisory Board shall profit financially by reason of his or her membership on the Advisory Board.

Section 4. Regular meetings of the Advisory Board shall be held at least two times per year between July 1 and June 30, at such time and place as shall be designated by the Executive Director. Special meetings shall be held upon the call of the Executive Director. Notice of a special meeting shall be given at least forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting. These meetings will most likely be conducted via conference calls, given that the members represent and live in different states.

Section 5. Members of the Advisory Board will identify and establish successful strategies for the organization to achieve its goals and develop long-term public relations campaign.

ARTICLE 8. BOOKS AND RECORDS

Section 1. These books and records of the corporation may be kept within or without the town of Chico, California, USA, in such place or places as may from time-to-time be designated by resolution of the board of directors.

ARTICLE 9. AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board provided notice of such amendment or amendments and the nature thereof shall have been given to the Board at least one week before the amendment or amendments are to be presented for consideration.

These Bylaws were approved by the following members of the organizing Board on December 24, 2007. They were updated on May 19, 2009; May 18, 2010; December 28, 2010; May 20, 2011; and September 22, 2015.



Candy Priano, Chair



Jeffrey G. Vesely, Treasurer



Mark S. Priano, Secretary