

# **BY-LAWS**

*K of C  
Disaster Fund, Inc.*

**THE PENNSYLVANIA  
STATE COUNCIL**

**MAY 18, 2007**

# **K of C DISASTER FUND, INC.**

## **BY-LAWS**

*May 18, 2007*

### **ARTICLE I NAME**

Section 1. The name of this Corporation shall be the K of C Disaster Fund, Inc. (A Pennsylvania Corporation, incorporation December 13, 1972)

### **ARTICLE II PURPOSES**

Section 1. The purpose for which this Corporation is organized is to provide for the spiritual, economic and financial relief of members and member's family suffering and distressed as a result of unexpected disasters.

Section 2. The Corporation does not contemplate a pecuniary gain or profit, incidental or otherwise, to its members.

### **ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. The members of this Corporation shall be the incumbent state officers of the Pennsylvania State Council, Knights of Columbus, the incumbent State Chaplain of the Pennsylvania State Council, Knights of Columbus and the Immediate Past State Deputy of the Pennsylvania State Council, Knights of Columbus. Each member shall have one vote at any meeting of the members of the Corporation.

Section 2. Membership in this Corporation shall be temporary and concurrent with the terms of office of the aforementioned officers of the Pennsylvania State Council, Knights of Columbus, and shall terminate with the election of their successor in office who shall then become members of this Corporation for the term of their office.

## **ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of this Corporation. It shall be composed of all the incumbent State Officers of the Pennsylvania State Council including the Immediate Past State Deputy and the State chaplain during their terms of office in the Pennsylvania State Council, Knights of Columbus. The State Deputy shall be Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 3. The Chairman shall determine the number of meetings to be held by the Board of Directors and shall set the time and place of said meeting.

Section 4. In addition to authority conferred by the provisions of these By-Laws, the Board of Directors shall have general charge, management and control of the affairs, activities, funds and property of the Corporation in furtherance of the purposes stated in the Articles of Incorporation. No funds shall be expended without prior approval of the Board of Directors except as provided otherwise by these By-Laws.

Section 5. The Board of Directors may delegate such of its authority as it may deem necessary and proper to the President or to any Committee which it may designate for the management of the affairs of the Corporation when exigencies shall so require. The Board of Directors may authorize the expenditures by the President or said Committees of such funds as the Board deems advisable.

## **ARTICLE V OFFICERS**

Section 1. The Officers of the Corporation shall be the President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be the incumbent State Deputy, State Secretary and State Treasurer of the Pennsylvania State Council, Knights of Columbus during their terms of office.

Section 2. The respective officers shall perform such duties as are specified in these By-Laws and as may be provided by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VI PRESIDENT**

Section 1. The President shall be the Executive Officer of the Corporation. He shall appoint all committees. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and responsible for seeing that all Committees are properly operating and functioning pursuant of these By-Laws and the direction of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VII THE SECRETARY**

Section 1. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the members and Board of Directors and all accounts of the Corporation relative to monies received by the Corporation. He shall receive all monies, and pay the same over to the Treasurer, conduct all correspondence of the Corporation and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VIII THE TREASURER**

Section 1. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds of the Corporation, keeping the correct accounts of the receipts and expenditures. He shall make all disbursements as authorized by the Board of Directors and these By-Laws.

Section 2. The Treasurer shall make a report of the financial condition of the Corporation at each meeting of the Board of Directors, and at such other times as the Board shall provide. At such times he shall also advise the Officers and Directors and each Committee to whom funds have been appropriated as to the funds remaining available for individual purposes. He shall perform such other duties pertaining to the finances of the Corporation as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Treasurer shall also make an annual report to the Delegates at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania State Council, Knights of Columbus.

## **ARTICLE IX ACTIVITES**

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of these ByLaws, the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a Corporation exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501; (b) by a Corporation, contributions which are deductible under Section 170 (c) (2) of the Federal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), it being understood that (c) (3) of Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) is referred to under (a) above.

## **ARTICLE X DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY AND FUNDS ON DISSOLUTION**

Section 1. Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making the provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all the assets of the Corporation exclusively for the purposes of the Corporation in such manner or to such organization or organizations organized and

operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law,) as the Pennsylvania State Council, Knights of Columbus shall determine.

## **ARTICLE XI DEFINITIONS**

### Section 1. Definitions.

- a. A disaster is defined as a fire or a natural occurrence that causes great harm or damage or serious or sudden misfortune, such as (but not limited to) a flood, earthquake, tornado, or hurricane.
- b. Aid to members is defined as assistance to a brother knight who may be in need as a result of a disaster or because of property damage as a result of a disaster.
- c. Aid to members is further defined as assistance to the family of a member deceased as a result of a disaster in order to relieve hardship in the members' home and to the widows and or orphans of members.

## **ARTICLE XII DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS**

### Section 1. The monies collected each year shall be used as follows:

- a. To pay the expenses of the Corporation and expenses of any drives to collect such funds;
- b. To maintain an operation fund of \$1,000.00 to provide for the expenses of future drives;
- c. To provide aid to members and member's family.
- d. Any excess funds not necessary for operating expenses shall be placed in an investment fund.

Section 2. To be eligible for assistance, the Brother must be, or must have been, a member of a Pennsylvania council of the Order in good standing for a least (1) year prior to date of application for aid. The same applies in cases where aid is requested for the family of a brother knight who is deceased because of a disaster.


Section 3. Application for assistance shall originate through the Grand Knight of the member's Council. The application must bear the approval of the Grand Knight and the Council's Relief Committee and must state that the relief is needed beyond the ability of the Council to supply. If the applicant's Council is a member of a Chapter, the Chapter President shall also certify that additional relief is beyond the Chapter's ability to supply.


Section 4. Assistance in any individual case shall be limited to the sum of \$500.00 in a twelve month period.

Section 5. General Information

- a. Relief given under aid to a member shall not be in the nature of a loan or an advance, and there shall be no exceptions or arrangements entered into by the Officers or Committee handling the case requiring repayment of the amount given for relief, at any time or from any source.
- b. In reporting the expenditures from this account, the Treasurer shall, in keeping with the spirit of fraternity and true charity, withhold the names of the recipients of the relief. The Board of Directors, may, however, request full details at any time.
- c. The Corporation is not to be construed as absolving the councils of their obligation under the rules and laws of the order to maintain relief funds. Councils are strongly advised to continue to build up their relief funds. First, because it is an obligation of the Order, and secondly, such relief can be given more privately and promptly by the Council from its relief fund than would be possible through the channels of this Corporation.
- d. The President shall appoint an Audit Committee to audit the Corporation's funds and report its findings to the Delegates at that annual meeting of the Pennsylvania State Council, Knights of Columbus.
- e. Disbursement of funds is dependent upon the financial status of the Corporation.

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the members of this Corporation, provided only that at least ten (10) days prior to said meeting, written notice of such proposed amendments shall have been mailed to the members. A two-thirds vote of the members present shall be necessary for the adoption of any amendment.

  
Michael J. O'Connor  
State Deputy

  
Mark L. Jago  
State Secretary



**THIS FORM MAY BE ENLARGED AND REPRODUCED**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
PENNSYLVANIA STATE COUNCIL  
COUNCIL'S  
DISASTER FUND REQUEST

(To be completed by the Grand Knight, be approved by the Council's Relief Committee, be signed by all parties and submitted to the State Deputy with a copy of the member's application.)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Worthy State Deputy;

In accordance with the provisions of Article XII.3 of the Pennsylvania State Council's K of C Disaster Fund, Inc.'s by-laws, we hereby request assistance for Brother \_\_\_\_\_ of our council who has suffered considerable losses due to (encircle one) fire, flood, earthquake, tornado, hurricane, or other natural occurrence, i.e. \_\_\_\_\_, the details of which are reported in his enclosed application for assistance.

Brother \_\_\_\_\_, has been a member in good standing in our council for more than one year prior to the date of his application for aid.

Does the council have a relief fund? \_\_\_\_\_ Does the chapter have a relief fund? \_\_\_\_\_

The amount of relief needed is beyond our council's ability to supply but we have been able to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ of assistance.

\_\_\_\_\_ We are unable to provide any assistance.

The \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter has contributed \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter is unable to provide any assistance.

\_\_\_\_\_ We are not a member of a chapter.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_, G.K., Council # \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_, Address and Phone No.:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_, D.D. # \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_, Address and Phone No.:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_, Pres., \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address and Phone No.:

Enclosure