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**The
ARTICLES OF FELLOWSHIP
of the
NATIONAL DEAF CULTURE FELLOWSHIP
Of the
Assemblies of God**

Revised (2009.03.05)

**June 24, 2008
Tulsa, Oklahoma**

1
2 **NATIONAL DEAF CULTURE FELLOWSHIP**
3 **OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**

4
5 **ARTICLES OF FELLOWSHIP**

6
7 **PREAMBLE**

8
9
10 WHEREAS, in these last days, God has been and is pouring out His Spirit upon all
11 people including Deaf people in fulfillment of His promises (Joel 2:28, Acts 2:17),
12 resulting in a ministry of Spirit-filled men and women (Luke 24:48, 49), and the
13 formation of Pentecostal assemblies of saved and Spirit-filled believers (Acts 11:15, 16),
14 and

15
16 WHEREAS, this General Council of the Assemblies of God has made provision through
17 the agency of national fellowships which may be formed for the purpose of exchanging
18 information and facilitating evangelism and the establishing of churches within its group,
19 and

20
21 WHEREAS, in the year of 1991, the Seventh day of May, the National Deaf Culture
22 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God was formed at Deaf International Bible College of
23 North Central University at Minneapolis, Minnesota in responding to the greater need of
24 the harvest field and the Body of Christ, and

25
26 WHEREAS, in the year 1992, the Twenty-second day of September, the National Deaf
27 Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God was recognized by the parent body, the
28 General Council of the Assemblies of God and assumed the previous stated obligation,
29 and

30
31 WHEREAS, under His gracious and loving kindness, the work of the National Deaf
32 Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God has grown greatly, bringing an increasing
33 need for a fuller and clearer constitutional declaration; therefore, be it

34
35 RESOLVED, that we, the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God,
36 agree to adopt and be governed by the following Articles of Fellowship of the National
37 Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God.

38
39 **ARTICLE I. NAME**

40
41 The name of this body shall be the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the
42 Assemblies of God.

43
44 **ARTICLE II. TERRITORY**

1 The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall include the entire
2 United States of America including Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.

3
4 **ARTICLE III. NATURE**

5
6 The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God is a voluntary
7 cooperative fellowship based on mutual agreements voluntarily entered into by its
8 members.

9
10 **ARTICLE IV. FUNCTIONS**

11
12 The functions of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall be
13 to work with and under the authority of the district councils to:

- 14
15 1. Encourage and promote the worship of God.
- 16
17 2. Encourage and promote the edification of believers.
- 18
19 3. Provide a basis of fellowship among Christians of like precious faith.
- 20
21 4. Encourage and promote the evangelization of the world.
- 22
23 5. Promote and establish Deaf churches.
- 24
25 6. Encourage and promote the training of Deaf ministers.
- 26
27 7. Establish and maintain such committees, departments and institutions as
28 may be necessary for the propagation of the gospel and the work of the
29 Pentecostal fellowship.
- 30
31 8. Recommend candidates to their respective district councils for credentials
32 and assist as necessary in this process.
- 33
34 9 As a creature of the General Council of the Assemblies of God it is
35 subordinate thereto, and cannot be authorized in any way, to violate the
36 principles of the General Council of the Assemblies of God constitution or
37 bylaws, in the undertaking of the work in its prescribed field; the National
38 Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall be expected to keep
39 vigilant watch against any violation of the principles of spiritual unity and
40 voluntary cooperative fellowship to which the Assemblies of God fellowship
41 is especially and unalterably dedicated.
- 42
43 10. Elect its own officers and committees, arrange for its own meetings,
44 govern itself, and give advice for its own activities.
- 45

1 11. It shall have the right to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage,
2 lease, or otherwise dispose of such property real or personal as may be needed
3 for the undertaking of its work.
4

5 **ARTICLE V. TENETS OF FAITH**

6
7 The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God adopts the Statement of
8 Fundamental Truths adopted by the General Council of the Assemblies of God, U.S.A.
9

10 **ARTICLE VI. RELATIONSHIPS**

11 12 **Section 6.01. To the General Council.**

13
14 The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God, as an integral part of
15 the General Council of the Assemblies of God, a non-profit religious corporation with
16 headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, is subordinate and amenable to the said General
17 Council as prescribed in its Constitution and Bylaws (see Article V., Section 4.a.).
18

19 **Section 6.02. To the AG US Missions.**

20
21 The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God has a cooperative
22 working relationship with the Assemblies of God U.S. Missions in matters of mutual
23 concern.
24

25 **Section 6.03. To the Geographical and the Ethnic/Language Districts.**

26
27 The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God has a cooperative
28 working relationship with the geographical, and the ethnic/language districts in matters of
29 mutual concern.
30

31 **Section 6.04. To the Ethnic and Language Fellowships.**

32
33 The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God has a cooperative
34 working relationship with the ethnic and language fellowships in matters of mutual
35 concern.
36

37 **Section 6.05. To the Local Deaf Assemblies.**

38
39 The local Deaf assembly may become an integral part of the National Deaf Culture
40 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God with privileges and responsibilities as prescribed in
41 these Articles of Fellowship.
42

43 **ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP**

44 45 **Section 7.01. Individual Members**

1 All credentialed Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, and first and second generation C.O.D.A.
2 ministers holding accredited fellowship certificates from the General Council, including
3 those Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, and first and second generation C.O.D.A holding Ordained,
4 License to Preach, Specialized Ministries License, Certified Ministers, and Local Church
5 Credential credentials from the district councils may be members of the National Deaf
6 Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God. All Hearing credentialed ministers with
7 the Assemblies of God who: (1) pastor a General Council or District Council affiliated
8 Deaf church and (2) serve as the AG US or AG World Missionaries to the Deaf Culture,
9 may also be a member.

10
11 **Section 7.02. Congregational Members**

12
13 a. General and District Council Affiliated Churches. All Deaf congregations
14 which are Assemblies of God district affiliated or General Council affiliated churches
15 may be members of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God.

16 b. Deaf Affiliated Congregational Departments/Churches of Sponsoring
17 Churches. All Deaf affiliated congregations of the sponsoring (Hearing) Assemblies of
18 God churches with the endorsing of their senior pastor and board members of sponsoring
19 churches and National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God Executive
20 Committee to review and determine its eligibility may become members of the National
21 Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God.

22
23 **Section 7.03. Voting Members**

24
25 a. All Assemblies of God credentialed ministers as described in section 1 who
26 choose to belong to the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall
27 have the privilege of voice and vote in the official business meetings of the National Deaf
28 Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God.

29
30 b. All Deaf affiliated congregations as described in Section 2 who choose to
31 belong to the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall have the
32 privilege of sending one voting delegate to the official business meetings of the
33 Fellowship. This delegate shall be appointed by the official board/committee of the
34 church.

35
36
37 **ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS**

38
39 **Section 8.01. Credentials.**

40 All Assemblies of God credentialed ministers who choose to belong to the National Deaf
41 Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall have the privilege of voice and vote in
42 the official business meetings of the fellowship.

43
44 **Section 8.02. Congregations.**

45 All National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God congregations as
46 described in Section 2 who choose to belong to the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of

1 the Assemblies of God shall have the privilege of sending one (1) voting delegate to the
2 official business meetings of the fellowship.

3
4 **Section 8.03. Biennial Business Meeting.**

5
6 The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall have a
7 biennial business meeting of the fellowship, at which time the election of officers shall
8 take place and the reports of all officers shall be read. The time and place shall be
9 announced by the Executive Committee. Due notice shall be given no later than three
10 months prior to the date of said meeting.

11
12 **Section 8.04. Rules of Order**

13
14 In order to accomplish the work of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the
15 Assemblies of God and to avoid confusion in its deliberations (careful and thorough
16 consideration), the meeting sessions shall be governed by the accepted rules of
17 parliamentary procedure in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship under
18 the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The parliamentary authority shall be as set forth in the
19 current edition of “Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised”, and it shall apply when it is
20 inconsistent with the Bylaws, and any special rules or order that the National Deaf
21 Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God meeting may adopt in the future.

22
23 **Section 8.05. Order of Business**

24
25 The order of business for the biennial session of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of
26 the Assemblies of God meeting shall be:

- 27
28 1. Devotional
29 2. Report of:
30 a. the President
31 b. the Vice President
32 c. the Secretary
33 d. the Treasurer
34 e. Committees
35 f. Departments
36 3. Unfinished Business
37 4. Election of Officers
38 5. New Business
39 6. Adjournment
40

41 **Section 8.06. Quorum.**

42
43 All accredited credential ministers and church delegates of the National Deaf Culture
44 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God who are present and registered at a duly called
45 meeting shall constitute a quorum.
46

1 **Section 8.07. Special Sessions.**

2
3 Special sessions may be called to meet any emergency that may arise within the
4 National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God. Proper notice shall be
5 issued by the Executive Secretary of the Fellowship, after the emergency has been fully
6 considered and passed upon by a majority (51%) vote of the National Deaf Culture
7 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God Executive Committee.

8
9 **Section 8.08. Right of Initiative.**

10
11 The right of initiative in the matter of calling a special session shall be granted to
12 any ordained minister of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God.
13 A statement setting forth the reasons for the special session and signed by not less than
14 twenty percent (20%) of the ordained ministers of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship
15 of the Assemblies of God may be considered sufficient reason for such a call. The said
16 statement is to be filed with the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of
17 God Executive Committee, who shall issue the call, setting the time and place for the
18 meeting.

19
20 **Section 8.09. Regional.**

21 The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God Regional
22 Meeting are encouraged to meet annually, time and place to be announced by the
23 National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God. Executive Committee.
24 Announcement shall be published not later than three (3) months prior to the time
25 of meeting.

26
27 **ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS**

28
29 **Section 9.01 Administrative Officers.**

30
31 The officers of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God
32 shall consist of a President, Vice President, and Secretary. The officers shall be
33 chosen from the membership and shall be Ordained Ministers with The General
34 Council of the Assemblies of God, in good standing, of spiritual maturity and
35 ministerial experience who shall be knowledgeable of the workings of the General
36 Council of the Assemblies of God. The Intercultural Ministries director or one acting
37 on his behalf shall serve in an advisory capacity. All officers must be approved by
38 the General Council Executive Presbytery. If no ordained ministers are available
39 from within the fellowship, they can form a fellowship, but they will not have
40 representation on the General Presbytery Board.

41
42 a. Qualifications. The members of the administrative officers of the National
43 Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall be elected at one of its
44 National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God meetings according to the
45 manner of election as provided.
46

1 They shall:

- 2 1. Be persons of mature experience and ability whose lives and
3 ministry are above question.
- 4 2. Have been ordained ministers for at least two (2) consecutive
5 years in our Assemblies of God Fellowship
- 6 3. Have been members of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of
7 the Assemblies of God for at least two (2) consecutive years prior to
8 their election, and
- 9 4. Fully cooperate with its policies.

10
11 b. Nominations. Candidates for the office of president, and vice president, shall
12 be nominated by secret ballot. The nominating ballots shall not be counted unless there
13 are sufficient votes for an election. An incumbent secretary's name shall be presented for
14 a 'yes' or 'no' vote. Should he/she fail to be re-elected or declare himself/herself as not
15 standing for election, the Executive Committee, acting as a nominating committee, shall
16 present two (2) or more names to the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies
17 of God meeting for a vote.

18
19 c. Terms of Office. The terms of office for the president, the vice president,
20 and the secretary shall be for a period of four (4) years. The President and Secretary will
21 be elected at one meeting and the Vice President will be elected at the meeting two years
22 later. The term of office for the treasurer shall be nominated by the Executive Committee
23 from one of the three administrative officers, and presented for a 'yes' or 'no' vote. When
24 other than the incumbent is elected to office, he/she shall take office sixty days (60) after
25 the date of election.

26
27 d. Manner of Election. Voting shall be by secret ballot and shall require a two-
28 thirds (2/3) vote to constitute an election.

29
30 **Section 9.02. Native Administrative Officers.**

31
32 a. President.

33
34 1. He/She shall preside at all meetings of the National Deaf Culture
35 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God meetings, the Executive Committee, and
36 administrative officers, and in all legal matters.

37
38 2. He/She shall be the head of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the
39 Assemblies of God office and supervise the work of that office during the interim
40 between sessions of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of
41 God meetings. He/She shall receive all communications addressed to the
42 Executive Committee. He/She shall be an ex officio member of all committees.

43
44 3. He/She shall act in an advisory capacity over all the work of the
45 National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God, assist assemblies

1 with personal advice, and ministry as the needs may require when requested to do
2 so by the Executive Committee.

3
4 4. He/She shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents, and
5 to perform such other functions as are customary or may be directed by the
6 Executive Committee or National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of
7 God meetings. Assignments of area of responsibility shall be looked upon as
8 portfolios.

9
10 5. He shall be the General Presbyter of the Fellowship.

11
12 b. Vice President.

13
14 1. He/She shall assist the president.

15
16 2. He/She shall preside at meetings in the absence of the president.

17
18 3. He/She shall accede to the office of the president in the event that office
19 becomes vacant. His/Her term of office shall continue until the next annual
20 session of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God
21 meeting, or until a special session can be called, should the Executive Committee
22 deem such advisable.

23
24 4. He/She shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee, and shall
25 act as vice president of the corporation. He/She shall be an ex officio of all
26 committees.

27
28 5. He/She shall perform such other functions as may be directed by the
29 Executive Committee or the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies
30 of God meeting. Assignments of areas of responsibilities shall be looked upon as
31 portfolios.

32
33 6. He/She shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents and
34 to perform such other functions as are customary or may be directed by the
35 Executive Committee or the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies
36 of God meeting.

37
38 c. Secretary

39
40 1. He/She shall make and keep true records of the proceedings of the
41 National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God, and shall publish the
42 same as approved and directed by the administrative officers.

43
44 2. He/She shall be the custodian of the official seal of the National Deaf
45 Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God; and keep a record of all ordained
46 ministers, licensed ministers, certified ministers, and assemblies in the National
47 Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God.

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3. He/She shall serve as a member and act as executive secretary of the meetings of the Executive Committee, and the administrative officers. He/She shall be an ex officio member of all committees.

4. He/She shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents and to place the seal of the corporation on any such documents requiring same and to perform such other functions as are customary or may be directed by the Executive Committee or National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God meeting. Assignments of areas of responsibility shall be looked upon as portfolios.

d. Treasurer

1. He/She shall be the custodian of all the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God funds, and shall deposit the same in a respectable bank in the name of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God.

2. He/She shall keep accurate records of all receipts and disbursements, and shall conduct the work of the office according to accepted methods of business.

3. He/She shall give a report from time to time as may be requested by the Executive Committee or the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God meeting.

4. He/She shall perform such other functions as are customary to his/her office, or as may be directed by the Executive Committee or the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God meeting.

5. The treasurer's books shall be audited annually by qualified auditors.

Section 9.03. Vacancies.

a. President. When a vacancy in the Presidency shall occur, the Vice President shall act as President until a new one shall be chosen as President as described in Section 9.01.

b. Administrative Officers except president In the event of a vacancy in any office of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship administrative officers except the office of president, the officer shall be appointed by the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God Executive Committee to fill the unexpired terms of each office.

Section 9.04. Administrative Committee.

The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God Administrative Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President-Treasurer, and Secretary.

1
2 **Section 9.05. Regional Officers.**
3

4 a. **Qualifications.** The regional officers of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the
5 Assemblies of God shall be elected at one of its National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the
6 Assemblies of God meetings according to the manner of election as provided.

7 They shall:

- 8 1. Be persons of mature experience and ability, whose lives and
9 ministry are above question.
- 10 2. Have held credentials and ministered as ordained ministers for at
11 least two (2) consecutive years in our Assemblies of God Fellowship.
- 12 3. Have been members of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of
13 the Assemblies of God for at least two (2) consecutive years prior to
14 their election.
- 15 4. Have been members of the region for at least one (1) year prior to
16 their election, and
- 17 5. Fully cooperate with its policies.

18
19 b. **Manner of Election.** Voting shall be by secret ballot and shall require a two-
20 thirds vote to constitute an election. The term of office is for two (2) years.

21
22 c. **Boundaries.** The boundaries of the fellowship regions shall be set or changed
23 by the Executive Committee as the need may arise.

24
25 d. **Relation to the Region.**

- 26
27 1. He/She shall counsel with the pastors of all assemblies in his/her
28 region as he/she has opportunity to contact them, fostering the spirit of
29 close relationship between the individual assemblies and the National
30 Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God and shall serve as
31 liaison to the geographical and language districts in his/her region area.
- 32 2. He/She shall perform such other functions as may be directed by
33 the Executive Committee or the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the
34 Assemblies of God meeting. Assignments of areas of responsibility
35 shall be looked upon as portfolios. There shall be a regional officer
36 elected biennially from each of the regions of the National Deaf Culture
37 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God. These regional officers with the
38 administrative officers shall constitute the National Deaf Culture
39 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God Executive Committee. They shall
40 constitute the Board of Trustees who shall be responsible for the
41 administration of all property of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of
42 the Assemblies of God, both real and personal.

43
44 **Section 9.06. Alternative Regional Officers.**
45

1 There shall be an alternate regional officer elected biennially from each of the regions of
2 the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God to replace the regional
3 officers in the event of a vacancy in the office.

4
5 **Section 9.07. General Presbytery Representation.**

6
7 National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God, an ethnic fellowship, shall
8 have the privilege of representation on the General Presbytery by at least one or more of
9 its qualified members in accordance with the provision of the General Council
10 Constitution, Article IX, Section 3,f, and General Council Bylaw Article II, Section 2, f.,
11 (5).

12
13 a. Ethnic fellowship representative The number of General Presbytery
14 representatives is determined by the number of fellowship member churches.
15 Fellowships with 150 or more churches shall be represented by three qualified members;
16 a fellowship with 100 to 149 churches shall be represented by two qualified members;
17 and a fellowship with 99 churches or less shall be represented by one qualified member.
18 The first General Council representative is the President of the Fellowship. If there is
19 more than one representative, the second General Council representative must be a
20 pastor.

21
22 b. Qualifications. The ethnic fellowship general presbytery representative
23 shall be an Ordained Minister with The General Council Assemblies of God in good
24 standing, and shall be elected to a four year term.

25
26 They shall:

- 27 1. Be persons of mature experience and ability, whose lives and
28 ministry are above question,
- 29 2. Have held credentials and ministered as Ordained ministers for at
30 least two (2) consecutive years in our Assemblies of God Fellowship,
- 31 3. Have been members of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of
32 the Assemblies of God for at least two (2) consecutive years prior to
33 their election,
- 34 4. Fully cooperate with its policies.

35
36 c. Election. The additional ethnic fellowship general presbyter(s), other than
37 the president, shall be elected biennially by a secret ballot. The term of office is for four
38 (4) years and they will assume office immediately upon election.

39
40 d. Vacancies. If an ethnic fellowship removes from office a general presbyter
41 who is serving as an executive presbyter, and that removal is in accordance with the
42 ethnic fellowship's bylaws, then the Executive Presbytery shall determine that the seat is
43 vacant with the vacancy to be filled by election of the General Presbytery (with
44 consultation from the Assemblies of God U.S. Missions).

45
46 **Section 9.08. Ethnic Fellowship Nonresident Executive Presbytery Representation.**

1 All elected ethnic fellowship general presbyters of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship
2 of the Assemblies of God shall be submitted as nominees for the office of ethnic
3 fellowship nonresident executive presbyter.

4 5 **ARTICLE X. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

6 7 **Section 10.01. Number of Executive Committee.**

8
9 The Executive Committee shall consist of the administrative officers of the National Deaf
10 Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God, and four (4) regional officers duly elected
11 by the members. The Executive Committee shall consist of seven (7) members. The
12 members of the Executive Committee shall serve until the election and qualification of
13 their successors.

14 15 **Section 10.02. Duties.**

16
17 The duties of the Executive Committee shall be:

- 18
19 a. To transact necessary business in the intervals between meetings of the
20 National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God meeting and
21 such other business as may be referred to it by the National Deaf Culture
22 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God.
23 b. To create standing committees.
24 c. To select the chairpersons of the standing committees.
25 d. To approve the plans of work of the standing committees.
26 e. To present a report at the regular meetings of the National Deaf Culture
27 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God.
28 f. To appoint an auditor or an auditing committee at least two weeks before
29 the annual meeting to audit the Treasurer's accounts.
30 g. To prepare and submit to the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the
31 Assemblies of God for approval a budget for the fiscal year.
32 h. To approve routine bills within the limits of the budget.

33 34 35 **Section 10.03. Regular Meetings.**

36
37 Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held monthly, the
38 time to be fixed by the Committee at its first meeting of the year. A majority of the
39 Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum. Special meetings of the Executive
40 Committee may be called by the President or by a majority of the members of the
41 Executive Committee.

42 43 **Section 10.04. Meetings by Electronic Communication.**

44
45 Members of the Executive Committee may participate in a meeting through use of an
46 electronic conference communications equipment for all matters, except personnel, so

1 long as all directors participating in such meeting can communicate with one another.
2 Participating in such a meeting pursuant to this Section constitutes presence in person at
3 such meeting.

4
5 **Section 10.05. Removal From Office.**

6
7 The Executive Committee may remove from office any Committee member, with or
8 without cause, at any time by a majority vote of the Executive Committee present at a
9 meeting.

10
11 **ARTICLE XI. NATIONAL MINISTRIES OF THE NATIONAL DEAF**
12 **CULTURE FELLOWSHIP OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**

13
14 The Executive Committee of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the
15 Assemblies of God shall establish such national ministries, including commissions,
16 divisions, and departments as may from time-to-time be needed to carry out the threefold
17 mission of the Church.

18 The organization and establishment of these ministries shall be provided for in the
19 *National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God Organizational Manual*.
20 (See article XII, the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God)

21
22 **ARTICLE XII THE NATIONAL DEAF CULTURE FELLOWSHIP OF THE**
23 **ASSEMBLIES OF GOD ORGANIZATIONAL MANUAL**

24
25 The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall develop
26 and maintain a set of documents referred to as *The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of*
27 *the Assemblies of God Organizational Manual*. This document shall set forth in detail
28 the organization of commissions, divisions, departments, and ministries of the National
29 Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God as from time to time may be
30 established to carry out the threefold mission of the church. *The National Deaf Culture*
31 *Fellowship of the Assemblies of God Organizational Manual* shall be administered by
32 the Administration Committee as approved by the Executive Committee. *The National*
33 *Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God Organizational Manual* shall be
34 available to all National Deaf Culture Fellowship affiliated churches and credential
35 holders.

36
37 **ARTICLE XIII. INSTITUTIONS**

38
39 **Section 13.01. Paul Carlstrom Deaf Studies Department.**

40
41 a. Finances.

42
43 1. National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God. The
44 Executive Committee shall designate a gift from its general fund each year to Paul
45 Carlstrom Deaf Studies Department of North Central University and Assemblies
46 of God US Missions.

1
2 **Section 14.05. Credential holder Fees.**
3

4 As a standard of participation in the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies
5 of God financial program, it is requiring that all credential holders contribute to the
6 National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God a minimal amount or more
7 monthly equal to the 50% of current rate required for Ordained ministers to pay to the
8 General Council of the Assemblies of God in monthly dues. Therefore it is requiring that
9 all credential holders belonging to the fellowship contribute a minimal amount of \$10 per
10 month or more to the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God, or a
11 minimal \$120.00 or more per calendar year. The effective date of the membership fee of
12 the credential holders above is good for January 1, 2008 until December 31, 2010.
13

14 **Section 14.06. Auditing and Reports.**
15

16 a. The financial records of every department, region or committee, or of
17 any individual who handles the funds of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the
18 Assemblies of God or of any division, region, or committee of the National Deaf Culture
19 Fellowship, shall be audited annually under the direction of the President, who shall
20 appoint a committee, or committees, to do this work, or at his/her discretion. He/She
21 shall employ professional accountants.
22

23 b. The treasurer of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of
24 God, and of every department, region or committee of the National Deaf Culture
25 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God, shall submit an annual report to the Executive
26 Committee immediately following the closing of the calendar year and in sufficient time
27 to allow preparation of such reports for the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the
28 Assemblies of God meeting. Such reports shall include, as a minimum requirement, the
29 cash receipts, and disbursements for the year, together with a listing of all unpaid
30 liabilities as the end of the fiscal year.
31

32 c. All bookkeeping and handling of funds throughout the various divisions,
33 regions, and committees of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of
34 God shall be according to accepted business practice. The President of the National Deaf
35 Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall exercise supervisory authority in the
36 interpretation of the term “accepted business practice”, in keeping with the
37 recommendations of the Finance Committee.
38

39 d. The Executive Committee shall have the right to request a report of the
40 financial affairs of any department region, or committee of the National Deaf Culture
41 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God at any time it may deem advisable and shall, either
42 directly or through its representative, have access to all books and records at all times.
43

44 **Section 14.07. Power to Obligate.**
45

1 No department, region, committee, or person of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of
2 the Assemblies of God shall be empowered to financially obligate the National Deaf
3 Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God in any amount whatsoever, directly or
4 indirectly, except as specifically provided in the bylaws, by the National Deaf Culture
5 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God meeting or by the Executive Committee

6
7 **Section 14.08. Finance Committee.**
8

9 a. The Finance Committee shall be a standing committee consisting of six (6)
10 members, three (3) of whom shall be church people and three (3) who shall be ordained
11 ministers. The Executive Committee shall make all appointments to the committee. All
12 terms of office shall be for a three (3) year period beginning on February 1 of the year of
13 appointment and ending on January 31 of the year of expiration. To institute this policy,
14 the initial appointment shall be as follows: one (1) church person and one (1) ordained
15 minister shall be appointed for a one (1) year term, and one (1) church person and one (1)
16 ordained minister shall be appointed for a two (2) year term, one (1) church person and
17 one (1) ordained minister shall be appointed for a three (3) year term with one (1) church
18 person and one (1) ordained minister being replaced each year.

19
20 b. The Finance Committee will be formed when the general fund exceeds
21 \$50,000 in revenue.
22

23 c. The Finance Committee shall formulate a financial policy and shall
24 recommend to the Executive Committee such changes or additions as in their judgment
25 constitute better business practices.
26

27 d. This committee shall install an accounting system of business practice for the
28 use of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God Administrative
29 Officers. Financial reports shall be given quarterly or as often as occasion may require.
30

31 e. Each department shall submit a proposed budget for the next calendar year to
32 the Finance Committee for consideration in its February meeting. A representative from
33 each department may be present at the February meeting to provide a rationale for and/or
34 clarify the proposed budget. Those who desire to attend should make such requests to the
35 chairperson of the Finance Committee prior to the meeting.
36

37 **ARTICLE XV DISSOLUTION CLAUSE**
38

39 In the event the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall cease
40 to function for the purposes herein set forth, then all property, real or personal, and all
41 assets remaining after satisfying debts and obligations, shall revert to and/or to the parent
42 body. The General Council of the Assemblies of God, a Missouri not-for-profit
43 corporation, with headquarters at Springfield, Missouri. The General Council of the
44 Assemblies of God shall have full authority to sell such property and to use the proceeds
45 derived therefore for extension of the work of Deaf Culture Ministry within the
46 Assemblies of God.

1
2 **ARTICLE XVI. AMENDMENTS**
3

4 Amendments to the constitution may be made at any regular or special meeting of the
5 National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God, provided the proposed
6 amendment has been submitted first to the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the
7 Assemblies of God Executive Committee for consideration, and mailed to each member
8 of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God at least two (2)
9 months prior to the time of the meeting. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members present
10 shall be necessary for adoption.
11

12 The General Council of the Assemblies of God AG US Missions department may revise
13 this Articles of Fellowship to bring it into line with their policies with the ratification of
14 the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God Executive Committee
15 and members at its next business meeting.
16

17 **ARTICLE XVII. INDEMNIFICATION**
18

19 The National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall
20 indemnify persons to the extent required by the Minnesota Nonprofit Corporation Act, as
21 amended from time to time, and shall have the power otherwise to indemnify persons for
22 such expenses and liabilities, in such manner, under such circumstances, and to such
23 extent as permitted by applicable law. Without limiting the foregoing, pursuant to and
24 otherwise in accordance with Minn. Stat. 317A.521, the National Deaf Culture
25 Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall indemnify a person made or threatened to be
26 made a party to a proceeding by reason of the former or present official capacity of the
27 person against judgments, penalties, fines, including, without limitation, excise tax assess
28 against the person with respect to an employee benefit plan, settlements, and reasonable
29 expenses, including attorneys fees and disbursements, incurred by the person in
30 connection with the proceeding, if, with respect to the acts or omissions of the person
31 complained of in the proceeding, the person has not been indemnified by any other
32 person or organization, has acted in good faith, has not received any improper personal
33 benefit did not have reasonable cause to believe the conduct was unlawful (in the case of
34 a criminal proceeding), and reasonably believed that the conduct was in the best interests
35 of the National Deaf Culture Fellowship of the Assemblies of God.
36
37
38
39

40 _____
41 President's Signature Date

42 _____
43 Vice President's Signature Date

44 _____
45 Secretary's Signature Date
46

