



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

Use of the FOP Name and/or Logo on the Internet

Standing Rules regarding the use of the FOP name and/or logo(s) on the Internet, and the establishment of web sites for State and Local Lodges, Labor Councils, Associate Lodges, Coalitions, or other such web sites affiliated with the FOP.

If your FOP Lodge, Labor Council, Coalition, etc. ("LODGE"), wishes to create a web site, please read carefully the following steps/guidelines. If you have already created a web site, but have not yet received written approval from the National Secretary, please skip to section B.

If you do not know if your web site has been approved, please contact the Grand Lodge at 800-451-2711 or webmaster@fop.net. *If your lodge web site was established before you took office, do not assume that your web site has been approved by the Grand Lodge.*

A. Steps to Establishing an FOP Web Site

1. The Lodge President or Secretary or their designee must submit a written request to the National Secretary for approval of the domain name you wish to use. The local lodge domain name should not cause confusion with the State Lodge or with the Grand Lodge.
2. The Lodge President or Secretary and/or their designee will be notified by the National Office as to whether the desired domain name has been approved. If so, the Lodge may begin construction of the web site. If the domain name is not approved, the Lodge may submit another choice for approval.
3. A form will be sent to the Lodge President and/or Secretary. This form, which asks for information about the lodge, web site, webmaster and web host, is to be filled out by the Lodge President or Secretary and returned to the National Office when the site is complete, so that the site can be reviewed for final approval.
4. If the site is approved, written notice will be sent to the Lodge President or Secretary. If the site is not approved for any reason, the Lodge President or Secretary and/or their designee will be notified as to what changes are necessary in order for the web site to be in compliance with these Standing Rules.

B. Steps to follow if you have already created a web site but have not yet received written approval from the National Office

1. The Lodge President or Secretary or their designee must submit a written request to the National Secretary for approval of the web site and use of the FOP name and logo.
2. A form will be sent to the Lodge President and/or Secretary. This form, which asks for information about the lodge, web site, webmaster, and web host, is to be filled out by the Lodge President or Secretary and returned to the National Office.
3. When the completed form is returned to the National Office, the site will be reviewed. If the site is approved, written notice will be sent to the Lodge President or Secretary. If the site is not approved for any reason, the Lodge President or Secretary and/or their designee will be notified as to what changes are necessary in order for the web site to be in compliance with these Standing Rules.

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Established 3/97 • Revised 3/12

C. Web Site Content and Other Information

1. Each web site must clearly identify the State, Local or Associate Lodge, Labor Council, Coalition, or other FOP affiliate operating the site.
2. No web site will be approved that is deemed to be primarily commercial in nature.
3. The sale of Active Member merchandise shall be restricted to a Members Only area.
4. Paid advertising shall be restricted to a Members Only area. *Be sure to check with your lodge accountant for any tax implications.* Businesses may be listed in the public area of the website if your lodge is thanking them for sponsoring a lodge event or if your lodge has an affinity program with that business.
5. If your Local Lodge web site contains Active Membership/Recruitment information, be sure to denote the area of recruitment designated by your State Lodge. (e.g., "Membership in Andrew Jackson Lodge #5 in Nashville, TN, is available to full-time, sworn law enforcement officers in the Nashville-Davidson County area").
6. If you wish to solicit general donations for your lodge on your web site, be sure to denote a geographic region from which your lodge may accept donations. Accepting donations from outside your geographic area may be in conflict with Article 19, Section 8 of the National Constitution. Public appeals for specific charitable initiatives—such as an officer in need—are acceptable.
7. Be sure to maintain your site by keeping it and updated, current and accurate. Also, when linking directly to pages on the Grand Lodge web site, or when copying information from the Grand Lodge site to use on your site, be sure to check the Grand Lodge site frequently, as the information or file names on our site may change, resulting in broken links or misinformation on your site.
8. If your site receives approval from the National Secretary, but then at some point in the future you redesign your web site, significantly changing the content or appearance, you must resubmit a request for approval to the National Secretary.
9. Please remember to notify the National Office of any change in your web site address, webmaster, or Lodge President or Secretary, so that we are able to contact you about your web site should the need arise.
10. Lodges may not use the collective membership marks in any manner which is profane, abusive, indecent, inappropriate or otherwise improper in the sole judgment of the Grand Lodge.

D. Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, and other similar sites

1. FOP Lodges may use the Fraternal Order of Police name and the star emblem on Facebook, MySpace and Twitter, subject to the guidelines and policies referenced herein. Other social networking sites will require the approval of the Grand Lodge.
2. The Lodge President or Secretary must submit a written request to the National Secretary for approval of the social networking page and use of the FOP name and logo. A form agreement will be sent to the Lodge President and/or Secretary. The agreement will ask for information regarding the social networking page and will contain certain requirements, also discussed herein. The agreement should be signed by the Lodge President or Secretary and returned to the National Office.
3. Pursuant to the form agreement, the Grand Lodge will retain ultimate authority over the content of any social networking page, and the Lodge must agree to delete or otherwise take down the social networking

page if required by the Grand Lodge. In addition, all other portions of the Grand Lodge's internet policy, which may be amended from time to time, will apply to the social networking page.

4. The Grand Lodge reserves the right to revise or eliminate this policy at any time.

E. Member Use of Collective Membership Marks on Social Networking Websites

1. Individual members of the Fraternal Order of Police are permitted to use one or both of the collective membership marks of the Fraternal Order of Police on social networking sites, subject to the terms of this policy.
2. The collective membership marks of the Fraternal Order of Police are (a) the name "FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE"; and (b) the Fraternal Order of Police star emblem registered as "FOP JUS FIDUS LIBERTATUM".
3. Members may use the collective membership marks for the sole purpose of identifying themselves as members of the Fraternal Order of Police.
4. Members may not use the collective membership marks in connection with any commercial or for-profit purpose.
5. Members may not use the collective membership marks in any manner which is profane, abusive, indecent, inappropriate or otherwise improper in the sole judgment of the Grand Lodge.
6. Members shall be subject to discipline, pursuant to Article 1, Section 2 of the Fraternal Order of Police Bylaws, for any use of the collective membership marks in violation of that provision or this policy.
7. The National Board of Trustees reserves the right to modify or rescind this policy at any time.

If you have questions about any of these Standing Rules, please contact Andrew Bittner at the National Office at 800.451.2711 or via e-mail at webmaster@fop.net.