



National Association of Black Journalists

CHICAGO CHAPTER

THE OFFICIAL NABJ CHAPTER

Chapter of Vernon Jarrett, NABJ Founding Member

PENDING APRIL 26, 2017

APPROVED – MAY 21, 2008 / AMENDED 5/18/2011 & 5/1/2013*

Constitution and Bylaws of the National Association of Black Journalists-Chicago Chapter

Preamble:

We, the members of the National Association of Black Journalists-Chicago Chapter, in pursuit of the full benefit that arises from African-American journalists in current practice uniting for the common purpose of bettering our profession, our professionalism and our profession's societal role by increasing Black employment in the media; increasing the number of Blacks in managerial positions; encouraging and educating young African-Americans interested in pursuing careers in journalism; and monitoring media regarding racial messages; and sensitizing media to racism in its varying degrees, do, hereby, establish, amend and enact this Constitution and Bylaws for the governance of the National Association of Black Journalists-Chicago Chapter and its membership.

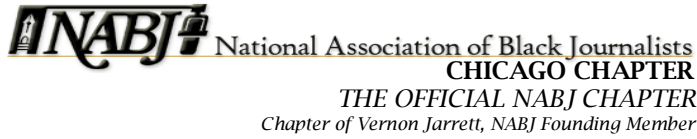
Constitution and Bylaws:

Article I. Name and Symbol of the National Association of Black Journalists-Chicago Chapter

Section 1. The full and complete name of the Organization shall be "National Association of Black Journalists-Chicago Chapter." Reference to the Organization may be abbreviated and referred to as "NABJ-CC" or "NABJ-Chicago Chapter" or "NABJ-Chicago." The Board of Directors shall adopt rules guiding the use of abbreviations. In this document, "NABJ-CC" or "Organization" shall hereafter be used to refer to the "Association."

Section 2. The symbol of the NABJ-CC shall include the full name of the Organization. The Board of Directors shall approve an authorized symbol for NABJ-CC.

(a) The symbol may, as appropriate usages dictate, incorporate the following salute to the NABJ founding member, Vernon Jarrett:



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50 (b) The symbol may be periodically updated by resolution of the
51 Board. The proposed replacement symbol shall be presented to the
52 membership for review and comment no less than thirty (30)
53 calendar days before Board adoption of a new symbol.
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55 **Article II. Purpose of NABJ-CC**
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57 **Section 1.** The purpose of the NABJ-CC shall be to bring about a union of
58 Chicagoland African-American journalists in current practice and
59 dedicated to truth and excellence in news gathering and reporting, and
60 equality in the media industry. To accomplish this mission, the
61 Organization's pursuits may include efforts to:

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63 a) strengthen the ties between Blacks who work in majority-
64 owned media and Blacks who work in the Black-owned media;
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66 b) assist Black journalists in upgrading their skills for upward
67 mobility toward managerial and supervisory positions;
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69 c) encourage students to identify careers in journalism;
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71 d) award scholarships to Black journalism students of accredited
72 colleges and universities;
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74 e) encourage journalism schools of accredited colleges and
75 universities to appoint Black professors;
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77 f) establish the NABJ-CC as an exemplary group of professionals
78 that honors excellence and outstanding achievement among
79 Black journalists;
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81 g) chronicle the history of Black journalists and journalism in the
82 Chicago area and establish and maintain an archival repository.
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84 **Section 2.** NABJ-CC may, after approval by of a majority of its Board of
85 Directors, take positions or act on issues of social or professional
86 concern. NABJ-CC may not endorse or support any candidate for
87 public office.
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89 **Article III. Board of Directors and Officers of the Organization.**
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91 Section 1. Titles of Officers of the Organization shall be President, Vice
92 President/Print, Vice President/Broadcast, Vice President/Digital,
93 Secretary, Treasurer and Parliamentarian. The officers comprise the
94 Executive Board of the Board of Directors.
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96 Section 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice
97 President/Print, Vice President/Broadcast, Vice President/Digital,
98 Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian and no less than five nor more
99 than nine, At-Large Directors.

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101 Section 3. The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice
102 President/Print, Vice President/Broadcast, Secretary, Vice
103 President/Digital, Treasurer and Parliamentarian.
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105 Section 4. The Immediate Past President and the Executive Director in good
106 standing may serve as ex officio members of the Executive Board and
107 shall serve in a non-voting, advisory capacity while maintaining the
108 continued approval of the Board of Directors.
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110 Section 5. The Executive Board shall share responsibility for the day-to-day
111 management of the Organization and will be responsible for the
112 development of an annual planning calendar and the scheduling of
113 NABJ-CC events.
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115 Section 6. All candidates for the Board shall be in good standing as of the date of
116 submittal of the Candidate Application. Only persons who are in
117 good standing can serve on the Board of Directors.
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119 Section 7. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once every sixty (60) days.
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121 Section 8. In order to conduct official business, three officers must be present at
122 a Board of Directors' meeting.
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124 Section 9. The Board of Directors shall have the power to set policy within the
125 parameters of the Constitution and Bylaws, establish ad hoc
126 committees and pass resolutions. A simple majority of the Board of
127 Directors must approve all such actions. Policies and resolutions
128 must be dated and approved in writing.
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130 Section 10. The Board of Directors shall establish a standing rule to govern
131 resolution of matters in the event a vote before the Executive Board
132 results in a tie.
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Article IV. Duties and Descriptions of Officers.

- Section 1. The President shall preside over all meetings of NABJ-CC and function as its principal executive officer. The President shall ensure that all resolutions, orders and contracts authorized by the Board of Directors are executed.
- Section 2. The President shall also have the power to appoint or remove committee chairs, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution and Bylaws. The President, in cooperation with the respective committees, may meet with the given committee chairpersons to plan strategy and provide direction for the committee, according to the policies of NABJ-CC.
- Section 3. The Vice President/Broadcast, Vice President/Print and Vice President/Digital shall assist the President in the discharge of the duties outlined in Article IV, Section 2, as assigned by the President. In the absence of the President, the Vice Presidents shall jointly and cooperatively assume the duties of the President.
- Section 4. The Secretary shall serve as the principal communications officer. S/he shall keep, or cause to be kept, proper minutes of all meetings and shall maintain formal records. The membership shall have appropriate access to minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors. Access shall accordingly be granted at a time and place reasonably determined by the Secretary. The Secretary shall be responsible for providing timely notices of general and annual meetings to the members. Approval by the Board of Directors shall be necessary to release copies of the minutes of the Board of Directors' meetings.
- Section 5. The Treasurer shall serve as the principal financial officer of NABJ-CC. S/he shall be responsible for the maintenance and submission of all financial records of NABJ-CC, the submission of monthly financial reports and an annual financial report to the membership, the deposit of funds authorized to NABJ-CC in an account and/or accounts designated by the Board of Directors and the disbursement of funds of the Organization on order from the President and/or the Board.
- a) The Treasurer's signature is mandatory for any and all disbursements of funds on behalf of NABJ-CC.
 - b) Should any disbursement of funds appear to be unlawful, the Treasurer shall submit the question of the legality of such order for the vote of the Executive Board, and s/he shall follow the

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course outlined by the majority vote of the Executive Board and in compliance with applicable Federal, State and local laws and regulations

- c) The Treasurer shall be bonded.
- d) No check shall be issued without the signature of two of the ~~six~~ voting officers.

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Article VI. Duties and Description of the Parliamentarian.

Section 1. The Parliamentarian shall be a non-voting member of the Executive Board. The Parliamentarian shall be selected from the Organization’s membership by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for ensuring compliance of NABJ-CC to its Bylaws and Constitution, maintaining proper parliamentary procedure and overseeing elections and amendments. This provision is not to be construed as a restriction on the Parliamentarian in casting ballots on matters before the Organization.

- a) The Parliamentarian shall serve as Chair of the standing Nominating Committee and ad hoc committees that may periodically consider provisions of or changes to the Constitution and Bylaws.

Article VI. Eligibility for Office and Term of Office.

Section 1. To be eligible for elected office in the Organization, a candidate for an Executive or At-Large position on the Board of Directors must be a Full Member in good standing with NABJ-CC and the National Association of Black Journalists, and, once in office, shall maintain good standing throughout the duration of his/her term.

Section 2. Each elected Board member is required to be in good standing, which is to be current in the practice of journalism, maintain the established standards of conduct for the journalism profession and remain financially current in the payment of Chapter and NABJ dues.

Section 4. Associate Members, Student Members and General Members shall not be eligible to hold elected office in the Organization.

Section 5. A term of office is a two-year period. The full Board of Directors and Ex Officio members shall serve concurrently and in cycles of two-year terms.

***Article VII. Authority of the Directors to Appointment Advisors and the Role of Appointed Advisors.**

235 Section 1. Authority of Board of Directors to Appointment Advisors.
236 (a) The Board of Directors shall have the authority to appoint an
237 Advisor with a select field of expertise to serve at the pleasure of the
238 Board. Multiple fields of expertise may have a representative Advisor
239 appointed.

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241 Section 2. Role of Appointed Advisors
242 (a) Each Advisor may attend Board meetings as requested by the
243 Board and shall provide regular advice and counsel to the Board in its
244 consideration of various aspects of the specialty area of his/her
245 expertise. Each Advisor may Chair a committee on behalf of the
246 Board and, as deemed appropriate by the Board, may fully engage
247 with multiple committees providing advice and counsel in the
248 specialty area.

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250 (b) Each Advisor to the Board must be a full member in good
251 standing with NABJ-CC.

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253 **Article VIII. Membership Criteria.**

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255 Section 1. Each Full Member is required to be in good standing – which is to be
256 current in the practice of journalism, meet and maintain the
257 established standards of conduct for the journalism profession and
258 remain financially current in the payment of Chapter dues. Student,
259 Associate and General Members must conduct themselves in a
260 manner appropriate to ethic standards of acceptable professionalism
261 and remain financially current in the payment of Chapter dues.
262 Standards of conduct represent the highest standards of the profession
263 as appropriately adopted by NABJ on April 24, 2005. NABJ-CC
264 wholly adopts the NABJ standards of conduct. Organization
265 members are held to the standards as follows:

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- NABJ-CC Full Members are encouraged to become involved in community activities but are expected to disclose their employment or other relationships with those entities that influence or seek to influence the news.
 - NABJ-CC Full Members are encouraged to disclose or refrain from investments or business relationships that actually bring or may appear to bring into question the integrity of their journalistic works. Members are expected to avoid conflicts of interest, real or perceived.
 - NABJ-CC Full Members should disclose their political contributions to candidates and refrain from making such contributions in areas in which they cover or have journalistic contact.

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- NABJ-CC Full Members should not accept free services or payments from news sources or public officials. In the same regard, NABJ members should not pay news sources, offer gifts to, or accept favors from those who seek to influence news coverage.
- NABJ-CC Full Members are urged to strive for words, images, graphics and sound that report truthfully, honestly and objectively.
- NABJ-CC Full Members should not alter words, images, graphics or sound in a manner that deceives the public. This includes fabricating, or plagiarizing quotations and facts or electronically altering images or sound.
- NABJ-CC Full Members should disclose the origin of information and label all material provided by outside agencies, such as those provided in the form of news releases, public relations statements or audio or video releases.
- NABJ-CC Full Members should treat all subjects of news coverage with respect and dignity, particularly victims of crime and tragedy and their families.
- NABJ-CC Full Members should examine freelance opportunities and honoraria for speeches carefully to assure that they are not disguised as gratuities.
- NABJ-CC Full Members should refrain from surreptitious methods of gathering information or methods that misrepresent their standing except when traditional open methods have been exhausted or will not yield central information vital to the public.
- Without the explicit authority of the Board, no NABJ-CC member shall present him or herself, in any manner or capacity, as officially representing NABJ-CC. This provision shall in no way limit the authority vested in individual members of the Board of Directors to represent the Organization.
- As an organization that represents members of a racial minority that understands the pain of discrimination, NABJ-CC members should avoid stereotyping by race, gender, age, religion, ethnicity, geography, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance or social status.

Section 2. All membership applications for Full, Student, Associate or General status will be subject to the review of the Board of Directors or, as its designate, the Membership Committee. The Board maintains full and

331 final authority to accept or reject any recommendation of the
332 Membership Committee.
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334 Section 3. Full Membership:
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- 336 a) NABJ-CC grants Full Membership status to full-time journalists in
337 current practice and in good standing. NABJ-CC grants Full
338 Membership status to currently practicing part-time and per diem
339 journalists who formerly practiced as full-time journalists for a
340 minimum of five years and who are in good standing. NABJ-CC
341 grants Full Membership status to journalism professors of
342 accredited academic institutions who are in good standing. Full-
343 time Journalists are defined as writers, reporters, editors,
344 newsroom managers, photographers and artists who produce,
345 gather, disseminate and distribute news and are employed by
346 institutions such as newspaper and magazine publishing
347 companies, television and radio stations, wire services, and other
348 media outlets that are properly vetted by the Board of Directors.
349 The Board of Directors shall have sole and final discretion as to the
350 determination of the essence of characteristics that constitute a
351 journalistic media outlet.
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- 353 b) Full Membership also shall be open to college and university
354 journalism professors of accredited academic institutions who
355 attained five years' newsroom experience prior to joining
356 academia.
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- 358 c) Full Members are entitled to vote in all matters before the
359 membership body of NABJ-CC and eligible to hold office,
360 participate in all NABJ-CC functions and receive all NABJ-CC
361 correspondence.
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- 363 d) Full-time Journalists and journalism professors may take a leave of
364 absence from the profession and may petition the NABJ-CC Board
365 of Directors for permission to retain their NABJ-CC Full
366 Membership status during the period of the leave.
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368 Section 4. Associate Membership:
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- 370 a) NABJ-CC grants Associate Membership status to freelance
371 journalists and other media-related professionals if their goals and
372 purposes are consistent with the NABJ-CC Constitution and
373 Bylaws and the spirit of NABJ-CC and the National Association of
374 Black Journalists. Associate Members shall be admitted to
375 meetings; may voice a non-binding opinion; and may serve on
376 committees. Beyond their appropriate role in committee
377 membership, Associate Members may not vote in any other
378 circumstance.

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- b) Associate members are eligible to receive all NABJ-CC correspondence.

Section 5. Student Membership:

- a) NABJ-CC grants Student Membership status to persons who are currently registered as a full-time equivalent student at an accredited academic institution. The student must be majoring in print or broadcast journalism or multi-media communication, or indicating a strong interest in pursuing a journalism career (in the event the attended college or university has no print or broadcast journalism curriculum). Student Membership status may continue for six months after graduation. Student Members shall be admitted to meetings; may voice a non-binding opinion; and may serve on committees. Beyond their appropriate role in committee membership, Student Members may not vote in any other circumstance.
- b) Student Members are eligible to receive all NABJ-CC correspondence.

Section 6. General Membership:

- a) NABJ-CC grants General Membership status to persons who share a strong interest in journalism and the goals and objectives of NABJ-CC.
- b) General Members are eligible to receive all NABJ-CC correspondence. The number of General Members may not exceed half the Organization's membership roster.

Section 7. Disciplinary Actions and Revocation of Membership:

- a) The Executive Board shall oversee actions concerning disciplinary measures against members and membership revocation. Any member is subject to disciplinary action or revocation of membership if judged by the Executive Board to have breached journalistic ethics, misrepresented the Organization, engaged in improper conduct or behavior that could injure the good name of the Organization, disturb its well-being or hamper it in its good work.
- b) The Board of Directors shall adopt rules and provisions governing the process for Disciplinary Actions and Revocation of Membership.
- c) In all matters of Disciplinary Actions and Revocation of Membership, the decision of the Board shall be final.

Article IX. Membership Meetings, Powers and Voting.

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Section 1. The membership shall assemble at least six times per year at such times and places as may be determined by the Board for the purposes of:

- (a) Hearing and acting upon the reports of the President, Treasurer, Secretary and various committees.
- (b) Participating in education and professional development forums, seminars and workshops.
- (c) Hearing and acting on such business that may be of interest to the membership.

Section 2. Powers.

a) Full Members in good standing shall have the power to:

- 1. adopt amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws.
- 2. elect officers at least once every two years.
- 3. address other matters as may be necessary or appropriate for the good of the Organization and its members.
- 4. vote on all matters for action brought before the body.

Article X. Fiscal Year and Membership Dues.

Section 1. The fiscal year of NABJ-CC shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31 of each calendar year.

Section 2. All NABJ-CC members are required to pay dues. The term of a membership is 12 months beginning on the date of payment of dues. The fee amount for annual dues shall be set by periodic resolution of the Board of Directors.

Article XI. Elections.

Section 1. Election of the Board of Directors, including the Executive Board, shall occur at an Annual Meeting. All members of the Board of Directors shall concurrently serve the two-year term of their respective positions.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall adopt rules governing the Organization's nominating procedure. The Nominating Committee shall oversee all elections and voting procedures on ballot issues.

- 475 a) Any member may nominate a Full Member. Each nominee must
476 consent to candidacy in writing in order to appear on the official
477 ballot. Only Full Members in good standing are eligible to serve
478 on the Board in elected positions. Only Full Members are entitled
479 to vote for candidates.
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481 b) During February of an election year, the Secretary shall mail to all
482 members in good standing an official Candidate Nomination Form,
483 along with information concerning eligibility requirements,
484 available Board positions, their respective terms and
485 responsibilities. The mailings shall be accomplished by regular
486 post and/or electronically, as determined appropriate by the Board.
487 The selected mode for each mailing shall provide all voting
488 members the reasonable assurance of receiving all election related
489 documents and materials.
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491 c) Each member is responsible for providing NABJ-CC with updated
492 and current contact information.
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494 d) Successful write-in candidates must be able to provide valid evidence of
495 membership in good standing at the Annual Meeting election. Failure to
496 timely provide such evidence may result in forfeiture of elected position to
497 the candidate receiving the next highest vote tally. If no other qualifying
498 member receives ballot votes, the Executive Board shall appoint a Full
499 Member for the position at the earliest opportunity.
500

501 Section 3. Voting.
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- 503 a) An official pre-printed ballot is required for the election of officers or to
504 make an amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws. An official ballot
505 must be on NABJ-CC stationery and be signed by the President, Secretary,
506 Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and two members of the Nominating
507 Committee.
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509 b) The ballot shall be designed to allow for the addition of at least one write-
510 in candidate per office by the receiving NABJ-CC members. Ballots will
511 be available at Annual Meeting elections for distribution to Full Members
512 in good standing.
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514 c) Each Full Member shall bring to the Annual Meeting his/her current
515 NABJ-CC membership card as identification and valid evidence of
516 membership in good standing.
517
518 d) Absentee ballots may be obtained by a formal request to the
519 Parliamentarian. The request shall be made in writing and submitted
520 electronically to the Nominating Committee. Additionally, via telephone,
521 the requestor shall take the initiative to confirm receipt of the e-mail
522 request.

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524 e) Notice of the availability of absentee ballots shall be made to the voting
525 membership no less than two weeks prior to the election. Completed
526 absentee ballots shall be received by the Nominating Committee no less
527 than three days prior to the election. In the event of an electronic
528 submittal of Absentee Ballot, it shall be acceptable only if it is cast from
529 the verifiable and verified e-mail address-of-record for the Full Member
530 who requested the Absentee Ballot.
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532 **Article XII. Committees.**

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534 Section 1. NABJ-CC shall have six standing committees: Membership, Program
535 Planning, Communications, Fund-Raising, Nominating and Media
536 Advocacy.
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- 538 a) The Membership Committee shall approve all applications for
539 membership; manage the awarding of student scholarships; and
540 administer the Annual Membership Drive.
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542 b) The Membership Committee shall be responsible for activities
543 related to career development, advancement and opportunity.
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545 c) The Program Planning Committee shall be responsible for all
546 standard NABJ-CC activities, such as preparation of a newsletter,
547 planning and executing an Awards Banquet, and the coordination
548 of other programs which honor excellence and outstanding
549 achievements by local Black journalists.
550
551 d) The Communications Committee shall prepare press releases and
552 internal flyers and develop publicity strategies for NABJ-CC-
553 sponsored events.
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555 e) The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for overseeing all
556 elections and procedures requiring a ballot vote.
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558 f) The Fund-Raising Committee shall plan and implement all non-
559 standard events and activities designed to generate income for the
560 Organization.
561
562 g) The Media Advocacy Committee shall be charged with monitoring
563 the institutional media for discrimination and other injustices to
564 African-Americans in news coverage and employment practices.
565 The Media Advocacy Committee shall report to the Board and the
566 membership regarding issues of concern for Chapter consideration
567 and/or action.
568

569 Section 2. Ad hoc committees may be formed by the President, at the discretion
570 of the Board, as needed. Each Ad hoc committee shall be respectively

571 established at the pleasure of the Board and shall expire, respectively,
572 at a time determined by the Board.
573

574 Section 3. Membership to a committee will be open to all categories of NABJ-CC
575 membership. The number of members serving on a committee may be
576 determined by the Committee Chair and the limitation is subject to the
577 approval of the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee is
578 excepted from Board approval. The Nominating Committee
579 composition requires approval by a voice vote of the Full Membership
580 present at a regular meeting.
581

582 **Article XIII. Vacancies, removals from office and successions.**
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584 Section 1. The President shall appoint a Full Member to fill a vacancy created by
585 the departure, resignation or removal from office of any member of the
586 Board of Directors. The appointment shall be limited to the time
587 remaining in the term of the vacated position. Such appointment
588 requires both the approval of a minimum of three members of the
589 Executive Board and an official notification of the appointment to the
590 general membership.
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592 Section 2. A member of the Board who does not attend three successive,
593 regularly scheduled meetings of the Board may be deemed to have
594 resigned his/her position and such resignation may be accepted by
595 action of the Board.
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597 Section 3. A member of the Board may be removed from his/her position and the
598 Organization for dereliction of duty or unethical behavior. A two-
599 thirds majority of the Board vote in favor of removal is required for
600 removal action to succeed.
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602 d) The Board of Directors shall adopt rules and provisions governing the
603 process for addressing vacancies, removals from office and successions.
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605 Section 4. In the event the President is unable to serve, the remaining members of
606 the Executive Board shall have the power to appoint an Acting
607 President. The Acting President may hold office for a period of no
608 more than 12 months. An open election is then required to officially
609 fill the President's office. The election must take place no more than
610 12 months from the effective date of the vacancy.
611

612 **Article XIV. Meetings.**
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614 Section 1. Annual Meetings
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616 a) There shall be an Annual Meeting of NABJ-CC membership each
617 month of May. A quorum shall consist of Full Members in

618 attendance at such meeting. The business to be conducted during
619 the Annual Meeting shall include:

- 620
621 1. the election of officers;
622 2. the reading and acceptance of the annual financial report; and
623 3. reports of officers and standing committees and active ad hoc
624 committees
625 4. notice of increases in membership dues.
626

627 Section 2. Regular Meetings

- 628 a) A regularly scheduled NABJ-CC meeting requires advance notification of
629 five days. A regularly scheduled meeting should occur at least quarterly.
630 Business matters are reported at regularly scheduled meetings. A quorum
631 shall consist of Full Members in attendance at such meetings.
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634 Section 3. Special Meetings

- 635 a) A Special Meeting may be called by the President, a simple
636 majority of the Board of Directors, or a vote earning the approval
637 of two-thirds of the Full Members. A Special Meeting is called to
638 address a discrete business matter of significant urgency. NABJ-
639 CC Special Meetings requires two days advance notification to
640 Full Members and is open only to Full Members in good standing.
641 A quorum shall consist of Full Members in attendance at such
642 meetings.
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645 Section 4. Limitations in Audio/Video Recording and
646 Broadcast/Publication/Internet Distribution

- 647 a) The Chapter reserves the right to designate entire forums, or portions
648 thereof, as *off-the-record*. In such instances, discussion points and
649 information shared is not for release via any media without prior approval
650 of the Executive Board. Non-compliance with this provision is cause for
651 revocation of membership.
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654 Advanced permission to record any portion of an NABJ-CC meeting must
655 be requested of and granted by the Executive Board. Upon the granting of
656 such permission, a full and complete copy of the audio and/or visual
657 recording must be provided to the NABJ-CC Board by the recording party
658 within twelve (12) hours of the conclusion of the meeting. NABJ-CC
659 reserves the right to confiscate any recording made at a Chapter meeting
660 without Board permission and to eject from the meeting any party
661 involved in the recording effort. This provision refers to audio and/or
662 visual recordings and is not intended to limit manual note-taking. The
663 Executive Board's permission is activated only upon the requestor's
664 signed agreement to these terms.
665

666 **Article XV. Constitutional Amendments and Effective Date.**

667

668 Section 1. Proposal of Amendments.

669 a) Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any Full Member.

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671 Section 2. The Constitution may be amended as follows:

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673 a) The Constitution may be amended by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of
674 the voting members present. Any proposed amendment to this
675 Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Parliamentarian at least
676 eight (8) weeks prior to an Annual Meeting or a Special Meeting. The
677 Parliamentarian will convene and chair the Constitutional Committee to
678 consider each proposal solely and comprehensively. The Committee will
679 circulate proposed amendments, with a recommendation, to all members
680 at least 30 (thirty) calendar days prior to the Annual Meeting or Special
681 Meeting. At the next Annual Meeting or Special Meeting, the
682 membership may decline amendments by a majority or approve said
683 amendments with an affirmative two-thirds vote and said amendment shall
684 be considered adopted immediately. A minimum of four (4) weeks
685 notice must be provided for a Special Meeting called to consider
686 amendments.

687

688 b) Any approved amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws shall be
689 circulated to all members either by distribution at the Annual or general
690 meetings, regular postal mail or electronically providing notice of the
691 Chapter's Web site update of the posted Constitution and Bylaws.

692

693 **Article XVI. Parliamentary Authority.**

694

695 Section 1. *Robert's Rules of Order*, as revised, shall be used to provide guidance
696 in governing all NABJ-CC meetings and apply to all matters of the
697 Organization not covered by either the NABJ-CC Constitution and
698 Bylaws or the National Association of Black Journalists' Constitution.

699

700 **Article XVII. Procedural and Regulatory Compliance.**

701

702 Section 1. Upon adoption, the provisions of this Constitution, shall, as necessary,
703 be subject to compliance with applicable Federal and State of Illinois
704 laws and City of Chicago ordinances governing the transaction of
705 NABJ-CC business.

706

707 Section 2. NABJ-CC shall conduct its activities as acceptable and in accordance
708 with guidance for non-profit corporations in Section 501 (c)(3) of the
709 United States Internal Revenue Code, as amended, and the rulings and
710 regulations there under.

711