



## **Florida State Lodge Committee Definitions**

**Audit:** The purpose of the audit committee is to provide oversight and ensure the integrity of the organization's financial reporting processes, internal controls, and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. This committee plays a crucial role in maintaining transparency, accountability, and trust among members and Lodges.

**Benefits/Ways and Means:** The Benefits, Ways, and Means Committee helps ensure the Florida State Lodge has the necessary financial resources to achieve its mission and goals by concentrating on Revenue Generation and Fundraising Strategies.

**Budget:** The Florida State Lodge Budget Committee serves several critical functions, aimed at ensuring the financial health and sustainability of the organization. Its purposes include Budget Development, Financial Oversight, Expense Management and Long-term Planning. The Budget Committee plays a crucial role in ensuring the Florida State Lodge's financial stability, accountability, and strategic alignment with its mission.

**Communications:** The Florida State Lodge's Communications Committee serves several key functions, aimed at effectively promoting the organization's mission, enhancing its public image, and engaging with various stakeholders by Developing Communication Strategies, advancing Brand Management, Content Creation and Event Promotion.

**Constitution and By-Laws:** The Florida State Lodge Constitution and By-Laws Committee ensures that the governing documents, such as the State Constitution and Bylaws, are comprehensive, clear, up-to-date, and reflective of the organization's mission, values, and operational needs. The Committee shall review all amendments for the State Constitution and By-Laws presented by a Subordinate Lodge, the Florida State Lodge Executive Board, or the Board of Trustees and shall present such amendments to the Annual Conference with their recommendations as to adopt or reject. This committee is vital in maintaining the structural integrity and legal compliance of the Florida State Lodge.

**Corrections:** The Florida State Lodge Corrections Committee serves several important purposes, focusing on better management, oversight, and improvement of correctional facilities and practices as well as ensuring proper working conditions for correctional officers.

**Credentials:** The Florida State Lodge Credentials Committee is tasked with ensuring the smooth operation of FSL events and conferences run smoothly, securely, and professionally, thus enhancing the experience for all participants. The committee accomplishes this through Verification of Attendee eligibility and creating Attendee and Vendor Credentials.

**Elections:** The Florida State Lodge Elections Committee oversees and manages the election processes, when needed, for any organizational positions that are required to be filled by election during a Conference. The Committee accomplishes this by Organizing Elections, maintaining Election Integrity, Voting Management and Ballot Security.

**Deputy Sheriffs:** The Florida State Lodge Deputy Sheriffs Committee serves multiple critical functions aimed at supporting the professional development, welfare, and operational efficiency of deputy sheriffs throughout the state. The committee focuses on ensuring that deputy sheriffs are well-supported, well-trained, and operate in an environment that promotes professionalism, ethical conduct, and effective law enforcement.

**Disaster Relief:** The Florida State Lodge Disaster Relief Committee is comprised of each District Director and their purpose is to organize and direct the FSL response to disasters throughout the state and to liaison with other states who may have suffered a natural disaster.

**Easter Seals:** The Florida State Lodge's Easter Seals Committee is the liaison between the FSL and our primary charity, the Easter Seals. Easter Seals is a nonprofit organization that provides services, education, outreach, and advocacy for individuals with disabilities, veterans, seniors, and their families. The organization's mission is to ensure that people with disabilities or special needs have equal opportunities to live, learn, work, and play in their communities.

**Expansion:** The Florida State Lodge Expansion Committee is comprised of each District Director and their purpose is to develop ways to expand the membership throughout the state.

**Federal Officers:** The Florida State Lodge Federal Officers Committee serves multiple critical functions aimed at supporting the professional development, welfare, and operational efficiency of federal officers throughout the state. The committee focuses on ensuring that federal officers are well-supported, well-trained, and operate in an environment that promotes professionalism, ethical conduct, and effective law enforcement.

**History:** The Florida State Lodge's History Committee is tasked with preserving, documenting, and promoting the history and heritage of the FSL by collecting, cataloging, and preserving important documents, artifacts, photographs, and other materials that reflect the FSL's history.

**Grievance:** The Florida State Lodge's Grievance Committee serves the critical purpose of addressing and resolving grievances or complaints raised by subordinate Lodges or their members. The Committee must act with Fairness and Justice and ensuring due process was closely adhered to throughout the process.

**Health Awareness:** The Florida State Lodge's Health Awareness Committee's mission is to promote and enhance the health and well-being of our members. The Committee accomplishes this through Health Education, Awareness Campaigns, Health Screenings and Assessments, Support Programs and Policy Advocacy.

**Human Diversity:** The Florida State Lodge's Human Diversity Committee's mission is to promote, support, and celebrate diversity and inclusion among our members, employees and the community. The committee aims to have a culture where all individuals feel valued, respected, and empowered to contribute their unique perspectives and talents, ultimately enhancing the Florida State Lodge's performance and innovation.

**Labor Council Committee:** The duties of the Committee shall include, but not be limited to Expansion of collective bargaining units by contacting potential local bargaining units to explain the services provided by the Florida State Lodge in the area of labor relations; Assist new bargaining units in the distribution and collection of signature cards required for the certification of the Florida State Lodge as their exclusive bargaining agent; Gather and submit signature cards and necessary information, on the behalf of those lodges that have contracted with the Florida State Lodge for collective bargaining representations to the Florida Public Employees Relations Commission; Aid collective bargaining units that are represented by the Florida State Lodge formulation and administration of their labor agreements; Assist any unit which has contracted with the Florida State Lodge for representation against any attempt to decertify the Florida State Lodge as their exclusive bargaining representative; Ensure that Labor Council Bargaining Units are in compliance with ALL applicable laws and rules of the State of Florida and provisions of the service agreements between those Lodges and the Florida State Lodge; Perform any other related duties as requested by the State Lodge President.

**Legal Aid:** The Florida State Lodge's Legal Aid Committee was established to provide access to legal assistance and support to members who may not otherwise afford legal representation or services.

**Legislative:** The Florida State Lodge's Legislative Committee serves several key purposes related to advocacy, policy influence, and engagement with legislative processes. Members of the Committee directly liaison with elected leaders throughout the state; develop and recommend legislative priorities and positions on behalf of the law enforcement community; monitor legislative developments at the local, state, and federal levels that impact law enforcement policies, practices, funding, and regulations; execute advocacy campaigns to support or oppose specific legislative initiatives or policy changes that affect law enforcement interests; provide expert testimony, lobbying elected officials, and participate in legislative hearings and meetings to influence decision-making processes.

**Memorial:** The Florida State Lodge's Memorial Committee serves the important purpose of honoring and remembering law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty. The Committee accomplishes this task by LEO Memorial Planning and Maintenance; supporting the families of the Fallen; providing Education and Awareness; raising funds through donations, sponsorships, and fundraising events to support the maintenance and enhancement of memorials, providing opportunities for law enforcement personnel, families, and the community to reflect on and remember the sacrifices made by fallen officers, fostering a sense of unity and support.

The Memorial Committee helps ensure that the sacrifices of fallen officers are never forgotten, that their contributions to public safety are honored with dignity and respect, and that their families receive the support and recognition they deserve.

**National Conference and Site:** The Florida State Lodge's National Conference and Site Committee is responsible the planning, organizing, and coordinating of events, conferences, and training sessions by selecting suitable venues or locations for events, considering factors such as location, capacity, amenities, and cost.

**Pension and Retirement:** The Florida State Lodge's Pension and Retirement Committee is responsible for developing and recommending policies, rules, and regulations related to pension and retirement benefits, ensuring they are fair, equitable, and aligned with legal requirements; providing retirement planning education, workshops, and individual counseling sessions to help members make informed decisions about their retirement savings and benefits.

**Scholarship:** The Florida State Lodge's Scholarship Committee is tasked with the administration and oversight of the FSL scholarship programs that support the educational pursuits of children of members within the law enforcement community. The committee manages the application process, selection criteria, and awarding of scholarships to eligible individuals.

**Training:** The Florida State Lodge's Training Committee is to oversee and enhance the training programs provided to FSL members. The committee develops and updates training curricula, modules, and courses to ensure they are comprehensive, relevant, and aligned with current laws, policies, and best practices in law enforcement.