## The Sudanese Society of Kentucky Bylaws

#### Article I: Name

This organization shall be called the Sudanese Society of Kentucky.

## Article II: Purpose and Mission

- To promote understanding and enhance interaction between the Sudanese American community and the rest of the American public and its institutions.
- To promote understanding and cooperation between the American and Sudanese peoples, and support Sudan's efforts toward progress.
- To provide a forum for Sudanese Americans to serve their interests, social relations and preserve their rich cultural traditions so they and their children would take pride in their unique heritage, their knowledge of traditions, and bicultural experience.
- The Sudanese Society of Kentucky plans several annual functions, which include but are not limited to events such as the "Outstanding Achievement Award" ceremony, educational lectures by prominent speakers, and other social and recreational events which attract adults, youth and children.

The Sudanese Society of Kentucky is a Kentucky corporation which relies on the volunteer work of its members, most of whom are professionals giving their time, effort and resources to accomplish the successful program that the organization offers.

The Sudanese Society of Kentucky Bylaws allow various forms of membership for Sudanese Americans and others who are interested in the Sudanese culture and the Sudanese SOK activities.

Address: 2020 Armstrong Mill rd # 325, Lexington, Ky40515

The Sudanese Society of Kentucky is a not-for-profit organization of professional individuals and organizations it dedicated to maximizing the socio-economic benefits for the Sudanese society through various programs

• Promote the utilization of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky in the development of the Sudanese Americans economy, social and knowledge-based society; and activities, and in partnership with local and international Sudanese Society.

The Sudanese Society of Kentucky is established pursuant to law regarding the private associations and institutions. It is managed by a Board of Directors which is comprised of nine voting members elected by The General Assembly of the organization.

The Sudanese Society of Kentucky aims to represent the voice the Sudanese of Kentucky, community at national, regional and international levels, and to build bridges amongst local individuals, business, government, civil society and academia.

## Article III: Membership

Membership shall be open to any individual or organization interested in contributing to the development of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky to the global dialogue, policies and principles.

- the Sudanese Society of Kentucky shall have five main membership categories as follows:
- 1. Individual: Members who join in their individual capacities.
- 2. Civil Society: Civil society organizations established and regulations.
- 3. Research and Education: Public and private schools, universities, scientific and research

#### institutions.

- 4. Honorary members . This classification of membership shall consist of persons who have performed distinguished service to of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky and who have been recommended by the Executive Committee of the Association for Honorary Membership, and who have been elected to such Honorary Membership by the Board of Directors of the Association.
- 5. Private Sector: Companies and business associations.

Members apply to join the Sudanese Society of Kentucky shall have to identify the category they wish to be part of. Organization the Sudanese Society of Kentucky Bylaws

# 3 Article IV: Constituencies

Members of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky shall organize membership categories listed under Article III. Each Specific Committee shall elect a Chair and a Vice Chair who, with help from other members, shall lead the work of the Committee. The Chair shall liaise with the Board of Directors on any matters related to the Committee. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice

## Article V: Board of Directors

- 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of nine voting members elected by the General Assembly to execute the Sudanese Society of Kentucky Bylaws mission and goals. The Board of Directors shall consist of: a. Five members of the Individual
- 1. Executive

- 2. Nominating
- 3. Strategic Planning
- 4. Special Events
- 5. Alumni Awards and Scholarships
- 1. Executive
  - b. One member of the social and cultural committee
  - c. One member of the Research and Education
  - d. One member of the finance Committee
  - e. One member of the women and child
- 2. Board Directors shall serve as individuals who have the duty to act in what they believe are the best interests of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky Bylaws
- 3. Term of the Board of Directors membership shall be two years. Mid-term elections shall take place after one years from the date of the general elections to replace at least one third of the Board (three Directors). For the mid-term elections, Directors may voluntarily decide to step down, or otherwise decision shall be taken by draw. No Board Director shall serve more than two consecutive terms (Four years).
- 4. In case of resignation of one of the Board Directors, a new Director shall be elected while maintaining the Board composition as per item 1 of Article V above.
- 5. The Board meetings shall take place in the presence of the absolute majority of the Directors.

Board decisions are made by majority vote of those present, and if the votes are equal, the side of

- the Chairman of the Board is outbalanced.
- 6. The officers of the Board of Directors shall be:
- President, Chairman
- President-Elect
- **Executive Vice President**

First Vice President

Second Vice President

Secretary Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, and General

Secretary.

## Article VI: Duties of Officers

- 1. Chairman
- Preside the Board of Directors meetings;
- Represent the Sudanese Society of Kentucky in front of the administrative and legal authorities;
- Supervise the execution of the Board decisions;
- Submit the annual financial report to the Sudanese Society of Kentucky
- 2. Vice Chairman
- Assume duties and responsibilities as delegated by the Chairman;
- · Assume all Chairman's duties and responsibilities in the absence of the Chairman.
- 3. Treasurer
- Complete and submit the annual financial report to the Board;
- Manage the resources and the expenses of the organization;
- Keep records of all expenses and revenues;
- Pay all due amounts and keep all necessary references;
- Audit the financial records and ledgers;
- Prepare and present the financial statements and budgets;
- Set along with the Board General Secretary the planned budgets.
- 4. General Secretary

- Prepare the agenda of the Board meetings, send it to the Directors and invite them to the meeting;
- Run the Board secretariat function including the recording of meetings minutes;
- Follow up on the execution of the Board decisions;

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Committees. The Board may also decide to disband any of these Committees once they fulfill their mandate.

In addition, there shall be a number of Standing Board Committees as follows:

- Finance Committee: Responsible for budgeting, financial reports and contingency planning.
- Membership Committee: Responsible for promoting membership growth and stimulating
- effective participation in the various activities of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky
- Governance Committee: Responsible for developing and implementing rules and procedures to assure that the Sudanese Society of Kentucky and its Board are working effectively and efficiently to fulfill their duties and meet their obligations.

The Board of Directors shall decide on the membership of all Board Committees as well as on amending any of their duties and responsibilities.

## Article VIII: Meetings

- The General Assembly of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky shall meet once every three months. It may be called for irregular meetings if necessary;
- The meeting should be held only in places that are accessible to all members of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky;
- The Board of Directors shall meet at least once every month.

## Article IX: Revenues and Disbursements

• The fiscal year of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky starts on January 1st and ends on December 31st;

- Financial resources of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky are designated for its activities and it is illegitimate to disburse them otherwise;
- Revenues of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky are generated from , sponsorships, donations and grants, and any other sources identified and approved by the Board of Directors, and in accordance with law
- Disbursements the Sudanese Society of Kentucky expenditures shall be made with authorization of the Treasurer and the Chairman of the Board.

## Article X: Amendments

The General Assembly and the Board of Directors shall decide on any proposed amendments to the bylaws in accordance with law the Sudanese Society of Kentucky the Board of Directors shall advise the of any changes in the bylaws at Sudanese Society of Kentucky approved communications channels.

The foregoing revised Bylaws were adopted on the day of 12,01, 2013, by resolution of the Board of Directors of the Sudanese Society of Kentucky.