

CONSTITUTION
of
SOUTH ATLANTIC AND
GULF COAST DISTRICT
International
Longshoremen's Association

South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District
Affiliated with the AFL-CIO
914 Clear Lake City Blvd.
Webster, Texas 77598

July 2018
Amended at Miami Beach, Florida

CONSTITUTION of
SOUTH ATLANTIC AND
GULF COAST DISTRICT

International
Longshoremen's Association

Organized September 1911
New Orleans, La.

July 2018
Amended at Miami Beach, Florida

AFFILIATIONS

American Federation of Labor-
Congress of Industrial Organizations

*

Canadian Labour Congress

*

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Roll call of officers and delegates.
2. Reading minutes of previous sessions.
3. Report of committee on Credentials.
4. Report of Officers.
5. Report of Special Committee.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New Business.
8. Elections and installation of officers.
9. For the good of the Association.

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CONSTITUTION
OF
SOUTH ATLANTIC AND
GULF COAST DISTRICT,

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S
ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District, International Longshoremen's Association.*

ARTICLE II

Duration

The South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District, International Longshoremen's Association shall not be dissolved so long as there are five (5) Locals in the organization. This Article shall not be subject to amendment.

ARTICLE III

Jurisdiction

The Jurisdiction of the District shall include the work herein enumerated in every port south of Cape Hatteras along the Atlantic, Gulf and Caribbean Sea. It shall include all work done directly and indirectly in connection with loading and unloading operations of all floating structures in such territory, including the trades and occupations directly and indirectly associated with such operation, whether they be conducted on docks, piers, marine

**It is understood that references herein to the male gender, such as "he" or "him", are for the purposes of brevity only and shall be understood to include the corresponding terms "she" and "her".*

warehouses, on board vessels, or elsewhere. The District shall have jurisdiction of all workers employed in trades or industries now within the jurisdiction of the District, and such as may be from time to time organized or added thereto by the Executive Council of the I.L.A., or by its Convention.

ARTICLE IV

Objects and Purposes

The objects and purposes of the District shall include the following: To promote the best interest of its members and their families; to organize the unorganized workers and to unite within the I.L.A. all workers within its jurisdiction; to bargain collectively on behalf of all the workers within its jurisdiction; and to negotiate, make and administer collective bargaining agreements; to improve the wages and hours of work and to increase the job security and better the work and living conditions of all the workers employed within its jurisdiction; to secure and promote laws for the benefit of all workers within its jurisdiction and labor generally; to engage in political education and to foster civic interest among its members and labor generally; to engage in educational activities and to further educational opportunities of I.L.A. members and their families; to promote health, welfare, pension, recreational and civic programs in the interests of I.L.A. members and their families and the workers within its jurisdiction; to unite with other labor unions and other labor bodies; to assist charitable, religious and educational bodies and institutions; to instill the spirit of patriotism and devotion to country among I.L.A. members and their families and within the labor movement; to carry out and enforce the provisions of its Constitution; to publish newspapers, periodicals and other literature to aid in the carrying out of the foregoing objects and purposes; and do all things necessary and proper, permitted by law and the International Constitution of the I.L.A., to carry out the foregoing objects and purposes.

ARTICLE V

Organization and Powers

Section 1. The powers of this organization shall be executive, legislative, and judicial as such powers are defined and authorized in the International Constitution of the I.L.A.

Section 2. All executive, legislative and judiciary powers of the District shall be vested in its Convention. When the Convention is not in session, they shall be vested in the Executive Board; when the Executive Board is not in session, they shall be vested in the District Executive Officers.

ARTICLE VI Convention

Section 1. The regular Convention of the District shall be held every four (4) years in the month of July, and at such place as the delegates shall have elected at the previous Convention or at a place set by the Executive Board.

Section 2. A special Convention may be called by a majority vote of the Executive Board. It may adopt such motion by mail. Such special Convention shall be called on written notice which shall set forth the matters to be acted on at such special Convention and be mailed to the principal office of each Local Union within the District at least thirty (30) days prior thereto.

Section 3. Each Local Union affiliated with the District shall be entitled to at least one vote regardless of its membership up to a membership of 100 and to an additional vote for each additional 100 members or any fraction thereof.

Each member of the Executive Board and each principal executive officer of the District who has not been elected as a Convention delegate by a Local Union shall be a delegate-at-large to the Convention, but such delegates-at-large shall not be entitled to nominate candidates or vote in the election of District officers but may otherwise participate in their respective Local Union delegation votes.

Section 4. For the purpose of determining the representation of each Local Union entitled to representation to a Convention, the number of its members shall be deemed to be the average number of whom it paid per capita dues to the I.L.A. during the 12 month period ending sixty days immediately preceding such Convention; provided that, in the case of a Local Union which has not been chartered throughout such 12 month period, the number of its members shall be deemed to be the average number of whom it paid per capita dues to the I.L.A. for the period from the date of receipt by such Local of its charter to the first day of the month preceding that in which such Convention is convened. In the case of a Local Union paying its per capita dues by means of the check off, the Local's membership during any given period shall be determined by the number of paid up members of the Local.

Section 5. Each delegate to a Regular or Special Convention must be elected as such delegate by a secret ballot election in his Local Union at a regular or special meeting. Reasonable notice of the nomination of delegates shall be given to members of the Local Unions. Written notice of the election must be given to each member of the Local Union at least fifteen (15) days prior to such election by mailing such notice to each member at his last known home address. A delegate must bear credentials signed by the President and Secretary of his Local Union and bearing the seal thereof. A member of two or more Local Unions can represent only one such Local Union as a delegate. Each delegate shall be entitled to a vote, but a local Union may elect a greater

or lesser number of delegates than it is entitled to, in which event the total vote of the Local Union, in accordance with the entire voting strength of the Local Union, shall be divided pro rata among its delegates.

A Local Union, by express provision in its By-Laws, may provide that specific officers shall have among their duties the representation of such Local Union at the Convention as delegates, and such officers may then serve as delegates if elected in accordance with the Constitution and with the applicable provision of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959. Local Unions may be represented by proxy at a Convention if they so choose; provided, however, that the delegate selected to carry the proxy must have been elected, by name, by a secret ballot vote among the members of the proxied local subject to the notice requirements set forth in this Section, and subject to the requirements and conditions set forth in Sections 7, 10, and 11 of this Article.

Section 6. A member who is ineligible to be an officer of a Local Union cannot be a delegate to the Convention.

Section 7. No Local Union shall be entitled to representation at a Convention unless all its per capita dues, assessments and other indebtedness to the District, uniformly imposed, are paid one month prior to the Convention. The accounts of the District will be closed one month prior to the Convention.

Section 8. No resolution shall be submitted to the Convention that has not been mailed or delivered to the Secretary-Treasurer of the District at least fifteen (15) days prior to the Convention, except that the Convention shall have power unanimously to accept any resolution offered at any time prior to 12 Noon Wednesday during the Convention.

Section 9. The President will call the Convention to order upon its opening and preside over it. During the Convention, he shall have the power to designate a District Officer as a presiding officer pro tempore. He shall be an ex-officio member of all Convention Committees.

Section 10. No person shall be eligible to serve as a delegate to the Convention unless:

(a) He has been a member in good standing of the I.L.A. for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of the Convention, or, in the case of a delegate representing a Local Union organized or affiliated with the I.L.A., less than one year prior to the date of the Convention, a member in good standing of such Local Union since the date of organization or affiliation or

(b) For at least one (1) year preceding the date of the Convention he has been employed by the District or any of its subdivisions.

Section 11. Each delegate will send in advance a sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) to the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District: provided, however, that no delegate shall be denied a seat at the Convention where this requirement unreasonably restricts the delegate's ability to attend the Convention, or the Local's ability to send delegates. All credentials must be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer of the District not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the opening date of the Convention; provided, however, that delegates shall not be disqualified for failure to comply with this 15-day deadline when the delay is beyond the delegate's control. The Convention Call must be mailed to each Local Union ninety (90) days prior to the opening of the Convention.

ARTICLE VII

Executive Board

Section 1. The Executive Board shall be composed of the President, Executive Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, President Emeritus, Executive Vice President Emeritus, Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus, District Representatives and the following Vice Presidents:

Ten (10) Vice Presidents from the Gulf Ports (Port Saint Joe, Florida to Brownsville, Texas) and ten (10) Vice Presidents from the South Atlantic Ports (Tampa, Florida to Cape Hatteras, N.C.).

District Representatives shall serve on the Executive Board as non-voting members.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall meet at least once each year. The President shall have power between meetings to submit matters by mail, telephone or electronic communication for a vote of the Executive Board and/or call a Special Meeting thereof whenever he deems it necessary.

Section 3. The President shall cast his vote on a proposition before the Board only in the event of a tie vote. Vacancies occurring on the Board through death, or otherwise, shall be filled by the membership thereof.

Section 4. A majority of the members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting, and all decisions of the Board shall be by the concurring vote of a majority of the members present. The Executive Board may take action without meeting, by the written or verbal approval of a majority of its members, after notice to all its members of the questions to be decided.

Section 5. The Executive Board shall have power to authorize by resolution the expenditure of the funds or the use of the property of the District for the effectuation of any of the objects of the District. It shall have all powers appropriate to effectuate the powers granted to it by this Constitution.

Section 6. The Executive Board shall be empowered to establish a retirement, pension and/or insurance plan covering employees of the District.

Section 7. Any Local Union in arrears in any payments required to be made to the District for more than six (6) months shall be suspended upon the vote of a majority of the members of said Board.

Section 8. Any member of the Executive Board when requested to do so by the President shall have full authority to examine and audit the books of any Local Union. A Local Union failing to deliver its books to any Executive Board member or other representative of the I.L.A. bearing credentials from the President and a letter of instructions requesting that such audit be made, shall automatically be suspended until further action is taken to discipline said Local as herein provided. At any such examination, the Local, upon request, may have its representative present.

Section 9. The minutes of the Executive Board shall be maintained at the District office and made available for review to members in good standing upon request.

ARTICLE VIII

District Officers

Section 1. The officers of the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District, I.L.A., shall be President, Executive Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, President Emeritus, Executive Vice-President Emeritus, Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus, and twenty Vice-Presidents. The President, Executive Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer and the Assistant Secretary-Treasurer shall be known as the District Executive Officers and shall be paid the amounts set forth below annually.

President.....	\$160,000.00
Executive Vice-President.....	\$125,000.00
Secretary-Treasurer.....	\$125,000.00
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.....	\$125,000.00

The Executive Board may, by majority vote increase these salaries. No District Executive Officer may participate in the consideration of or vote upon the increase in their own salary from the District.

Each District Executive Officer shall also receive, either by fixed expense allowance, reimbursed expenses, or a combination thereof, the expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

In lieu of their participation in supplement wage benefit plans enjoyed by longshoremen in the District, the District Executive Officers shall receive as additional compensation each year

an amount equal to what they would have received from the ILA-WGMA Container Royalty Funds based on their years of experience in the industry.

President Emeritus. The Convention shall have the power to elect as President Emeritus any former District President who has served as such for a minimum of eight (8) years. The compensation of the President Emeritus shall be equal to 50% of the salary of the President. They shall be a voting member of the Executive Board, receiving full Executive Board pay and shall have such other duties as shall be assigned to them by the President or the Executive Board. They shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the District and the International Union with reimbursement for all related expenses not otherwise covered. When the President Emeritus retires, they shall be entitled to all retirement benefits provided in Article VII, Section 6 of the District's Constitution and By Laws and any other retirement benefits to which they would have been entitled, in such amounts and at such levels that they would have received had they retired at the time they completed their term as President of the District.

Executive Vice-President Emeritus. The Convention shall have the power to elect as Executive Vice-President Emeritus any former District Executive Vice-President who has served as such for a minimum of eight (8) years. The compensation of the Executive Vice-President Emeritus shall be equal to 50% of the salary of the Executive Vice-President. They shall be a voting member of the Executive Board, receiving full Executive Board pay, and shall have such other duties as shall be assigned to them by the President or the Executive Board. They shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the District and the International Union with reimbursement for all related expenses not otherwise covered. When the Executive Vice-President Emeritus retires, they shall be entitled to all retirement benefits provided in Article VII, Section 6 of the District's Constitution and By Laws and any other retirement benefits to which they would have been entitled, in such amounts and at such levels that they would have received had they retired at the time they completed their term as Executive Vice-President of the District.

Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus. The Convention shall have the power to elect as Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus any former Secretary-Treasurer who has served as such for a minimum of eight (8) years. The compensation of the Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus shall be equal to 50% of the salary of the Secretary-Treasurer. They shall be a voting member of the Executive Board, receiving full Executive Board pay and shall have such other duties as shall be assigned to them by the President or the Executive Board. They shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the District and the International Union with reimbursement for all related expenses not otherwise covered. When the Secretary Treasurer Emeritus retires, they shall be entitled to all retirement benefits provided in Article VII, Section 6 of the District's Constitution and By Laws and any other retirement benefits to which they would have been entitled, in such amounts and at such levels that they would have received had they retired at the time they completed their term as Secretary-Treasurer of the District.

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus. The Convention shall have the power to elect as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus any former Assistant Secretary Treasurer who has served as such for a minimum of eight (8) years. The compensation of the Assistant Secretary Treasurer Emeritus shall be equal to 50% of the salary of the Secretary-Treasurer. They shall be a voting member of the Executive Board, receiving full Executive Board pay and shall have such other duties as shall be assigned to them by the President or the Executive Board. They shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the District and the International Union with reimbursement for all related expenses not otherwise covered. When the Assistant Secretary Treasurer Emeritus retires, they shall be entitled to all retirement benefits provided in Article VII, Section 6 of the District's Constitution and By Laws and any other retirement benefits to which they would have been entitled, in such amounts and at such levels that they would have received had they retired at the time they completed their term as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 2. The District may provide its officers or representatives with automobiles, or an automobile allowance in lieu of providing automobiles, in an amount authorized by the President. Such officers or representatives shall be permitted to use the automobiles for private purposes when the automobiles are not required for union business as partial compensation for the discharge of their duties. The Secretary-Treasurer is empowered to purchase, sell, exchange or lease automobiles or arrange financing on behalf of the District.

Section 3. Executive Board members shall be compensated \$2,000.00 per month for their duties and responsibilities as Board members in addition to any base compensation. In the event Vice-Presidents are assigned to Committees, or other duties, by the President, they may be paid additional compensation for the performance of such duties.

Executive Board members shall also receive, either by fixed expense allowance, reimbursed expenses, or a combination thereof, the expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Section 4. District Officers may be entitled to receive a pension upon reaching age 65. Any salary received by District Officers and or employees of the District may be offset by any pension or retirement benefit received while still employed by the District.

Section 5. The President, Executive Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, by virtue of their office, shall be delegates to the International Convention of the I.L.A.

Section 6. A person may not hold a full-time job in a Local and the District at the same time.

Section 7. The District Officers shall be elected at conventions and shall serve until the successors are elected and have qualified.

Section 8. The term of office for all District Officers shall be four (4) years.

Section 9. No person shall be eligible for District office unless he has been a member in good standing of a Local Union within the geographic jurisdiction of the District for at least one year preceding the date of his nomination. Nominees for Vice-President must have been a member in good standing of a Local Union located in the area for which the person is nominated (Gulf Ports or South Atlantic Ports). Nor, shall any person be eligible for District Office unless he has been working, or seeking work, at the trade or craft within the jurisdiction of the District, as defined in Article III hereof, for at least one year preceding the date of his nomination or employed by the District or any of its subdivisions for such year. A member of a Local Union which has been chartered by or affiliated with the I.L.A. for less than one year shall be eligible for office if he has been a member in good standing of and working or seeking work at the trade or craft covered by such-Local Union from the date of its charter of affiliation, subject to the geographical limitations set forth in this section above.

Section 10. All officers of the District as defined in Section 1 of this Article shall be elected by the delegates of the Convention. Nominations for the District Executive Officer positions shall be made for one office at a time. If only one candidate is nominated for an office, the voting may be by acclamation or by motion authorizing the casting of the unanimous vote of the delegates present. If more than one candidate is nominated for an office, then the voting shall take place by a roll call before nominations for any other office are made.

Section 11. Nominations for Vice President shall be by geographic area as defined in Article VII, Section 1, hereof. After nominations for Vice President in a given geographic area are closed, the voting shall take place by roll call, and the ten (10) nominees receiving the highest number of votes in that area shall be deemed elected.

Section 12. In the event that the President shall die, be removed, or resign before the termination of his term of office, as provided for herein above, the Executive Vice-President shall immediately assume office and serve as acting president. Within thirty (30) days after such death, removal or resignation, the Executive Board shall meet and choose from among their members a successor President to serve out the balance of the unexpired term of the President. In the event that any other District officer, including District Vice Presidents, shall die, be removed, or resign before the termination of his term of office, as provided for herein above, the Executive Board shall meet and choose a successor to serve out the balance of the term of such vacant office. Successor Vice-Presidents shall be chosen pursuant to the allocations provided for herein above. The Executive Vice-President, when serving as acting President, shall have all the powers, duties and functions of President; and all the successor District Officers when chosen to serve the balance of an unexpired term shall have all the powers, duties and functions of the respective officers for which they are chosen.

ARTICLE IX

Powers and Duties of District Officers

Section 1. The President shall be the principal executive officer of the District. He shall preside at Conventions and at meetings of the Executive Board. He shall convene meetings of the Executive Board or submit matters for its decision by mail, telephone or electronic communication as provided herein; he shall have the power to attend meetings of Local Unions and District Councils. The President may employ and discharge such representatives, organizers, or administrative, technical or other employees as may be required. He shall fix the salaries and approve expense allowances of all persons employed by him; he shall appoint all committees not otherwise provided for by this Constitution and shall determine the compensation to be paid to such Committee members. All bills covering expenses incurred must be approved by him before payment. He shall have power to examine, inspect, or audit personally, or by his designee or designees, all the books, records, papers, and accounts of any Local Union within the District's jurisdiction, whenever he may deem it necessary; he may compel the production of such books, records, papers, and accounts at the District's offices, or such other place as he may designate, by service of a written demand therefore by mail, and they shall remain in his possession or in the possession of his designee or designees, until the examination and inspection is complete. He shall upon the direction or consent of the Executive Board, acting by a majority vote, in session, or through mail, telephone or electronic communication, call a special convention of the District. He shall sign all papers and documents which require the signature of the President. He shall have such other and further powers in addition to those herein enumerated, and shall perform such other and further duties as are usual to his office, and as are performed by the President in accordance with the usages of the District and the International Constitution of the I.L.A.

Section 2. The Executive Vice-President shall aid and assist the President in the carrying out of his duties and functions and shall act on behalf of the President whenever the President shall be ill, absent, incapacitated, or unable to serve. The President in his discretion may delegate such of his duties and functions as he determines to the Executive Vice President, and upon such delegation the Executive Vice President shall have and may exercise such powers of the President as are necessary to the proper performance of such delegated duties and functions. Whenever the Executive Vice-President shall become acting President or shall act on behalf of the President, he shall have all the duties and functions of the President and shall be vested with and may exercise all the powers of such office.

Section 3. The Secretary-Treasurer shall act as Secretary of Conventions and all meetings of the Executive Board and shall keep a record of their proceedings. He shall have custody of the seal of the District and of all its books, records and papers. He shall have the power

to sign and affix the seal to all official documents. He shall present to the Convention a complete statement showing the financial and general condition of the District and of the workers within the District. He shall conduct all correspondence, keep a record of the number and locations of all Locals within the District, and keep the accounts between the District and the Locals thereof. He shall render reports to the Executive Board showing receipts and expenditures. He shall collect from the Locals and from all other available sources information showing the condition of workers within the District. He shall act as legislative agent of the District if directed by the President. When requested by the President he shall act as auditor to audit the books and records of any Local within the District or any of the subdivisions of the District and shall perform such duties in connection therewith as the President may direct. He shall have further powers in addition to those enumerated as are usual to his office. He shall notify the President when leaving headquarters on official business.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall preserve for at least one (1) year the credentials of the delegates to a Convention of the District and all minutes and other records of the Convention pertaining to the election of officers. He shall retain all other books and records of the District in his custody, including vouchers, work sheets, receipts and applicable resolutions for a period of not less than five (5) years and ninety (90) days after the close of each fiscal year of the District in which such books and records, were made.

Section 4. The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer shall carry out the duties of the Secretary Treasurer in the absence of the Secretary-Treasurer. When not so occupied, he and the Executive Vice-President shall, at the request of the President, aid and assist him during the session of the Convention and in such other manner and form as the President may from time to time request or direct and shall generally represent the interest of the District in their areas. They shall render periodic reports of their activities to the District Office.

Section 5. The President, Secretary-Treasurer, and the Assistant Secretary-Treasurer shall each furnish promptly after election a bond to the District and deposit the same with the District, in such amount and in such form as may be required by law. The face amount of such bond shall be adjusted after the close of each fiscal year to reflect the changed financial condition of the District. The premium of such bond shall be paid by the District and the bonds shall be approved by the Executive Board.

Section 6. The Secretary-Treasurer shall issue no voucher, nor pay any money out of the Treasury account, without the approval of the President. All checks issued by the Secretary-Treasurer must be countersigned by the President. The books and accounts kept by the Secretary-Treasurer shall be audited by a certified public accountant annually. Such auditor shall be appointed by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE X

Local Unions

Section 1. No Local Union or any officer or agent thereof shall have power to make any contract binding upon or incur any liability on behalf of the District without the written authority of the Executive Board, President and Secretary-Treasurer. The District shall not be liable under any contract, or for any acts or conduct of a Local Union or District or Dock and Marine Council or other officers or agents unless such contract, acts or conduct have been duly authorized by the District. No officer, representative, or organizer of a Local Union or any sub-division of the District shall be, or be deemed to be, an agent of the District and to the extent that their acts or conduct are acts of agency under the law of agency, they shall be agents only of such Local Union or such subdivision.

Section 2. All Locals and their individual members affiliated with the District will be governed by the District and International Constitutions and shall consult the District or International officers before resorting to outside agencies or the courts.

Section 3. All Locals within the District shall have a legal seniority system.

ARTICLE XI

Dues, Revenues, and Funds

Section 1. The revenues of the District shall be derived as follows: A per capita tax of fifty cents (50¢) per member per month payable to the Secretary-Treasurer, quarterly in advance, for each twelve (12) month period from January 1 to December 31.

Whenever a Local Union represents members covered by a collective bargaining agreement providing a check off of service charge and/or per capita dues then the service charge and/or per capita dues for each such member shall be paid for by means of such checkoff (or directly by the member in the event he fails to sign a checkoff authorization) and the same shall be equal to nine-tenths of one percent (9/10 of 1%) of the member's straight time hourly rate for each hour paid for and the same shall be paid to the International. No such Local Union or member thereof shall have the option to pay any other or different sum as per capita dues or as service charge. The International upon receiving checkoff of the Local Union shall forward 32.5% of said sum to the District Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 2. All Locals are held responsible for payment for the difference between the actual hours worked through each Local and the hours of which service charge checkoff is withheld and paid to the District, International, and/or to the Locals by December 31 each year.

Section 3. A special assessment of 10% shall be levied against all Royalty Funds for the International and any person receiving royalty payment shall either execute a checkoff authorization authorizing the fund making such payment to the person to deduct 10% of any payment or remit same directly to the International Secretary-Treasurer. On receipt of such funds, the International Secretary-Treasurer shall forward to the District Secretary-Treasurer 32.5% of all such funds.

Section 4. No Local of the District will engage in any form of financing the local other than prescribed in the Constitution of the I.L.A. or Constitution of the District and any Local or officials of a Local found guilty of any illegal method of obtaining funds for the operation of the Local will be subject to disciplinary action.

Section 5. Assessments on the membership of the District may be levied by a majority vote of the members of the Executive Board present and voting, whenever the Executive Board deems such assessment necessary for the welfare of the District, provided, however, that such action on the part of the Executive Board shall be effective only until the next Regular Convention of the District. Assessments on the membership of the District may also be levied by a majority vote of the delegates voting at a Regular Convention of the District or at a Special Convention of the District held upon not less than thirty (30) days' written notice to the principal office of each Local entitled to such notice or by majority vote of the members in good standing of the District voting in a membership referendum conducted by secret ballot.

ARTICLE XII

Discipline

Section 1 The discipline of members, officers or representatives of the District or any Locals within its jurisdiction shall be in accordance with the provisions of Article XVIII of the International Constitution of the I.L.A.

Section 2. Appeals may be taken from any decision rendered pursuant to this Article in accordance with Article XIX of the International Constitution of the I.L.A.

ARTICLE XIII

Protest of Election of Officers

The procedure to protest the election of District Officers shall be in accordance with Article XX of the International Constitution of the I.L.A.

ARTICLE XIV

Amendment

This Constitution shall not be altered or amended except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a stated meeting of this organization in convention assembled.

ARTICLE XV

Interpretation

When there is a difference of opinion in any Local Union as to the meaning and intent of any section of this Constitution, the questions may be referred to the Executive Board, and its decision shall be final and binding unless reversed by the Convention.