



# BYLAWS

## *Haitian Evangelical Clergy Of Georgia*

May 19, 2020  
The Executive Committee

Dr. J. Billy Beaufils Pres.  
Rev. Ronald Pierre, VP.  
Rev. Omar Exume, Sec.  
Min. Noldy A. Alexandre  
Rev. Deltho Celin, Treas.  
Rev. Enselme Louis

Rev. Brave Laverdure, Adv.  
Rev. Versane Davilus, Adv.  
Rev. Joel Desir, Adv.

# MISSION STATEMENT

The Haitian Evangelical Clergy of GA exists to unite, equip, educate, and empower the Haitian Evangelical Leaders of Georgia. HECOGA will do so while fostering justice and peace as well as exploring community development by advocating responsibility and accountability of all churches and institutions.

# VISION

HECOGA is a brotherly platform created by Haitian Evangelical pastors, led by Haitian Evangelical pastors to promote unity, peace, corporate community praise and worship, counseling, and ministry training for our leaders.

## **The Constitution and its Bylaws are made:**

1. To preserve and secure the principles of our faith.
2. To preserve the liberties of each individual member and all churches within the HECOGA.
3. To provide freedom of action and independence, primarily as a religious body.
4. To provide order in handling internal and external affairs and in dealing with external bodies including the governance of our Institution.
5. HECOGA is solely responsible for its members and does not receive orders from any outside sources, other groups, or authorities.

## Articles of Faith:

1. We believe the Holy Bible as the Inspired and infallible Word of God, without any error, the all-sufficient authority in matters of faith, doctrine, and Christian living.
2. We believe in one God, eternally distinct and existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe that Jesus was born through Virgin Mary (incarnation) to save and reconcile humans with the Father.
4. We believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for the redemption of our sins. He rose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven where He sits at the right hand of the Father and is now our High Priest and Advocate.
5. We believe that man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and therefore lost. Only through justification by grace can a person receive salvation.
6. We believe that eternal salvation is the free gift of God, entirely apart from man's works.

7. We believe that baptism is by immersion and the Lord's Supper is a memorial to His suffering and death on the cross.
  
8. We believe in the personal, bodily, imminent and glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  
9. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead, awaiting the second coming of Christ and the everlasting punishment of the unsaved.
  
10. We believe that marriage is a sacred ordinance established by God and shall be between one man and one woman. No HECOGA officials shall perform marriage ceremony between two men or two women, including those with any history of sex change operations.

# BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I - ASSOCIATION

THE NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION SHALL BE:

**“THE HAITIAN EVANGELICAL CLERGY OF GEORGIA”  
(HECOGA)**

THE ASSOCIATION SHALL HAVE A SEAL

WHICH SHALL BE IN THE FOLLOWING FORM.

- a. THE NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION
- b. THE YEAR THE ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

## **ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

THE FOUNDING MEMBERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN A VISION BY THE LORD TO ORGANIZE AND FORMULATE THE HAITIAN EVANGELICAL CLERGY OF GEORGIA TO UNITE ALL HAITIAN PASTORS THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF GEORGIA AND NETWORK WITH OTHER ENTITIES IN AND OUT OF THE STATE, TO EMPOWER THEM, PROVIDE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, COUNSELING, TRAINING AND PUBLICATIONS EXPRESSING RELIGIOUS VALUES AND VIEWS IMPORTANT TO OUR COMMUNITY.

THE HAITIAN CLERGY OF GEORGIA SHALL UNDERTAKE NO ACTION, ISSUE, OR DECREE, WHICH WILL IMPOSE UPON THE AUTONOMY OF THE MEMBERS' CHURCHES.

## **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

THE HAITIAN CLERGY OF GEORGIA SHALL BE COMPRISED OF VARIOUS CLERGYMEN AND VOLUNTEERS FROM CONFERENCES AND ASSOCIATIONS IN GEORGIA REPRESENTING CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS BELIEVING IN THE ESSENTIAL BIBLICAL DOCTRINES AND DOGMAS.

EVERY MEMBER OF HECOGA SHALL COMPLETE A MEMBERSHIP FORM. NO MEMBER SHALL BE ABLE TO UNDERTAKE ACTION, OR DECREE UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

MEMBERS SHALL BE ACTIVE IN ORDER TO HAVE VOTING POWER AND ALL ABSENCES SHALL BE EXCUSED.

## ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS

THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL BE HELD ON THE (DATE)\_\_\_\_\_. EACH AND EVERY YEAR AT (LOCATION) \_\_\_\_\_.

REGULAR MEETINGS OF THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL BE HELD ON THE \_\_\_\_ DAY OF EACH MONTH AT \_\_\_\_ AM/PM. AT THE NAMED LOCATION.

THE PRESIDENT MAY CALL SPECIAL MEETINGS WHEN HE DEEMS IT NECESSARY FOR THE BEST INTEREST OF THE ORGANIZATION. NOTICES OF SUCH MEETING SHALL BE EMAILED TO ALL MEMBERS AS THEY APPEAR IN THE MEMBERSHIP ROLL BOOK AT LEAST BUT NOT MORE THAN SEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED DATE OF THE SPECIAL MEETING. THE NOTICE SHALL STATE THE REASONS THAT SUCH MEETING HAS BEEN CALLED, THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED AT THE SPECIAL MEETING, AND BY WHOM THE MEETING WAS CALLED.



NO OTHER BUSINESS BUT THAT SPECIFIED IN THE NOTICE MAY BE TRANSACTED AT A THE SPECIAL MEETING WITHOUT THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF THOSE PRESENT AT THE MEETING.

## **ARTICLE V - APPOINTMENTS**

DURING HIS TENURE, THE PRESIDENT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR APPOINTMENT OF ALL OFFICERS WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND RATIFIED BY THE MEMBERS.

## **ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IS PRESIDED OVER BY THE PRESIDENT OR DURING HIS ABSENCE THE VICE-PRESIDENT SHALL MANAGE THE BUSINESS OF THE HAITIAN EVANGELICAL CLERGY OF GEORGIA. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIST OF THE OFFICERS: PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, JOINT-SECRETARY, TREASURER, JOINT-TREASURER, AND THREE ADVISORS

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL HAVE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF THE AFFAIRS AND BUSINESSES OF THE HAITIAN EVANGELICAL CLERGY OF GEORGIA. THE PRESIDENT SHALL PRESIDE OVER THE EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE AND ALL THE AFFAIRS AND BUSINESSES OF THE ORGANIZATION. ALL DECISIONS SHALL BE VOTED BY THE EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND IN CASE OF A TIE, THE PRESIDENT WILL BREAK THE TIE. CONFIRMED DECISIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL BE RATIFIED BY A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS BEFORE EXECUTION.

THE PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT A PERSON TO FILL ANY VACANCY ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RATIFIED BY THE MEMBERS.

## **ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS**

THE OFFICERS OF THE HAITIAN CLERGY OF GEORGIA SHALL BE AS  
FOLLOWS:

- PRESIDENT
- VICE-PRESIDENT
- GENERAL SECRETARY
- JOINT-SECRETARY
- TREASURER
- JOINT-TREASURER
- ADVISOR (3)

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL OFFICERS TO PROTECT THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE HECOGA WHEN SO EXPRESSED BY THE PRESIDENT AND TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF THIS ORGANIZATION.

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# DESCRIPTION OF OFFICER'S DUTIES

## ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS (CONTINUED)

UPON THE DEATH OR RESIGNATION OF THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE-PRESIDENT WILL TAKE OVER THE PRESIDENCY FOR THE REMAINING OF THE TERM. THE PRESIDENT IS ELECTED FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS BY THE MEMBERSHIP AND CAN RECEIVE A SECOND AND FINAL TERM BY THE MEMBERSHIP IF HE SO DESIRE. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAS NO TERM LIMIT AND CAN SERVE AS LONG AS THE MEMBERSHIP ALLOWS THEM BASED ON EFFECIENCY. ONLY ACTIVE MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED TO VOTE DURING ELECTION TIMES

(See article 3).

ELECTION SHALL TAKE PLACE EVERY TWO YEARS AT THE END OF THE YEAR WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION. ALL CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENTS MUST BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE, MUST FULLY EMBRACED THE VISION AND MISSION OF HECOGA. A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE IS A COMMITTED MEMBER, APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP CAN ALWAYS CHALLENGE THE PRESIDENT DURING ELECTION SEASON.

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS CAN RETIRE FROM THEIR POSITION INTO ADVISORY ROLE UPON THEIR REPLACEMENT. IF A NON-COMMITTEE

MEMBER BECOMES PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANIZATION; THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL REMAIN AS SUCH AND WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH THE NEW ELECTED PRESIDENT.

**THE PRESIDENT** SHALL PRESIDE OVER ALL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND SHALL BE PRESENT AT EACH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION GIVING AN ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION, HE SHALL APPOINT MINISTERS FOR TEMPORARY ROLE ASSISTING THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. THE PRESIDENT SHALL OVERSEE ALL ACTIVITIES OF THE HECOGA.

**THE VICE PRESIDENT** SHALL ASSIST THE PRESIDENT IN ALL HIS DUTIES. IN THE EVENT OF THE ABSENCE OR INABILITY OF THE PRESIDENT TO PERFORM HIS DUTY, THE VP BECOMES ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE HAITIAN EVANGELICAL CLERGY WITH ALL RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES AND POWERS AS IF HE HAD BEEN THE PRESIDENT AND IS TO CARRY OUT THE VISION THAT HAD BEEN SET FORTH.

**THE SECRETARY** SHALL HANDLE ANY CORRESPONDENCE AS REQUESTED BY THE PRESIDENT/ORGANIZATION. HE SHALL KEEP AN ACCURATE MEMBERSHIP LIST, KEEP ACCURATE INFORMATIONS/DATES/EVENTS, GIVE A BRIEF REPORT OF PREVIOUS MEETING, AND HE WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH THE TREASURER AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE ALSO FOR MAINTAINING AN ACCURATE RECORD OF ALL FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

OF THE HAITIAN EVANGELICAL CLERGY.

**THE TREASURER** SHALL HAVE THE CARE AND CUSTODY OF ALL MONIES BELONGING TO THE HAITIAN EVANGELICAL CLERGY AND BE ONE OF THE OFFICERS WHO SHALL SIGN CHECKS AND DRAFTS OF THE HECOGA. THE TREASURER SHALL RENDER A WRITTEN ACCOUNT OF THE FINANCES OF THE CLERGY WHEN ASK BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OR PRESIDENT.

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE SHALL COMPRISE OF THOSE WHO HAVE EITHER SERVED AS EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND/OR SELECTED BY THE EXECUTIVE MEMBERS. THERE IS NO TERM LIMIT FOR THE MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL CALL UPON THIS COMMITTEE AT ANY TIME FOR ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE IN HANDLING ANY AFFAIRS.

## **ARTICLE VIII - DUES**

THE DUES OF THE HAITIAN EVANGELICAL CLERGY OF GEORGIA SHALL BE \$ 100.00 PER YEAR AND SHALL BE PAYABLE ON THE FIRST MONTH OF EACH AND EVERY YEAR. NO MEMBERS SHALL BE ENTITLED TO SERVE IN THE HAITIAN EVANGELICAL CLERGY AS AN EXECUTIVE WHO HAS NOT PAID THEIR ANNUAL DUES. NO MEMBERS SHALL BE ABLE TO VOTE ON

ANY MATTER THAT COMES BEFORE THE CLERGY WHO HAS NOT PAID THEIR ANNUAL DUES AND/OR BE INACTIVE (see Article 3).

## ARTICLE IX - ETHICS

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL HEAR CASES AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT FOR ANY MEMBER OF THE HAITIAN EVANGELICAL CLERGY COMMITTING THE FOLLOWING:

1. UNBECOMING BEHAVIOR.
2. DISRESPECT TOWARD ANY FELLOW MEMBER OF HECOGA.
3. ANY UNRULY OUTBURST THAT HAS BEEN DECLARED OUT OF ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT OR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.
4. CHARGES MAY BE BROUGHT TO THE PRESIDENT IN WRITING PENDING A HEARING WITH THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ALONG WITH THE ACCUSER AND ACCUSEE.
5. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ALONG WITH THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL DEAL WITH ANY MEMBER ENGAGING IN UNGODLY BEHAVIORS.