

# ARCHANGELS MC

## By-laws

### ARTICLE I. Name

The name of this organization shall be called the "ARCHANGELS MC". aka "The Archangels" , "Archangels" or "Archangels Motorcycle Club". The ARCHANGELS MC is a brotherhood and sisterhood of active and retired Law Enforcement Officials. The name is derived from Saint Michael, the Archangel. Saint Michael has long been recognized as the Patron Saint of Law Enforcement and tasked with battling evil. We are the chosen protectors of the public, hence the use of the Latin phrase "Patronus Publicus".

The name, "ARCHANGELS MC" is a registered trademark <sup>TM</sup> with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Serial #7780458. The ARCHANGELS MC patch/colors are copyrighted© with the United States Copyright Office, Registration #VA0001693005.

The ARCHANGELS MC was conceived in 2007 and founded in September 2009 as an independent motorcycle riding club to serve as an international alternative to other law enforcement motorcycle clubs.

### ARTICLE II. Purpose

- A. ARCHANGELS MC is an independent organization not affiliated or sponsored by any motorcycle manufacturer, organization or club. It is not affiliated or sponsored by any Law Enforcement organization, agency or union. It is not affiliated or sponsored by any political or religious organization, church or institution.
- B. ARCHANGELS MC was organized to unite our brothers and sisters of Law Enforcement across the world who share in the love of motorcycles and value being a protector of the public.
- C. The goal of ARCHANGELS MC is to generate increased camaraderie, esprit de corps and enthusiasm for riding motorcycles among law enforcement officials.
- D. ARCHANGELS MC events are intended to promote enjoyable and safe activities for its members and at times promote charitable endeavors or assist fellow brothers and sisters.
- E. ARCHANGELS MC respects all riding clubs and their colors and expects the same. This doesn't mean that the ARCHANGELS MC befriends or socializes with those clubs that considers themselves above the law, but it does mean that there is enough road for everyone.

### ARTICLE III. Membership

In order to gain membership into the ARCHANGELS MC, one must meet all of the following conditions to qualify. Eligibility is as follows:

1. American and Canadian applicants must own and ride a motorcycle of at least 850cc or higher, preferably a V-Twin model (this is not a mandatory requirement). (International applicants must own and ride a motorcycle of at least 650cc or higher) **exception:** While it is preferred that every ARCHANGEL MC member ride their own motorcycle, female members that are otherwise qualified for

membership do not have to individually ride their own motorcycle if they ride as passengers with other members, e.g., husband/wife, boyfriend/girlfriend, etc. or operate support vehicles.

2. You must be a Full or Part time Law Enforcement Official (Federal, State, Municipal or County) with full powers of arrest and/or charging authority **or** be honorably retired from a Full Time Law Enforcement Agency. Active or retired military personnel are eligible provided that their primary MOS is/was as a military law enforcement official and their responsibilities reflect(ed) those of civilian law enforcement personnel.
3. You must be properly licensed to ride and operate a motorcycle. A grace period is in effect for new members who are permit holders in the process of attaining their license.
4. You must possess and maintain a current Email address.

**Individual Membership:** Until such time as other Local Chapters may be established, individual members are associated with the National Chapter. The first Chapter established in any state that is outside the State of Colorado may be considered as the representative State Chapter for that state upon request and approval by National Governing Board. Upon the approval and establishment a representative State Chapter, members residing in that State shall then be associated with the State Chapter of the ARCHANGELS MC. Multiple Local Chapters may be established in any state, however their can only be one (1) State Chapter within each state. Each established and recognized State Chapter, shall have one (1) vote on National matters that concern the National Governing Board, exclusive of the business of the National Chapter. This vote is cast by the President of the State Chapter or their proxy.

**International Membership:** Any person residing outside the continental United States that meets the membership requirements as stated in Article III of this document is eligible to submit an application for consideration of membership. Until such time as any international chapter is considered for formation, international members shall remain a part of the ARCHANGELS MC National Chapter.

**Prospective Membership:** The ARCHANGELS MC does not require a prospect or probationary period per se. The earning of the badge, regardless of form, is itself a sign of the dedication and commitment to the family of law enforcement brothers and sisters. An applicant must have completed any probationary employment status within their agency to be considered eligible for membership in the ARCHANGELS MC .

Local Chapters may determine that a period of probationary status is necessary prior to membership in their Chapter as specified within their local Bylaws. Regardless, no prospect patches or other probationary indicators are to be displayed during this period. Local Chapters may retain the ARCHANGELS MC colors until such time as the applicant has met their time requirement and award them at that time. There is no minimum probationary time. The maximum length of any probationary period is 6 months at which time the Local Governing Body shall vote on membership. A majority vote of the Local Governing Body will enable a person to enter a probationary period, however a unanimous vote is needed to become a local member.

**Nomad:** There are no nomad members. Individual members are automatically associated with the National Chapter until such time as a State Chapter is established, then association begins within that State.

**Support members:** There are many law abiding citizens and others in associated professions that are genuine friends of law enforcement, while they are not eligible for membership, they can show support for the Archangels MC. Eligible supporters may display the AFFA breast patch in the location designed for members. Individual supporters must be sponsored by an Archangels MC member and in compliance with all other

provisions as established in the ByLaws. Members may request a support patch by providing the \$5.00 AFFA patch fee and submitting the bio information for the supporter. The sponsoring member assumes responsibility for the supporter. Individual Chapters may determine what law abiding civilians they share the road and events with. Genuine Club supporters may be identified in the future by a patch designed and approved by the National Governing Board.

#### **ARTICLE IV. Governing Boards**

The use of the term “Governing Body” shall refer to any dully appointed or elected club officers acting collectively in their official capacity concerning club matters within any established chapter.

The National Governing Chapter/Board, herein referred to as the “National Governing Board” consists of members who are appointed to that position by the Founder. These appointments have no time limit or term length. These members will serve a life term until death, resignation, incapacitation or removal for just cause for actions contrary to the philosophy and objectives of the ARCHANGELS MC. Said removal shall be by a vote of the National Governing Board and all chapter presidents. Each position holds equal voting power in the policies and procedures of the National Chapter of the ARCHANGELS MC. The National Governing Board shall have ultimate authority over all Chapters and members and will consist of the following positions;

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Sgt. at Arms

*National President* - The National President is the Chief Executive Officer of the ARCHANGELS MC and the Chairman of the National Governing Board. The National President has the power and authority to run the daily operations as deemed necessary for the best interests of the organization. The National President will consider the input and suggestions of other National Governing Board members on any issues affecting either the National Chapter or membership. The National President (or his designee) shall preside at all National Governing Board or other executive meetings and sign contracts and other documents as necessary. The National President shall perform other duties as required and necessary.

*National Vice-President* - The National Vice-President (VP) is the second in command of the organization and shall assume all duties and responsibilities of the National President in his absence. The VP is responsible for coordinating the recruitment of prospective chapters and the orientation and development of new chapters. The VP may assign duties to other governing board as necessary to aid in the completion of these (and other) tasks. The VP will execute all other assignments as directed by the National President.

*National Secretary* - The National Secretary shall be responsible for making and keeping all records as directed by the National President. The National Secretary shall record and maintain minutes of all National Governing Board meetings. The National Secretary shall create and submit any reports as required or directed. The National Secretary shall maintain the Official registrar of all Chapters and all Club members. The National Secretary will execute all other assignments as directed by the National President or his designee.

*National Treasurer* - The National Treasurer shall maintain an up-to-date accurate ledger of all National Governing Chapter Finances to include any income, expenses, assets and debts. The National Treasurer shall maintain all Club financial documents, papers, and records. The National Treasurer shall prepare monthly and annual financial reports. The National Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of all monies to include

dues, fees, assessments, or any and all payments due to the Club. The National Treasurer shall be responsible for the payment of all bills and expenses. The National Treasurer shall be responsible for the completion and submission of all official financial documents such as tax returns, reports, etc. The National Treasurer will execute all other assignments as directed by the National President or his designee.

*National Sergeant-At-Arms* - The National Sergeant-At-Arms shall ensure that all By-Laws are followed and all orders and directives of the National President and the National Executive Board are carried out as intended. The National Sergeant-At-Arms shall maintain strict compliance with these articles and orders by the chapters. The National Sergeant-At-Arms shall maintain order and dignity during all National Governing Board meetings. The National Sergeant-At-Arms shall be responsible for enforcing club discipline as directed by the National Governing Board, ensuring the payment of all fees and assessments as required by the Club, and for securing patches, colors and all Club property from chapters, members or associates who retire, resign, or who are expelled from the Club for just cause. The Sergeant -At-Arms shall continually maintain an awareness of real or perceived threats or safety issues affecting the Club and its members and immediately report said threat or safety issue to other members of the National Governing Board. If necessary, the National Sergeant-At-Arms will coordinate all Club security and ensure that safety measures are in place for protection of club members while at events. The Sergeant -At-Arms will execute all other assignments as directed by the President or his designee.

*National At-Large Representative* – The National At Large Representative will serve as a voting member of the National Governing Board . They will have a vote on all matters concerning the board, absent vacancies. At Large Representative(s) are selected from among the Archangels MC membership outside of the founding chapter. They may be called upon to assist with following up on recruitment contacts or other tasks as directed by the National President. At Large Representatives will serve a two-year term. Following a two year term, should the membership not indicate an interest in the position, the current chosen member may continue in the position following a vote of the governing board.

**Voting:** Open voting by both the chapter members or club membership shall occur as deemed appropriate and necessary. Members may bring forth issues to any member of the National Governing Board at any time. National Governing Board members will address the issue and if applicable, institute a membership vote to resolve the issue. Voting is done on a case by case basis. If an issue does not warrant a general membership vote, the National Governing Board shall make the decision to resolve the issue. Voting can be done via Email, online submission or regular mail.

**Vacancy:** In the event of a vacancy on the National Governing Board, the position will be filled following a selection and vote of the National Governing Board. While the Archangels MC has members nationally and internationally, it remains imperative that the National Governing Board remains with the founding chapter as long as it remains practical in order to conduct timely administrative matters due to the proximity of its members. The exception being the At Large Representative (s). At Large Representatives will be selected from among the entire membership and confirmed by a vote of the National Governing Board

The National Governing Board will have the power and authority to issue domestic and international chapter charters. The National Governing Board will have the authority to assess charter fees and/or dues as deemed necessary to efficiently operate the club. The Founder owns the trademark of the ARCHANGELS MC name and the copyright of the Club patches. He shall possess the authority to issue ARCHANGLES MC patches to members. All ARCHANGELS MC patches are the property of the National Governing Board and may be recalled for just cause.

## ARTICLE V. General Provisions

- A. **DUES.** Dues may be established and assessed by any Governing Body. Dues may be utilized to cover the cost of meetings, runs, maintenance of the national web site, postal box and/or other promotions. Dues are paid yearly by January 31<sup>st</sup> of the new calendar year. Dues established for National Board officers may only be temporarily waived due to incapacitation or financial hardship for a period of up to six (6) months from the due date.
- B. **COLORS.** All patches will be the same on the back of a leather vest or jacket. The use of leather patch piece type vests or jackets are prohibited. The Governing Bodies and general members shall be consistent with the placement of any patch associated with their position or the club (see diagram). There is only one OFFICIAL patch design and layout for the ARCHANGELS MC. As established by the National Governing Board, a non-refundable payment is required for the use of the colors. Any official ARCHANGEL MC design is the artistic property thereof and may not be reproduced or utilized in any manner by the membership without the expressed permission of the Founder. If a member is dropped from the membership rolls, or voluntarily resigns, it shall be understood they will surrender their colors to the National Governing Chapter/Board or their designee.

ARCHANGELS MC respects all other motorcycle clubs, associations, groups, choice of colors, patch design and layouts. ARCHANGELS MC choice of its patch colors, design and placement is not meant to offend or disrespect others, but is an exercise of constitutional rights chosen by those sworn to uphold the rights of all citizens within the United States and elsewhere.

**PATCH DESIGN.** The design consists of a shield, sword, and angelic wings which are symbolic of the tools used by Saint Michael the Archangel, the Patron Saint of Law Enforcement.

- The **SHIELD:** The shield represents the badge held by all sworn law enforcement and is a symbol of protection by “shielding” others from harm. The shield is adorned with a large blue “A” which identifies the wearer as an “ARCHANGEL”. Blue is chosen to reflect the historical representation of law enforcement colors. The shield is surrounded by a “thin blue line” representing the wearer as being a part of the line. The background color within the shield is black. Black mourns the death of our fallen brothers and sisters. The color Red outlines the shield and represents the blood spilled by our brothers and sisters. The shield contains the Latin phrase, “Patronus Publicus”, when translated means “Protectors of the Public”. There is a banner along the bottom of the shield with the phrase, “One of Many”. This signifies that whenever an Archangel rides, whether alone or with others, they are part of a very large unique family of brothers and sisters throughout the world and are but one of many others.
- The **WINGS.** A pair of wings are above the shield, spread and uplifted to signify pride in the profession and the willingness to embrace and protect the weak and innocent. Wings are also historically used as part of motorcycle lore. Black shows through the wings to reflect the open road.
- The **SWORD** is representative of the tool used by Saint Michael to battle and ward off evil. It is used to protect others. It is pointed down as our enemies are below us.

- There are no accompanying back patches. Absolutely no patches are authorized to be placed either over, beside or along the bottom of the ARCHANGELS MC Colors. See attachment “A” concerning placement of other identifiers to include club name and State.

The ARCHANGEL MC patch bears no other explanation. Its significance is powerful.

- C. **CARE OF COLORS.** The ARCHANGELS MC club patch is to be maintained to the degree possible while recognizing that normal wear and tear will occur. Members cannot allow the patch to remain soiled, dirty or frayed. Members cannot allow the patch to be placed face down on the ground. Damaged patches are to be replaced at the expense of the member.
- D. **OTHER REQUIRED PATCHES.** Certain patches are required and of a certain type and design. (See Attachment A, pages 1 and 2), these include;

Name tabs/patches: Grey and Black are used for all name type patches associated with club officers and members. Black background with grey borders (often referred to as being “subdued” or tactical style). “7/8” x 4”

Flag patches: U.S. members wear 2”x 3” subdued (Black/Grey) U.S. Flag with one stripe signifying a blue line. International members wear a subdued “2 x 3” flag of their National flag if it is available. It should also display a thin blue line in the patch, if it is available.

AFFA patches: All members wear the 2”x 3” Black/Blue/Red” (black background, blue lettering, red trim) AFFA patch.

- E. **UNACCEPTABLE PATCHES, PINS or INSIGNIA.** With the exception of the required club patches, members may choose to personalize their club vest with other patches or pins so long as the ARCHANGEL MC club is not disparaged or embarrassed by the choice. Patches or pins bearing derogatory, profane language or sexual content is NOT allowed. Personalization may be placed below the required club patches on the front and sides of the vest. No other patches may be displayed on the back of the vest other than the official patch (s) of the ARCHANGELS MC.

Any violation not immediately rectified will be subject to disciplinary action by the National Governing Board or local Governing Body.

- F. **WEARING OF COLORS.** All patch holders shall wear their colors on all official ARCHANGEL MC runs and functions. Members may choose to wear the colors at any other time deemed prudent.
- G. **PLACEMENT OF CLUB OFFICER PATCHES.** Club officers are required to display the following member patches and name type patches;

Patches on the FRONT of the vest will be worn in the following order (see attachment “A”)

Right Front/Top “AFFA” patch

Right Front – State (if US) or Country (if International) name patch

Right Front - Archangels MC name patch

Right Front – First name, Road name or Nickname patch

Left Front - Subdued U.S. or international flag patch (above heart)

Left Front – Club Officer “position” (e.g., Sgt at Arms, etc) name patch

Left Front - Chapter name patch

Left Front – Charter Member name patch (if applicable – only original charter chapter members of any chapter are authorized to wear)

- H. **PLACEMENT OF CLUB MEMBER (non-club officer) PATCHES.** All members of the ARCHANGELS MC must display a minimum of the following patches and name type patches;

Patches on the FRONT of the vest will be worn in the following order (see attachment “A”)

Right Front/Top “AFFA” patch

Right Front – State (if US) or Country (if international) name patch

Right Front - Archangels MC name patch

Right Front – First name, Road name or Nickname patch

Left Front - Subdued U.S. (if U.S.) or subdued International Patch (if International) (above heart).

Either patch must incorporate the “thin blue line” as available.

Left Front – Name “Member” patch – if desired/not mandatory

Left Front - Chapter City, County, etc.

Left Front – Charter Member Patch (if applicable – only original charter chapter members of any chapter are authorized to wear this type of name patch.

- I. **MEETINGS.** Meetings are held when determined necessary by a consensus of the Governing Board. The general membership shall be kept informed of any runs, events and functions through email notifications and web site postings.
- J. **FINANCES:** Finances of each Chapter may be from membership dues or such other sources, as approved by the Governing Body. A financial account is to be established at a designated FDIC protected financial institution to provide for the appropriate accounting of any fiscal transactions associated with club business. Signatures on the account will include the Treasurer, President, Vice-President and Secretary. Two signatures are required to remove funds.
- K. **CHAPTERS.** There shall be only one National Chapter for all 50 states which shall be the Founding Chapter for the Nation. Each state may have one State Chapter. Each State may have as many local chapters as approved by the National Governing Board with consultation of any affected State Chapter.

There are nearly three quarters of a million local, state and federal law enforcement officers in the United States. As such, there will be a desire among those that ride motorcycles to belong to the ARCHANGELS MC organization. As such, Chapters may be formed upon the consent of the National Governing Board. New Chapters must adhere to the National Chapter ARCHANGEL MC bylaws, but may develop local bylaw amendments as necessary to conduct state and/or local chapter business. A minimum of 3 members, who are willing to serve as chapter officers are needed in order to request consent to form a new Chapter. Chapters may be disenfranchised for non-adherence or behavior by a majority vote of the National Governing Board.

Local Charter/Chapters: New chapters may be chartered upon the proper application of at least three (3) members within a defined geographic area to start a new chapter. Until club officer positions are fully staffed (meaning all club officer positions are initially filled) chapters must at least have the positions of President, Secretary and Sgt. At Arms represented. On the application for the proposed new chapter, the names of the local Governing Body must be identified. The National Governing Board may charter a new chapter following an unanimous vote upon receipt and review of the completed application. All Chapters must adhere to the philosophy and objectives of the National Governing Chapter/Board. The National Governing Board shall have ultimate authority over all Chapters and members. Local Chapters may establish a set of local bylaws amendments to assist with governing of

their club, however no rules or regulations may be imposed that are contrary to the bylaws of the National Governing Charter/Board. Local bylaws must be reviewed by the National Governing Board prior to approval. Local Chapters shall at least have the following club officer positions available within their chapter.

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Secretary/Treasurer\*
4. Treasurer
5. Sgt. At Arms

Additional positions may be added by the Local Chapter as determined by need (Road Captain, etc) \* The positions of Secretary/Treasurer may be combined into one position if necessary. All matters concerning organizational, operational, or procedural aspects of the management of the chapters and the Club shall be directed to the National Governing Board for appropriate direction and action as necessary to ensure no conflicts arise with the National By Laws.

### International Chapters

International Chapters are those chapters established outside of the continental United States. Chapters may be chartered upon the proper application of at least three (3) members within a defined geographic area within a country to start a new chapter. . Until club officer positions are fully staffed (meaning all club officer positions are initially filled) chapters must at least have the positions of President, Secretary and Sgt. At Arms represented. On the application for the proposed new chapter, the names of the proposed Governing Body must be identified. The National Governing Board may charter an International Chapter following an unanimous vote upon receipt and review of the completed application. All Chapters must adhere to the philosophy and objectives of the ARCHANGELS MC. The National Governing Board shall have ultimate authority over all Chapters and members. International Chapters may establish a set of local bylaws or amendments to assist with governing of their club, however no rules or regulations may be imposed that are contrary to the bylaws of the National Governing Board. International bylaws must be translated to the English language and reviewed by the National Governing Board prior to approval. International Chapters shall at least have the following club officers available within their chapter.

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Secretary/Treasurer\*
4. Treasurer
5. Sgt. At Arms

Additional positions may be added by an International Chapter as determined by their need (Road Captain, etc) \* The positions of Secretary/Treasurer may be combined into one position if necessary. All matters concerning organizational, operational, or procedural aspects of the management of the chapters and the Club shall be directed to the National Governing Board for appropriate direction and action as necessary.

- L. **FEE'S.** In addition to paying for the necessary ARCHANGELS MC colors and associated patches, there will be a reasonable assessment for establishing any new chapter. This fee will be determined by the National Governing Board. Generally, a chapter fee's will not exceed fifty (\$50 ) U.S. dollars per chapter .This is in addition to the initial member fee. Chapter fee's defray the cost of additional patches



for the chapter officers along with other costs incurred by the club. In the event that a National Governing Board member is requested to travel to the location of the new chapter to present the ARCHANGEL MC colors and Chapter Charter, those expenses would be included in the fee's and may be increased. Otherwise, the ARCHANGELS MC National Chapter makes every attempt to minimize the expenses of a starting a new chapter.

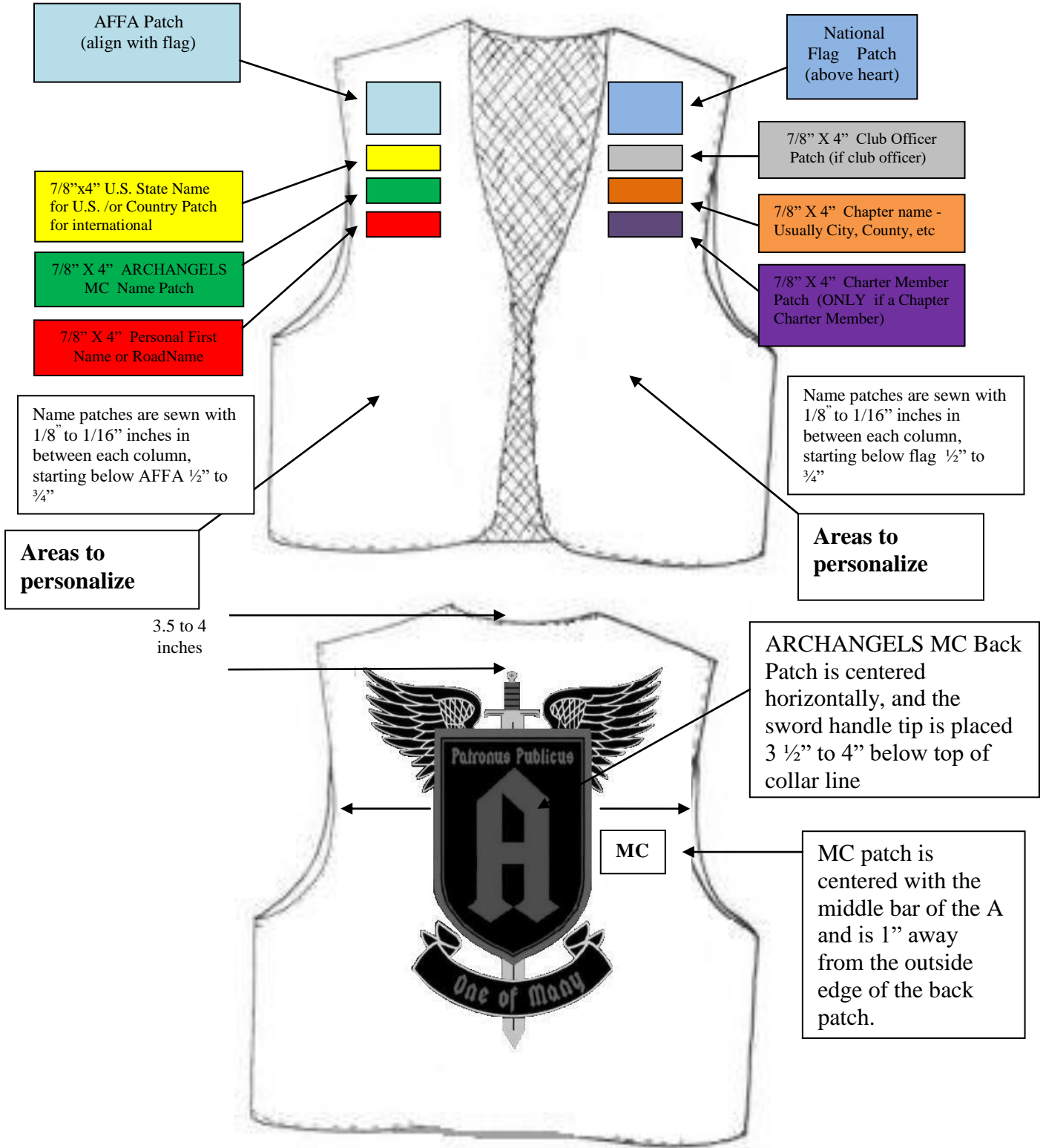
- M. **OTHER MEMBERSHIPS.** ARCHANGEL MC Members cannot belong to other Motorcycle Clubs, but can be members of riding associations like the Harley Owners Group, American Motorcycle Association, Patriot Guard, etc.
- N. **BEHAVIOR.** Members will follow the direction of the National Governing Board and/or its club officers. All members shall act in accordance with proper etiquette, protocol and ethics at events. Respect will always be shown as it is received. ARCHANGELS MC particularly embraces all other Law Enforcement Motorcycle Clubs and its members, but respects all others who share a love for motorcycles and the road. It means something to be a law enforcement professional and a member of the ARCHANGELS MC . Any member may be dismissed for violations or behavior that casts a negative shadow on the general membership or defames their status as an ARCHANGEL or member of their profession.

#### **ARTICLE VI. Amendments**

The by laws may be amended by a majority vote of the National Governing Board as the need arises.

AFFA

Attachment "A"  
**ARCHANGELS MC**  
 Club Officer/Member Patch Placement  
 English



EXAMPLES



(example state)



(example club officer)



(example chapter)

First name or moniker here



(original charter/chapter member)

**MOST PATCHES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE NATIONAL CHAPTER**

EXAMPLES

