

**Organization
of
Professional
Referrals
Bylaws**

ARTICLE 1. NAME

The name of said organization is “Organization of Professional Referrals.”

ARTICLE 2. OBJECTIVE

SECTION 1:

“Organization of Professional Referrals” (hereinafter “OPR”) is an organization of business owners and professionals whose purpose is to help promote, educate and network among its members to assist in building a solid customer base through qualified business leads. One member represents each business or professional category.

SECTION 2:

A “qualified business lead” is defined as the exchange of a business contact or referral between members for the purpose of generating the development of a potential customer or client.

ARTICLE 3. MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

SECTION 1:

Membership in each OPR will comprise of individuals of good standing and having a business interest (ie.Client) within the area of a particular organization. OPR allows only one member per professional or business category, as defined by OPR, to join, and no organization or individual may hold more than two (2) professional or business categories. Annual membership dues are two hundred sixty-four dollars (\$264.00), payable in quarterly amounts of sixty-six dollars (\$66.00). Membership dues of sixty-six dollars (\$66.00) will be due January 1st, April 1st, July 1st, and October 1st of each year. A designated alternate may represent an OPR member if the alternate is a representative of the same company which holds the OPR category.

SECTION 2:

Membership in a category that is considered open will be based on the following:

1. The first individual or company that submits payment for the quarterly membership dues of sixty-six dollars (\$66.00) for that specific category will be considered for that category.
2. If approved for membership, the individual or company shall own the category.

SECTION 3:

Emeritus Membership

Retired or retiring members with at least ten years of Professional Membership in the Organization of Professional Referrals at the time of retirement shall be eligible for Emeritus Membership. The Board of Directors shall receive applications for Emeritus Membership status. The Board shall approve or reject the nominations based on criteria including years of membership, level of activity within the organization, offices held, etc. Emeritus Members shall have all rights and privileges of Professional Members, except ownership of a category. Emeritus Members shall not be required to pay membership dues but will be required to pay the meeting fee for each meeting to cover meeting costs.

ARTICLE 4. MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

SECTION 1:

OPR shall use the following criteria in determining a prospect for membership:

1. Applicant must have a Professional reputation within the community.
2. Applicant must have a Bona Fide business in the category he/she wishes to represent.
3. Applicant's category must not be in direct competition with another member's business or professional category.

Prospective membership into OPR is not based on race, religious beliefs, age, gender, or national origin.

If an individual or company owning the OPR membership category requests a change in the category it holds, OPR Officers shall have the right to approve or deny the requested change. A majority vote will be required.

ARTICLE 5. RESIGNATION OF MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1:

A member may resign from OPR by providing written notice to the OPR officers. Member responsible for paying all outstanding fees in full. All dues and fees are non-refundable.

ARTICLE 6. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1:

Membership in the OPR will be predicated on the following criteria:

1. OPR members are strongly encouraged to attend and participate in all meetings. OPR recognizes that there may be times when members are unable to attend a meeting due to personal or business commitments. However, three (3) unexcused absences in a calendar year will terminate the member's ownership in his or her category. When unable to attend a meeting, the member should, at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting, notify the vice president of his or her absence so that the member's meal reservation may be cancelled.
2. Each member will be asked to provide a minimum of twelve (12) business leads to each member within the year.
3. The timely payment of all OPR membership dues and fees:
 - a. All dues and fees are due upon receipt of invoice(s).
 - b. Any member delinquent in the payment of any prescribed dues and fees shall be suspended and shall be notified of the suspension in writing by OPR Officers within two (2) weeks of the suspension.
 - c. Upon payment of all money owed, the member may make application for reinstatement to OPR Officers.

- d. In the event a member is not reinstated, the membership shall be terminated and the Secretary shall notify the individual or company in writing within two (2) weeks of the termination.

OPR Officers will continually review each individual membership on the following criteria:

1. Meeting attendance, as well as other scheduled functions.
2. Providing the minimum prescribed qualified professional and business referrals to any member.
3. Timely payment of all dues and fees.

Failure to comply with the above criteria set forth shall result in the immediate termination of membership. OPR Officers shall notify each member in writing within two (2) weeks when such action is taken.

The termination of an individual or business shall not relieve the member of any responsibility for payment of any dues or fees that have accrued prior to the membership termination.

ARTICLE 7. SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1:

OPR Officers shall have the right to suspend a membership for up to a period of one (1) year for good cause:

1. “Good Cause” is defined as:
 - a. Any failure to abide by Organization Rules and Regulations as set forth in these bylaws.
 - b. Any conduct that discredits the Organization.
 - c. Any conduct that damages the reputation, either personally or within the business community, to any member.
 - d. Conviction of any felony or crime, which may cause embarrassment to either the Organization or to any individual member.
2. “Suspension” is defined as:
 - a. Temporary termination of voting and other rights of the member.

ARTICLE 8. MEMBERSHIP TERMINATION PROCEDURE

SECTION 1:

A written complaint will be presented to the OPR Officers and the Officers may initiate termination proceedings if the written report shows “just cause” for membership termination.

Please read and sign below that you agree and fully understand these BYLAWS as set forth by the “Organization of Professional Referrals.”

Individual or Company

OPR President

Street Address

OPR Membership Chairperson

City, State and Zip Code

Date

(_____)_____
Telephone Number

Fax Number

Category Requested

Email Address

Signature