

10. VIRGINIA SUNSHINE FUND

10.2 PURPOSE

(Note: Renumbering Pending)

10.2.1 To establish a mechanism for providing a measure of financial assistance for those individuals who are employed by and work within a public safety communications center (aka/PSAP) in the Commonwealth of Virginia and whose job functions are solely to support emergency communication operations (i.e. Telecommunicator/Dispatcher, Supervisor or the like, CAD/GIS employee, Radio Manager, Manager/Director, Administrative Assistants, etc.) and who meet with a qualifying event of a nature that affects their personal lives..

10.3 AUTHORITY

10.3.1 In accordance with its budget authority of Article XII of the Chapter's Bylaws, the Board of Directors may create special funds.

10.4 DEFINITIONS

10.4.1 Public Safety Communications Telecommunicator (Telecommunicator): The individual employed by a public safety agency as the first of the first responders whose primary responsibility is to receive, process, transmit, and/or dispatch emergency and non-emergency calls for law enforcement, fire, emergency medical, and other public safety services via telephone, radio, and other communications devices.

10.4.2 Public Safety Communications Center (PSCC): A public safety entity (which may include a PSAP or be referred to as an Emergency Communications Center or communications center, where emergency calls for service or 9-1-1 phone calls culminate, and/or where calls for service are dispatched to public safety service providers.

10.4.3 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP): A facility equipped and staffed to receive emergency and none-emergency calls requesting public safety services via telephone and other communication devices. Emergency calls are first answered, assessed, classified, and prioritized. The FCC further defines a primary PSAP as a facility to which 9-1-1 calls are routed directly from the 9-1-1 control office. A secondary PSAP is defined as a facility to which 9-1-1 calls are transferred from a primary PSAP.

10.4.4 Sunshine Funding Source: Monies collected solely for the purpose of funding the Sunshine Fund (i.e. raffles, donations from members, individuals or corporations, etc.) The Chapter's treasury funds shall not be used to fund or supplement the Sunshine Funding source.

10.5 POLICY

- 10.5.1 The Virginia Chapter shall establish a benevolent fund called the Virginia Sunshine Fund.
- 10.5.2 The Virginia Sunshine Fund shall be used to provide financial support to individuals, as described above, who face an event that places a significant financial burden upon them.
- 10.5.3 Based on the event and the availability of monies in the Virginia Sunshine Fund, these individuals may qualify for a financial grant to assist them in this situation.
- 10.5.4 Any member of the Board of Directors, or any Past President, may nominate those individuals as described above as a recipient for assistance.
- 10.5.5 The nomination is made by requesting a Virginia Sunshine Fund form from the President of the Virginia Chapter of APCO.
- 10.5.6 Upon receipt, the form must be completed, returned to the Chapter President, who will forward to an appointed review committee.
- 10.5.7 A decision will be made and the nominator notified of the results.
- 10.5.8 If the particular circumstances of the nomination fails to meet the criteria, the reasons will be communicated accordingly by the Chapter President.
- 10.5.9 To qualify for consideration, the nominee must meet these minimum requirements:
 - 10.5.9.1 **Be. an individual who is employed by and actively working within a public safety communications center (aka/PSAP) in the Commonwealth of Virginia** and whose job function is to solely support emergency communication operations (i.e. Telecommunicator/Dispatcher, Supervisor or the like, CAD/GIS employee, Radio Manager, Manager/Director, Administrative Assistants, etc.) at the time of the qualifying event.
- 10.5.10 Must have, within sixty (60) days of the nomination, experienced a life changing or life interference event.
- 10.5.11 A Review Committee will be established to coordinate and administer the activities associated with this fund.
- 10.5.12 The Review Committee will be appointed by the Chapter President and ratified by the Board of Directors.

- 10.5.13 The current Chapter President will appoint the Chair of the Review Committee.
- 10.5.14 Preference shall be given to current members of the Chapter, especially if available funds are limited, but the Review Committee has discretion to weigh other factors consistent with the intent of the Virginia Sunshine Fund in determining eligibility and the appropriate award tier.
- 10.5.15 The following controls shall be put in place for the Sunshine Funding Source:
- 10.5.15.1 The Virginia Sunshine Fund will be funded solely by and through voluntary contributions (see Sunshine Funding Source definition above);
 - 10.5.15.2 Contributions of the Virginia Sunshine Fund will be segregated from the operational funds of the Chapter.
 - 10.5.15.3 All funds released must be made at the request of the Chapter President and released by the signature authority of the Chapter Treasurer.
 - 10.5.15.4 The following outlines the system established for types of assistance which eligible individuals may apply. This system includes, but is not limited to, the types of incidents listed below. Funding will be available up to but not exceed \$1,000 for any of the below life changing events.
 - 10.5.15.4.1.1 A nominee or their spouse, partner, or parent/dependent child for which they reside with and are the primary caregiveroses their life.
 - 10.5.15.4.1.2 A nominee's primary residence is lost as a result of a fire, storm, or similar disaster.
 - 10.5.15.4.1.3 A nominee experiences a critical illness or injury resulting in a disability.
 - 10.5.15.4.1.4 A nominee experiences an accident with recoverable injuries.