

**BYLAWS OF
AUSTIN INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING PROJECT
A Texas Non-Profit Corporation**

Preamble

These Bylaws are subject to, and governed by, the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act and the Articles of Incorporation of Austin Investigative Reporting Project. In the event of a direct conflict between the provisions of these Bylaws and the mandatory provisions of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act will be controlling. In the event of a direct conflict between the provisions of these Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation of Austin Investigative Reporting Project, these Bylaws will be controlling.

ARTICLE I - PURPOSES

1.1 General. The purposes for which Austin Investigative Reporting Project is organized are:

1.1.1 Austin Investigative Reporting Project is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable, scientific, and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

1.1.2 To engage in any and all lawful activities incidental to the foregoing purposes, except as otherwise restricted herein.

1.2 Powers. Austin Investigative Reporting Project is a non-profit corporation and shall have all of the powers, duties, authorizations, and responsibilities as provided in the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act; provided, however, that Austin Investigative Reporting Project shall neither have nor exercise directly or indirectly in any activity that would invalidate its status as a corporation that is exempt from federal income taxation as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

ARTICLE II - OFFICES

2.1 Principal Office. The principal office of Austin Investigative Reporting Project shall be located at 509 E. 38th St., Austin, Texas 78705.

2.2 Other Offices. Austin Investigative Reporting Project may have such other offices as the Board of Directors may determine or as the affairs of Austin Investigative Reporting Project may require from time to time.

ARTICLE III - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

3.1 General Powers and Responsibilities. Austin Investigative Reporting Project shall be governed by a Board of Directors (“the Board”), which shall have all of the rights, powers, privileges and limitations of liability of directors of a nonprofit corporation organized under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act. The Board shall establish policies and directives governing business and programs of Austin Investigative Reporting Project and shall delegate to the Editor and Publisher and other Austin Investigative Reporting Project staff, subject to the provisions of these Bylaws, authority and responsibility to see that the policies and directives are appropriately followed.

3.2 Number and Qualifications.

3.2.1 The Board shall have up to nine (9), but no fewer than three (3), members. The number of Board members may be increased beyond nine (9) members or decreased to three (3) members by the affirmative vote of a majority of the then-serving Board of Directors. A Board member need not be a resident of the State of Texas.

3.2.2 In addition to the regular members of the Board, representatives of such other organizations or individuals as the Board may deem advisable to elect shall be Ex-Officio Board Members, but shall not have voting power, shall not count as one of the regular Board members, and shall not be eligible for office.

3.3 Board Compensation. The Board shall receive no compensation other than

reasonable expenses. However, provided the compensation structure complies with Section 5.8 of these Bylaws, nothing in these Bylaws shall be construed to preclude any Board Member from serving the organization in any other capacity and receiving compensation for services rendered.

3.4 Board Elections. The Board may consider nominations for new and renewing Board members at any properly scheduled meeting of the Board. New and renewing Board members shall be approved by a majority of those Board members at a Board meeting at which a quorum is present.

3.5 Term of Board. Members appointed to the Board of the Austin Investigative Reporting Project may serve terms of unlimited duration.

3.6 Vacancies. Vacancies on the Board may be filled by a majority vote of the Board at a Board meeting at which a quorum is present.

3.7 Resignation. Each Board member shall have the right to resign at any time upon written notice thereof to the Board Chair, Secretary of the Board, or the Editor and Publisher. Unless otherwise specified in the notice, the resignation shall take effect upon receipt thereof, and the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

3.8 Removal. A Board member may be removed, with or without cause, at any duly constituted meeting of the Board, by the affirmative vote of a majority of then-serving Board members.

3.9 Meetings. The Board's regular meetings may be held at such time and place as shall be determined by the Board. The Chair or any three regular Board members may call a special meeting of the Board on three days' notice to each member of the Board. Notice shall be served to each Board member via hand delivery, US mail, e-mail, or fax. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board may fix any place, so long as it is reasonable, as the place for holding any special meeting of the Board called by them.

3.10 Minutes. At meetings of the Board, business shall be transacted in such order as the Board may determine from time to time. In the event the Secretary

is unavailable, the Board Chair shall appoint a person to act as Secretary at each meeting. The Secretary, or the person appointed to act as Secretary, shall prepare minutes of the meetings which shall be delivered to Austin Investigative Reporting Project to be placed in the minute books of Austin Investigative Reporting Project.

3.11 Action by Written Consent. Any action required by law to be taken at a meeting of the Board, or any action that may be taken at a meeting of the Board, may be taken without a meeting if consent in writing setting forth the action so taken shall be signed by all Board members. Such consent shall be placed in the minute book of Austin Investigative Reporting Project and shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote of the Board taken at an actual meeting. The Board members' written consent may be executed in multiple counterparts or copies, each of which shall be deemed an original for all purposes. In addition, facsimile signatures and electronic signatures or other electronic "consent click" acknowledgments shall be effective as original signatures.

3.12 Quorum. At each meeting of the Board or Board Committees, the presence of the lesser of (a) seven (7) members, or (b) one-third of the members then serving on the Board [but in no case less than three (3)] or committee [but in no case less than two (2)] shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If at any time the Board consists of an even number of members and a vote results in a tie, the vote of the Chair shall be the deciding vote. The act of the majority of the Board members serving on the Board or Board Committees and present at a meeting in which there is a quorum shall be the act of the Board or Board Committees, unless otherwise provided by the Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws, or a law specifically requiring otherwise. If a quorum is not present at a meeting, the Board members present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice until a quorum shall be present. However, a Board member shall be considered present at any meeting of the Board or Board Committee if during the meeting he or she is in telephone communication with the other Board members participating in the meeting.

3.13 Proxy. A Board member who is unable to attend a meeting of the Board or a Board Committee may vote by written proxy given to any other voting member of the Board or Committee or designated staff member who is in attendance at

the meeting in question. However, a vote by proxy will not be counted toward the number of Board members needed to be present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. No proxy shall be valid after three (3) months from the date of execution. Each proxy shall be revocable unless expressly stated therein to be irrevocable or unless made irrevocable by law.

3.14 Board Member Attendance. An elected Board member who is absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the Board during a fiscal year is encouraged to re-evaluate with the Board Chair his/her commitment to Austin Investigative Reporting Project. The Board may deem a Board member who has missed three (3) consecutive meetings without such a re-evaluation with the Chair to have resigned from the Board.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

4.1 Officers and Duties. The Board shall elect officers of Austin Investigative Reporting Project which shall include a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such assistants and other officers as the Board shall from time to time determine. The officers may also include a Past Chair for a term of one (1) year. One person may hold any two (2) or more offices.

4.2 Chair. The Chair shall preside at meetings and have the power to call meetings. The Chair shall be responsible for leadership of the Board in discharging its powers and duties and shall, in general, supervise and control all of the business and affairs of Austin Investigative Reporting Project. The Chair may sign contracts and other instruments on the organization's behalf.

4.3: Chair-Elect. The Chair-Elect shall have all powers and duties of the Chair during the Chair's absence, disability, or disqualification, or during any vacancy in the position of Chair, and such other powers or duties assigned by the Chair, the Board, or the Bylaws.

4.4 Past Chair. The Past Chair, if any, shall assist in advancing the goals and objectives of Austin Investigative Reporting Project through the application of knowledge gained through past Board experiences. The Past Chair shall be responsible for specific tasks delegated by the Executive Committee.

4.5: Secretary. The Secretary shall (a) cause the minutes of all Board and Executive Committee meetings and proceedings to be recorded, (b) certify the accuracy of such minutes, (c) cause notice of all meetings to be given, (d) attest the signatures of Austin Investigative Reporting Project's officers and Board members as required, (e) sign correspondence on behalf of the Board, and (f) have all other powers assigned by the Board, the Chair, or these Bylaws.

4.6 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have access to records of all receipts, disbursements, assets, and liabilities of the organization and shall report to the Board on the condition of such records and financial condition of Austin Investigative Reporting Project from time to time and at least quarterly. Prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, the Treasurer shall cause a proposed operating and capital expenditure budget to be presented to the Board for approval. The Treasurer shall cause to be prepared and submitted to the Board a financial statement showing Austin Investigative Reporting Project's net worth at the close of the fiscal year and cause a firm of outside certified public accountants to audit the organization's books and records at the end of each fiscal year. The Treasurer shall cause all employees of the organization responsible for the handling of funds to be adequately bonded and shall report on the fidelity bonds of such employees to the Board annually.

4.7 Election and Term of Office. All officers shall be members of the Board during their terms of office. The officers of the Board shall be elected by the Board at regular Board meetings as vacancies arise. A vacancy occurring in any office due to death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or any other reason may be filled by the Board.

4.8 Removal. Any officer or agent elected or appointed by the Board may be removed at any time by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board, but such removal shall be without prejudice to the contract rights, if any, of the person so removed.

ARTICLE V - MISCELLANEOUS

5.1 Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of Austin Investigative Reporting Project shall be

from January 1st to December 31st.

5.2 Annual Budget. The Board shall adopt an annual operating budget, which specifies major expenditures by type and amount.

5.3 Books and Records. Austin Investigative Reporting Project shall keep correct and complete books and accounting records and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its Board.

5.4 Contracts and Grants. The Board may authorize any officer(s) or agent(s) of Austin Investigative Reporting Project to enter into contracts, leases, and agreements with and accept grants and loans from all departments and agencies of the United States; the State of Texas; its agencies, counties, municipalities, and political subdivisions; and public or private corporations, foundations, and persons; and may generally perform all acts necessary for a full exercise of the powers vested in it. The Editor and Publisher shall have authority to enter into such contracts and expend such funds on behalf of the organization as the Board may specify.

5.5 Checks, Drafts, or Orders for Payment. All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of Austin Investigative Reporting Project shall be signed by such officer(s) or agent(s) of Austin Investigative Reporting Project and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board. In the absence of such determination by the Board, such instruments shall be signed by the Editor and Publisher and co-signed by the Treasurer.

5.6 Deposits. All funds of Austin Investigative Reporting Project shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of Austin Investigative Reporting Project in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the Board shall select.

5.7 Acceptance of Gifts. The Board may accept on behalf of Austin Investigative Reporting Project any cash contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for the general purposes, or for any special purpose, of the Austin Investigative Reporting Project.

5.8 Contracts Involving Board Members and/or Officers. Upon full disclosure of a direct or indirect interest in any contract relating to or incidental to the operations of Austin Investigative Reporting Project, members of the Board and officers of Austin Investigative Reporting Project may be permitted to maintain a direct or indirect interest in any such contract, notwithstanding that at such time they may also be acting as individuals, or trustees of trusts, or beneficiaries of trusts, members or associates, or as agents for other persons or corporations, or may be interested in the same matters as shareholders, trustees, or otherwise; provided, however, that any contract, transaction, or action taken on behalf of Austin Investigative Reporting Project involving a matter in which a trustee or officer is personally interested as a shareholder, trustee, or otherwise shall be at arm's length and not in violation of the proscriptions in the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws which prohibit Austin Investigative Reporting Project's use or application of its funds for private benefit; and provided further that no contract, transaction, or act shall be taken on behalf of Austin Investigative Reporting Project if such contract, transaction, or act would result in denial of Austin Investigative Reporting Project's exemption from federal income taxation under the Code and its regulations, as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended. In no event, however, shall any person or entity dealing with the Board or officers of Austin Investigative Reporting Project be obligated to inquire into the authority of the Board and officers to enter into and consummate any contract, transaction or take other action. Any Board member who would directly or indirectly benefit from a contractual relationship as described above shall not participate in the decision on whether that Board member shall be permitted by the Board to maintain such an interest.

5.9 Investments. Austin Investigative Reporting Project shall have the right to retain all or any part of any property—real, personal, tangible, or intangible—acquired by it in whatever manner and pursuant to the direction and judgment of the Board, to invest and reinvest any funds held by it without being restricted to the class of investments available to trustees by law or any similar restriction.

5.10 Exempt Activities. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, no Board member, officer, employee, or representative of Austin Investigative Reporting Project shall take any action or carry on any activity by or on behalf of Austin Investigative Reporting Project which is not permitted to be taken or

carried on by an organization exempt from federal income taxation under sections 501(a) and 501(c)(3) of the Code and its regulations as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended, or by an organization contributions to which are deductible under section 170(a)(1) of the Code and its regulations as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended, by virtue of being charitable contributions as defined in section 170(c)(2) of the Code and its regulations as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended.

5.11 Captions. Captions (i.e., article and section headings) are inserted in these Bylaws for convenience only and in no way define, limit, or describe the scope or intent of these Bylaws, or any provision hereof, nor in any way affect the interpretation of these Bylaws.

5.12 Severability of Clauses. If any provision of these Bylaws is held illegal or unenforceable in a judicial proceeding, such provision shall be severed and shall be inoperative, and the remainder of these Bylaws shall remain operative and binding.

ARTICLE VI - INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

6.1 Right to Indemnification. Austin Investigative Reporting Project shall indemnify any person who was, is, or is threatened to be made a named defendant or respondent in a proceeding (as hereinafter defined) because the person (i) is or was a director, officer, or committee member of Austin Investigative Reporting Project or (ii) while a director, officer, or committee member of Austin Investigative Reporting Project, is or was serving at the request of Austin Investigative Reporting Project as a director, officer, committee member, partner, or other enterprise, to the fullest extent that a corporation may grant indemnification to a director under the Texas Business Organizations Code ("TBOC") as the same exists or may hereafter be amended. To the extent permitted by then-applicable law, the grant of mandatory indemnification to any person pursuant to this article shall extend to proceedings involving the negligence of such persons. Such right shall be a contract right and shall include the right to be paid by Austin Investigative Reporting Project for expenses incurred in defending any such proceeding in advance of its final disposition to the maximum extent permitted under the TBOC as the same exists or may

hereafter be amended. As used herein, the term “proceeding” means any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, arbitrative, or investigative, any appeal in such an action, suit, or proceeding, and any inquiry or investigation that could lead to such an action, suit, or proceeding.

6.2 Reimbursement for Out-of-Pocket Expenses. If a claim for indemnification or advancement of expenses hereunder is not paid in full by Austin Investigative Reporting Project within ninety (90) days after a written claim has been received by Austin Investigative Reporting Project, the claimant may at any time thereafter bring suit against Austin Investigative Reporting Project to recover the unpaid amount of the claim, and if successful in whole or in part, the claimant shall be entitled to be paid also the expenses of prosecuting such claim. It shall be a defense to any such action that such indemnification or advancement of costs of defense are not permitted under the TBOC, but the burden of proving such defense shall be on Austin Investigative Reporting Project. Neither the failure of Austin Investigative Reporting Project (including its Board of Directors or any committee thereof, special legal counsel, or members, if any) to have made its determination prior to the commencement of such action that indemnification of, or advancement of costs of defense to, the claimant is permissible in the circumstances nor an actual determination by Austin Investigative Reporting Project (including its Board of Directors or any committee thereof, special legal counsel, or members, if any) that such indemnification or advancement is not permissible shall be a defense to the action or create a presumption that such indemnification or advancement is not permissible.

6.3 Survivorship of Right to Indemnity. In the event of the death of any person having a right of indemnification under the foregoing provisions, such right shall inure to the benefit of his heirs, executors, administrators, and personal representatives.

6.4 Insurance. Austin Investigative Reporting Project shall purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is serving Austin Investigative Reporting Project (or another entity at the request of Austin Investigative Reporting Project) against any liability asserted against him and incurred by him in such a capacity or arising out of his status as such a person, whether or not

Austin Investigative Reporting Project would have the power to indemnify him against that liability under these Bylaws or by statute. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no person shall be indemnified pursuant to the provisions of this Article and no insurance may be maintained on behalf of any person if such indemnification or maintenance of insurance would subject Austin Investigative Reporting Project or such person to income or excise tax under the Code, including any tax asserted under Chapter 42 of the Code. Austin Investigative Reporting Project may additionally indemnify any person covered by the grant of mandatory indemnification contained above to such further extent as is permitted by law and may indemnify any other person to the fullest extent permitted by law. The rights conferred above shall not be exclusive of any other right which any person may have or hereafter acquire under any statute, bylaw, resolution of members, if any, or directors, agreement, or otherwise.

ARTICLE VII – DISSOLUTION & WINDING UP

7.1 Winding Up. Upon the necessity for the dissolution and/or winding up of Austin Investigative Reporting Project, the Board shall oversee such process and ensure compliance with all relevant provisions of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act and other applicable state and federal statutes.

7.2 No Rights of Board Member to Assets. Upon Dissolution of Austin Investigative Reporting Project, no Board member shall have any rights nor shall receive any assets of the organization. The assets of Austin Investigative Reporting Project are permanently dedicated to a tax-exempt organization for the purposes set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws. In the event of dissolution of Austin Investigative Reporting Project, the assets, after payment of any debts, will be distributed to an organization which itself is tax-exempt under provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

8.1 These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed, and new bylaws may be adopted by a three-fourths vote of the entire Board at any regular meeting or at any special meeting if at least fourteen days' written notice is given of intention to alter, to amend or repeal, or to adopt new bylaws at such meeting, and a

written copy of the proposed changes shall be distributed to each Board member prior to the meeting.

**These Bylaws were approved at a meeting of the Board of Directors on:
June 4, 2009.**