

Proposed Amendments to NASC Bylaws

Explanation: In 2015, the NASC Membership considered proposed changes to the bylaws to conform the language in Article VI (relating to Executive Committee membership) to the language in Article III (relating to general membership of the organization) so that Article VI would better reflect all of the categories of membership. NASC members raised two related issues: (1) whether the Executive Committee membership should be limited by geographic region; and (2) whether Executive Committee membership should be limited to individuals affiliated with a sentencing commission or council. Following up on the discussion at the 2015 annual meeting, the NASC Executive Committee surveyed the membership, seeking direction as to how to address these two issues. The majority of respondents (76%) voted for a geographic limitation of one or two seats. The majority also voted not to exclude from the Executive Committee members who do not work for or serve on a sentencing commission, but members also thought this type of membership should be limited to one or two seats.

Proposed Amendments: Based upon the feedback provided by the members, the NASC Executive Committee proposes to amend the bylaws as follows.

ARTICLE III *(as revised and approve by membership in 2015)*

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to any individual who works or serves on a sentencing commission or similar governmental body charged with sentencing policy responsibilities, or works for any other government agency directly involved in the development of state or federal policy, and any other academic, public or private employee, student, or other individual interested in sentencing. Individuals may join NASC by paying annual membership dues prior to or during the NASC annual meeting. A membership year runs from one annual meeting to the next. Each member of NASC present at the annual meeting shall have a vote on all matters before the membership.

ARTICLE VI

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1.

The Executive Committee of the Association shall consist of seven voting members elected from the membership at each annual meeting. ~~The Executive Committee shall include a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and members at large.~~ Of the seven members:

- a. ~~Each state and the United States Sentencing Commission~~ sentencing commission or similar governmental body charged with sentencing policy responsibilities shall have no more than a single member serving on the Executive Committee.
- b. ~~Each state or federal district shall have no more than <a single member>~~ <two members> serving on the Executive Committee.
- c. ~~No more than <one member may be an individual who does not>~~ <two members may be individuals who do not> work or serve on a sentencing commission or similar government agency directly involved in the development of state or federal policy.

The Executive Committee shall include a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and members at large.

...

Sample Motions: Because the members responding to the survey were split as to the numbers of seats to be held in each instance, the proposed amendments present several options for language as noted by the <text in brackets>. Thus, there are four potential options for motions to effect the proposed changes above. Below are sample motions for the four potential options. There may be additional variations in the motions that members wish to make. These sample motions are provided merely as a convenience. **When making a motion, please specify the language you wish to be included in the motion.**

OPTION 1: *“Move to amend Article VI, Section 1 of the bylaws so that it reads as follows:*

SECTION 1.

The Executive Committee of the Association shall consist of seven voting members elected from the membership at each annual meeting. ~~The Executive Committee shall include a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and members at large.~~ Of the seven members:

- a. ~~Each state and the United States Sentencing Commission~~ sentencing commission or similar governmental body charged with sentencing policy responsibilities shall have no more than a single member serving on the Executive Committee.
- b. Each state or federal district shall have no more than a single member serving on the Executive Committee.
- c. No more than one member may be an individual who does not work or serve on a sentencing commission or similar government agency directly involved in the development of state or federal policy.

The Executive Committee shall include a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and members at large.”

OPTION 2: *“Move to amend Article VI, Section 1 of the bylaws so that it reads as follows:*

SECTION 1.

The Executive Committee of the Association shall consist of seven voting members elected from the membership at each annual meeting. ~~The Executive Committee shall include a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and members at large.~~ Of the seven members:

- a. ~~Each state and the United States Sentencing Commission~~ sentencing commission or similar governmental body charged with sentencing policy responsibilities shall have no more than a single member serving on the Executive Committee.
- b. Each state or federal district shall have no more than a single member serving on the Executive Committee.
- c. No more than two members may be individuals who do not work or serve on a sentencing commission or similar government agency directly involved in the development of state or federal policy.

The Executive Committee shall include a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and members at large.”

OPTION 3: *“Move to amend Article VI, Section 1 of the bylaws so that it reads as follows:*

SECTION 1.

The Executive Committee of the Association shall consist of seven voting members elected from the membership at each annual meeting. ~~The Executive Committee shall include a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and members at large.~~ Of the seven members:

- a. ~~Each state and the United States Sentencing Commission~~ sentencing commission or similar governmental body charged with sentencing policy responsibilities shall have no more than a single member serving on the Executive Committee.
- b. Each state or federal district shall have no more than two members serving on the Executive Committee.
- c. No more than one member may be an individual who does not work or serve on a sentencing commission or similar government agency directly involved in the development of state or federal policy.

The Executive Committee shall include a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and members at large.”

OPTION 4: *“Move to amend Article VI, Section 1 of the bylaws so that it reads as follows:*

SECTION 1.

The Executive Committee of the Association shall consist of seven voting members elected from the membership at each annual meeting. ~~The Executive Committee shall include a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and members at large.~~ Of the seven members:

- a. ~~Each state and the United States Sentencing Commission~~ sentencing commission or similar governmental body charged with sentencing policy responsibilities shall have no more than a single member serving on the Executive Committee.
- b. Each state or federal district shall have no more than two members serving on the Executive Committee.
- c. No more than two members may be individuals who do not work or serve on a sentencing commission or similar government agency directly involved in the development of state or federal policy.

The Executive Committee shall include a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and members at large.”