

ARTICLE THREE

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1

Eligibility for membership in this Lodge shall be in conformity with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Grand Lodge and Indiana State Lodge except as shown elsewhere in these Bylaws.

SECTION 2

Any member may become a member of Ben K. Perry Lodge #61, Fraternal Order of Police, in the following manner-by initiation fee or by re-instatement, and in no other way can membership be obtained.

SECTION 3

The membership of the Lodge shall be composed only in full-time employed active law enforcement officers of the United States or of any state or political subdivision thereof shall be eligible for membership in the Fraternal Order of Police, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of the order. No person shall be denied membership on account of race, creed, or sex. The term "regular appointed law enforcement officer" shall include regular law enforcement officers heretofore and hereafter retire from active duty in the services of the United States or political subdivision thereof. The term full-time employed active law enforcement officer shall mean law enforcement officers that are engaged in such employment as their principle source of livelihood and who have successfully completed minimum training as prescribed by State or Federal law. This term shall include but not be limited to City, County, State, Federal, University, Railroad, and Airport Law Enforcement Officers.

SECTION 4

All petitions for membership in the Lodge shall be submitted in writing, on petition blanks conforming to the regulations of the Grand or State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and prescribed and furnished by this Lodge; such petitions must be accompanied with the necessary fees and dues; all questions on all petitions as proposed to the applicant must be answered and warranted by him to be true; all petitions for membership must be recommended by an active member of this Lodge who shall sign such petition. All applications for membership after 2005 shall be submitted with a completed automatic dues deduction form.

SECTION 5

All petitions submitted to the Lodge for membership therein shall be referred to a Committee on Character; consisting of three (3) active members of the Lodge; it shall be the duty of such committee to investigate the character of the applicant and report the same at the next regular session of the Lodge. An applicant for membership of the Lodge who has been suspended from this Lodge or any other Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police shall not be admitted to membership in this Lodge until a thorough investigation has been made by the membership committee and their recommendation has been made and with the written consent from the State President or the Lodge Executive Board.

SECTION 6

All petitions for membership in this Lodge shall be balloted on separately. If there are numerous petitions to be considered at the same meeting, and there is no opposition to any candidate, a motion may be considered to approve all of the candidates simultaneously. If so requested; majority vote shall prevail. No petition shall be balloted upon until after the Committee on Character has submitted their report on the character of the applicant to the Lodge; nor shall any petition be given the benefit of the ballot at the same session at which the said petition is received.

SECTION 7

The president may cause a second ballot to be taken on any applicant for membership at the time such applicant is being given the benefit of the ballot and such action on said petition shall be final for a period of one year at which time the applicant may again petition the Lodge for membership.