Bylaws
Of
CLEVELAND CENTRAL INTERGROUP, INC.

ARTICLE I
Name, Location and Object

A. The name of this nonprofit organization shall be Cleveland Central Intergroup, Inc. also known as "CCI". (11/13) CCI adheres to the composition, registration, and functioning of Intergroups in the Overeaters Anonymous Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI as written and as it may be amended by a future World Service Business Conference. (01/2015)

B. The primary purpose of CCI of Overeaters Anonymous is to carry the message of recovery to those with the problem of eating compulsively by fostering the practice of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service; and to serve and represent member groups and/or intergroups.

A) The Twelve Steps

1) We admitted we were powerless over food – that our lives had become unmanageable.
2) Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3) Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him.*
4) Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5) Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6) Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7) Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8) Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.
9) Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10) Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.
11) Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God *as we understood Him,* praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
12) Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to compulsive overeaters and to practice these principles in all our affairs. (08/2005)

C. The Twelve Traditions

1) Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon OA unity.
2) For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern.
3) The only requirement for OA membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively. 4) Each group ought to be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole.
5) Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the compulsive overeater who still suffers.
6) An OA group ought never endorse, finance or lend the OA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7) Every OA group should be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. 8) Overeaters Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9) OA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10) Overeaters Anonymous has no opinions on outside issues; hence, the OA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11) Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television, and other public media of communication.
12) Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all these Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities. (08/2005)

D. The Twelve Concepts

1) The ultimate responsibility and authority for OA World Service reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
2) The OA groups have delegated to World Service Business Conference the active maintenance of our world services; thus, World Service Business Conference is the voice, authority and effective conscience of OA as a whole.
3) The right of decision, based on trust, makes effective leadership possible.
4) The right of participation ensures equality of opportunity for all in the decision-making process.
5) Individuals have the right of appeal and petition in order to ensure that their opinions and personal grievances will be carefully considered.
6) The World Service Business Conference has entrusted the Board of Trustees with the primary responsibility for the administration of Overeaters Anonymous.

7) The Board of Trustees has legal rights and responsibilities accorded to them by OA Bylaws, Subpart A; the rights and responsibilities of the World Service Business Conference are accorded to it by Tradition and by OA Bylaws, Subpart B.
8) The Board of Trustees has delegated to its Executive Committee the responsibility to administer the OA World Service Office.
9) Able, trusted servants, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are indispensable for effective functioning at all service levels.
10) Service responsibility is balanced by carefully defined service authority; therefore, duplication of efforts is avoided.
11) Trustee administration of the World Service Office should always be assisted by the best standing committees, executives, staffs and consultants.
12) The spiritual foundation for OA ensures that:
    a. No OA committee or service body shall ever become the seat of perilous wealth or power;
    b. Sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, shall be OA's prudent financial principle;
    c. No OA member shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority;
    d. All important decisions shall be reached by discussion, vote and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity;
    e. No service action shall ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; and
    f. No OA service committee or service board shall ever perform any acts of government, and each shall always remain democratic in thought and action. (08/2005)

D. The Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts may not be amended by Cleveland Central Intergroup or by any registered Group thereof. (08/2005)

ARTICLE II
Members and Qualifications

A. CCI endorses the definition of an OA group in Overeaters Anonymous Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V, Section 1, as written and as it may be amended by a future World Service Business Conference.

B. These points shall define an OA group:
    1) As a group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous.

2) All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the Group.
3) No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting).
4) As a group they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous.
5) It has affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the World Service Office.

C. Virtual Groups (groups which replicate face-to-face meetings through electronic media)
1) A group may be formed, as set forth in Article III Meetings Section, by two or more persons meeting together, either
a) in the same physical location(face-to-face):
b) through some form of electronic device(virtually); or
c) both (03/2017)
2) Groups compose the intergroups and service boards set forth in Articles IV and V hereof. (03/2017)

D. Each group registered with Cleveland Central Intergroup, Inc. and the World Service Office shall be entitled to have one (1) Group Representative and one alternate Group Representative. Such Group Representatives shall be elected by rules and regulations of each registered Group and shall be collectively known as Cleveland Central Intergroup, Inc.

E. The voting membership of Cleveland Central Intergroup, Inc. shall be comprised of:
1) Duly elected Group Representatives ("GR's") or their alternates.
2) Cleveland Central Intergroup Officers.
3) World Service Delegates / Region Representatives.
4) Committee chairpersons if such persons are not duly elected GR's, Officers, or Delegates / Representatives.

F. No person shall have more than one vote.

G. To be eligible to vote, the voting membership, as described in Section B above shall:
Have thirty (30) days current, continuous abstinence. (04/2025)

ARTICLE III
Meetings

A. Regular meetings shall be held monthly, with notification to be distributed one (1) week prior to each meeting. (05/2013)

B. Special meetings may be called by a majority of the Officers or by the written request of not less than ten (10) GRs. Such written request shall be submitted to the CCI Secretary, who shall call a special meeting within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request.

C. The regular CCI meeting in November shall be designated the Annual Meeting. This meeting shall be a general meeting for the election of Officers. The new Officers shall be presented at a CCI event subsequent to the Annual Meeting. (10/2001)

D. Intergroup meetings shall be guided by the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* or such successor publication as may from time to time be published, insofar as such guidelines are not inconsistent with or in conflict with these bylaws, with the Articles of Incorporation, with law, or with special resolutions the Board may adopt. (04/2025)

E. At all meetings of Cleveland Central Intergroup, a Quorum shall consist of two (2) Officers and any eight (8) Group Representatives present, provided that each of these individuals meet the abstinence requirement as set forth in the Standing Rules, Article II, D. (08/2005)

ARTICLE IV
Group Representatives, Committee Chairpersons, and Their Duties

(11/2013)

A. Duties of Group Representatives shall include the following:

1) Be working the 12 Steps to the best of his/her ability and have a working knowledge of the 12 Traditions. (01/2015)
2) Attend Cleveland Central Intergroup meetings.
3) Serve on at least one (1) CCI Committee.
4) Maintain communications between Groups and CCI. (05/2013)
5) Report to his/her Group on all CCI, Region 5 and World Service activities, as reported at the CCI meetings.
6) Vote, as outlined in ARTICLE II, Item D, as the Group conscience of the represented Group.
7) Have a working knowledge of the Cleveland Central Intergroup Bylaws.
8) Be familiar with The Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous.

B. A Group Representative shall represent only one registered Group at CCI meetings.

C. The term of office and manner of election of Group Representatives shall be determined by each member Group.

D. Duties of the Committee Chairpersons shall include the following:
1) Be working the 12 Steps to the best of his/her ability and have a working knowledge of the 12 Traditions. (01/2015)
2) Attend Cleveland Central Intergroup meetings
3) Chair committee meetings.
4) Communicate committee activities with the CCI Intergroup Board and Intergroup meeting attendees.
5) A Committee Chairperson shall have a minimum of 90 days of continuous abstinence.
6) The CCI Vice Chair is the chairperson of the Events Committee. (11/2013)

ARTICLE V
Officers and Their Duties

A. The Officers of the Cleveland Central Intergroup shall be Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. As Officers, they shall be guardians of the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and 12 Concepts. Therefore, the Officers shall be working the 12 Steps to the best of their abilities and have a working knowledge of the12 Traditions and 12 Concepts. They shall perform the usual and customary duties, attend CCI Executive Board and Intergroup meetings, and such other duties as CCI shall assign. (01/2015)

B. In the event of a vacancy of the Office of Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson shall act as Chairperson until a special election can be held to fill the vacancy of Chairperson.

C. Vacancies among the Officers shall be filled by a majority vote of CCI as soon as possible. Notice of the vacancy and upcoming election shall be given to each member of Cleveland Central Intergroup not less than one (1) week before the election is to take place. A person chosen to fill such a vacancy shall serve for the unexpired portion of that term.

D. In the event of a break of abstinence, an Officer shall resign. (11/2013)

E. Any Officer may be removed, for cause, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the eligible voting members of CCI. Cause includes, but is not limited to:
1) Two (2) successive unexcused absences. 2) A return to compulsive overeating. 3) Misuse of funds.

F. Duties of the Officers shall be as follows:

1.) Chairperson: Executive Officer of CCI, having general supervision of its Property and affairs, shall;

a. Preside at CCI meetings and special meetings as called.
b. Serve as a Representative to Region 5 and a Delegate to World Service. (10/2009)
c. Arrange for meeting rooms when necessary.
d. Serve as ex-officio member of all Committees.
e. Act as a liaison between CCI and outside business entities about official business if there are no designated liaisons as assigned by the Bylaws. (11/2009)
f. Communicate with the World Service Office if there are questions about tradition breaks, etc.
g. Be open and available to talk with members about complaints or dissatisfactions.
h. Assume such other powers and duties as are incidental to the Office.
i. Serve on the Executive Board.

2) Vice Chairperson:

a. Assume the duties of the Chairperson when that Officer is absent or incapacitated. When acting in the place of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson shall have all the powers, duties, responsibilities, and privileges of the Chairperson.
b. Hold the position of Committee Chair for the Events Committee. (04/2025)
c. Serve on the Executive Board.

3) Secretary:

a. Record and keep minutes of CCI meetings.
b. Maintain Committee records, reports, etc.
c. Give notice of all CCI meetings by distributing a copy of the agenda to all GRs in CCI at least one week prior to the meeting. (04/2025)
d. Type and distribute the minutes of each CCI meeting to all registered GRs in CCI one week prior to each monthly meeting. (11/2013)
e. Keep on file all resumes of Officers. (04/2025)
f. Keep a current contact list of all group secretaries, and their Group Representatives. (11/2013)
g. Review the World Service Office Intergroup Roster for accuracy.
h. Handle any necessary correspondence.
i. Keep record of all pertinent data of CCI business and archive records annually. (11/2013)
j. Serve on the Executive Board.

4) Treasurer:

a. Have custody of all the funds and securities belonging to CCI and deposit the same in the name of Cleveland Central Intergroup in such bank or banks as the Treasurer may choose with the consent of CCI.
b. Provide for the annual audit.
c. Sign all checks and orders for the payment of money (which shall be countersigned by another CCI Officer.
d. Establish, and, at all times maintain, a modern and efficient system of bookkeeping and accounting.
e. Present financial statements at CCI meetings.
f. Deliver, on the expiration of his/her term of office, all money, books, and other property of CCI to his/her successor or the Chairperson.
g. Monthly: Pay CCI expenses (phone, rent, salaries, etc.), balance the checkbook, and submit a Treasurer's report at the CCI meeting.
h. Maintain a prudent reserve. Send quarterly donations to Region 5 and World Service Office when funds (excluding the prudent reserve) exceed operating expenses and budgeted line items, and file tax returns. (04/2025)
i. Annually: File tax report (W-2, etc.) and submit annual report at the end of the fiscal year.
j. Serve on the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI
Election of Cleveland Central Intergroup, Inc. (CCI) Officers

A. By September 1st all groups registered with Cleveland Central Intergroup shall be notified by the CCI Secretary of the forthcoming elections, with a request for nominations of qualified nominees.

B. Nominees shall demonstrate availability, willingness to serve, commitment to the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions, and overall ability to carry out the duties and functions of the Office.

C. To be considered for an Officer or a Representative/Delegate position, the nominee must have at least one (1) year current, continuous abstinence. In addition, the Chair, Representative and Delegate nominees must have completed at least two (2) years of service beyond the Group level. (04/2025)

D. The nominee shall submit a written resume to the CCI Secretary by the October CCI meeting.

E. At least two (2) weeks before the Annual Meeting, the Secretary shall submit qualified candidates' resumes to all registered Groups and voting members of CCI.

F. Each nominee must appear at the Annual Meeting, address the assembled CCI for three (3) to five (5) minutes, and answer questions from the Floor.

G. No nominations will be accepted from the Floor.

H. Chairperson and Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years. Vice-Chairperson and Secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years.

I. Each Officer elected at the Annual Meeting shall assume the responsibilities of Office the following January 1st and serve a two (2) year term. No person shall serve in the same Office for more than two (2) consecutive terms. Any part of a term served is considered one term. Having completed two (2) consecutive terms, a full two (2) year term must expire before a person may run for the same position again. (06/2020)

J. Vacancies among the Officers shall be filled by a majority vote of CCI as soon as possible. Notice of the vacancy and upcoming election shall be given to each member of Cleveland Central Intergroup not less than one (1) week before the election is to take place. A person chosen to fill such a vacancy shall serve for the unexpired portion of that term. (06/2020)

ARTICLE VII

Executive Board

A. The Executive Board of Cleveland Central Intergroup shall consist of the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and elected Representatives/Delegates. (04/2025)

B. The Board shall oversee the general operation of CCI business which includes, but is not limited to: (11/2009)

1) Hiring and firing paid employees.
2) Reviewing personnel annually.
3) Recommending duty changes.
4) Suggesting better methods of communication among Cleveland Central Intergroup, Groups, and individuals.
5) Appointing an ad-hoc committee when deemed necessary to organize and mobilize a fundraising campaign for the purpose of defraying the operating expenses of CCI. (06/2020)

ARTICLE VIII
Region 5 and World Service Delegates

A.

1) World Service Delegates shall include one (1) Delegate per fifteen (15) or parts of fifteen (15) registered Groups to World Service Business Conference.
2) Region 5 Representatives shall include one (1) Representative per ten (10) or parts of ten (10) registered Groups to Region 5 Assemblies.
3) As Delegates and Representatives, they shall be guardians of the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and 12 Concepts. Therefore, they shall be working the 12 Steps to the best of their abilities and have a working knowledge of the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts. (04/2025)

4) One (1) person shall be elected to fulfill one (1) Board position as both a Regional Representative and World Service Delegate. This position will be referred to as "Delegate" here in these Bylaws. (04/2025)

B. Delegates should be elected according to the procedures established for Officers in Article VI.

1) Each Delegate elected at the Annual Meeting shall assume the responsibility of Office the following January 1st and serve a two (2) year term. No person shall serve in the same Office for more than two (2) consecutive terms. Having completed two (2) consecutive terms, a full two (2) year term must expire before a person may run for the same position again. (06/2020).

C. Responsibilities of the Delegates shall be as follows:

1) Give service to and support of OA as a whole.
2) Be familiar with the OA service manual, *The Twelve Concepts of OA Service*. (04/2025)
3) Attend Executive Board and Cleveland Central Intergroup meetings with voting privileges. (01/2015)
4) Represent CCI at Region 5 Assemblies and the annual World Service Business Conference.
5) Prepare for all assemblies and conferences by reviewing World Service Bylaws, Region 5 Bylaws, and all materials provided specifically for each conference or assembly.
6) Submit to CCI written and oral reports of all official activities.
7) Correspond with World Service and Region 5 as necessary.
8) Submit in writing an itemized summary of reimbursable expenses within one month after completion of each Region Assembly or World Service Business Conference trip.

D. Vacancies among the Delegates shall be filled by a majority vote of CCI as soon as possible. Notice of the vacancy and upcoming election shall be given to each member of Cleveland Central Intergroup not less than one (1) week before the election is to take place. A person chosen to fill such a vacancy shall serve for the unexpired portion of that term. (11/2013)

ARTICLE IX
Finances

A. The activities of the Cleveland Central Intergroup shall be financed primarily by the contributions of its member groups. Secondary sources of financial income to CCI may be from such occasional projects or activities as may be authorized by CCI. CCI may accept or reject donations from OA members, conforming to the general practices of Overeaters Anonymous. CCI shall not accept responsibility for trusteeship, distribution, or allocation of funds set up outside CCI.

B. The fiscal year shall commence July 1st and end June 30th, unless the CCI determines otherwise upon advice of its Accountant.

ARTICLE X
Legal Disclaimer

A. No member or employee of Cleveland Central Intergroup shall receive at any time any earning or pecuniary profit from the operation of CCI, provided that this shall not prevent the payment to such person or persons reasonable compensation for services rendered to or for CCI in effecting any of its purposes as shall be fixed by CCI.

B. No such person or persons shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any assets upon the dissolution of CCI. All members of CCI shall be deemed to have expressly consented and agreed that, upon such dissolution or termination of the affairs of CCI, whether voluntary or involuntary, the assets of CCI then remaining in the hands of the Officers after all debts have been paid, shall be delivered and paid over to the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous.

ARTICLE XI
Insurance Coverage

Cleveland Central Intergroup, Inc. shall carry insurance coverage as follows:

A. For employee / Officer dishonesty

B. For liability and medical reimbursements for liabilities arising at the Cleveland Central Intergroup Inc. office and at any CCI-sponsored events.

ARTICLE XII
Standing Committees

A. Cleveland Central Intergroup shall appoint such committees as are deemed necessary for the welfare and operations of the Groups and CCI.

B. A committee may prescribe its own rules for calling and holding meetings, and its methods of procedures, subject to the rules prescribed by CCI.

C. All standing committees shall be subject at all times to the direction of CCI and shall be bounded by the Twelve Traditions.

ARTICLE XIII
Bylaws Amendments

A. Amendments may be submitted by Groups, Group Representatives, Officers, or by the Bylaws Committee.

B. A copy of the proposed amendment, accompanied by a statement of intent, must be filed with the CCI Secretary at least forty-five (45) days prior to the regularly scheduled CCI meeting and shall be prepared and distributed by the Secretary to each Group Representative, Group Secretary, and CCI Officer at least twenty-one (21) days prior to said meeting. (05/2013)

C. These Bylaws may be amended at a regularly scheduled meeting by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members present.

D. Each amendment to these Bylaws will be noted with the dated amended at the end of the amended section. (09/2001)

E. The month and year of the adoption date of each published Bylaws version will be noted in the footer section of the document. [Example: CCI Rev (08/2001)] (10/2001)

ARTICLE XIV
Effective Date

A. These Bylaws were amended and adopted May 26, 2026.

B. Historically, these Bylaws were originally approved on November 21, 1982.