

***THE STEPS TO AFFILIATING WITH
THE MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION
&
THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION***

OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS:

There are several steps to the process of becoming an official member the Missouri Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention. Once you have returned the completed documents described below to:

Jerry Field
400 E. High Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

The MBC Church Planting Strategist in your area will contact you to set up an appointment. This will be a time for asking questions and clarifying what it means to be a church affiliated with MBC and SBC. Upon the Strategist's recommendation, the paperwork will be forwarded for final approval.

The process of approval will include contact from the Credentials Committee of the MBC and a request for an endorsement from the Director of Missions from the Baptist association in your area, if applicable. The time-table for completion of the process varies and depends on how quickly these things can be accomplished. A permanent number will be assigned that will track all of your church's contributions to the Cooperative Program and other designated offerings that you choose to send.

Ultimately, a packet of information with a letter from the Executive Director of the MBC will be sent to you. The letter contains the following statement: "*(the name of your church) will be formally inducted in the Missouri Baptist Convention at the MBC's next annual meeting. However, we consider you to be a gospel partner now and look forward to celebrating your formal membership at our next Convention.*" In short, once you receive the packet with a "welcome" letter from the Executive Director you are considered an affiliated church. The formal induction into the convention is recognition of all new churches that have affiliated since the last convention.

DOCUMENTS (found on the pages that follow):

The first document is titled, "*Missouri Baptist Convention AFFILIATION QUESTIONNAIRE.*" It asks three key questions and requires a signature at the bottom of the page. A copy of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Missouri Baptist Convention is attached so that you can read them and answer the first question.

The second document is titled, "*Resolution for Affiliation.*" Please fill out both front/back.

The third document is a sample remittance form that is used when you send in your Cooperative Program, Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong or Missouri Mission offerings. Upon approval of your request for affiliation, a permanent number will be assigned to identify your church's contributions so they will be properly accredited. Once the SBC number is assigned, you will receive a supply of forms with the number printed on it that you will use.

Once you have completed all the enclosed forms, please return to:

Jerry Field
Missouri Baptist Convention
400 E. High Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Missouri Baptist Convention AFFILIATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of Church _____

Address _____

Pastor's Name _____

Attached is a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Missouri Baptist Convention. These are the documents that define our beliefs, relationships, and practices. **Pay particular attention in the Constitution to “Article IV – Membership” as it speaks to the matters of “Single Alignment” in Section 1 and Section 4.**

1. *Do you agree to enter into and abide by this covenant relationship with the Missouri Baptist Convention? Understand that this includes the issue of “Single Alignment.”*

2. Will you agree to participate in our Acts 1:8 vision of Cooperative Missions by giving regularly to the Cooperative Program, Lottie Moon (International Missions), Annie Armstrong (North American Missions), and Missouri Missions (State Missions) Offerings?

3. How did your church come into existence? (How, why & when)

Missouri Baptist Convention
AFFILIATION QUESTIONNAIRE

**If you have answered “no” to any of these questions, please explain below or on the back.

Signature _____ Date _____

Position at church: ___ Pastor ___ Moderator ___ Clerk

CONSTITUTION OF THE MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Article I--Name

This body shall be called the "Missouri Baptist Convention" (hereafter Convention).

Article II--Statement of Purpose

Missouri Baptists—serving together to grow Great Commission churches for the glory of God.

Article III--Time and Place of Meeting

The Convention shall meet annually during October or November at such time and place as the Convention or, in case of emergency, the Executive Board may decide.

Article IV--Membership

This Convention shall consist of messengers named by affiliated churches under the following conditions:

Section 1. Any Southern Baptist church singly aligned with the Convention and desiring to cooperate with the Convention in her program of single alignment with the Southern Baptist Convention and any Baptist church meeting the qualifications stated in Section 2 shall be entitled to one messenger for every one hundred members or fraction thereof, provided that no church shall be entitled to have more than fifteen messengers.

Section 2. In accordance with the agreement in the year 1919, Missouri Baptists shall continue in fellowship with the multiple aligned churches who were affiliated with the Missouri Baptist Convention as of 1961.

Section 3. Should the seating of any messenger or messengers from any church applying for membership in the Convention be challenged, the matter shall be referred to the credentials committee. The committee shall report to the Convention at the next session after the challenge and, if the committee's ruling is appealed, the Convention shall make the final decision about the challenged messenger or messengers.

Section 4. Nothing in this article shall be construed to prohibit cooperation with the Convention by those Baptist churches with racial, ethnic, or cultural relations or other organizations, conventions, associations and affiliations so long as no part of those relations is contrary to this Convention's Constitution, Bylaws and Business and Financial Plan and do not violate accepted Southern Baptist faith, polity and practice.

Article V--Relationship Between the Convention and Churches and Associations

Section 1. The doctrinal guidelines for this Convention and its work shall be the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention on June 14, 2000, understanding that any Southern Baptist church affiliated with the Convention has the right to affirm any historic Baptist confession of faith.

Section 2. The relation between the Convention and the churches and associations shall be fraternal and cooperative. The Convention shall never exercise any authority over the churches or do anything that would in any way interfere with their complete autonomy and independence as New Testament churches to limit the exercise of their freedom.

Section 3. The Convention shall always have the right to sit in judgment upon the qualification of its own members and may at any time decline to accept or continue cooperation with a church or to seat as a messenger any person who may be considered by the Convention disqualified on

personal grounds or by reason of the character or attitude of the church from which such messenger or messengers shall come.

Article VI--Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Convention shall be president, first vice-president, second vice-president and recording secretary. These officers shall be chosen at each annual meeting. Officers shall serve from the close of the annual meeting of the Convention at which they were elected until the close of the next annual meeting of the Convention except, however, that the recording secretary shall be responsible for the preparation of minutes of the annual meeting at which he functioned.

Section 2. The president of the Convention may be elected for only two consecutive terms of office and shall not be eligible for reelection until one year has elapsed from the time a successor assumes the office.

Section 3. Each officer shall be a member of a church affiliated with this Convention. No salaried employee (nor a spouse of such salaried employee) of the Executive Board or of an agency owned or controlled by this Convention or to which the Convention makes direct appropriations and no person receiving supplemental aid from the Convention (nor a spouse of such person) shall be eligible to be an officer.

Section 4. Candidates for offices of this Convention shall be nominated from the floor, and officers shall be elected by ballots, cast by registered messengers at the annual meeting, provided, however, that a majority of votes cast is required for election to any office and provided further, that the vote may be taken via voice if there is only one nominee for any office. If a runoff election is necessary, only the names of the two persons receiving the most votes on the first ballot shall appear on the second ballot.

Article VII--Duties of Officers

Section 1. Duties of the president shall include presiding over the meetings of the Convention, keeping order, taking the vote on all questions properly brought up, and performing all other duties usually performed by a presiding officer.

Section 2. In case of the inability of the president to serve, the order of succession shall be first vice-president, second vice-president, and recording secretary. The president may request the first or the second vice-president to preside at any session or part thereof of the annual meeting.

Section 3. Duties of the recording secretary shall include keeping correct minutes of all the proceedings of Convention meetings and preparing minutes for publication. Assisted by the Executive Board's administrative staff, the recording secretary shall arrange for such statistics and data necessary for faithfully and accurately reporting the Convention's work to be collected, digested, tabulated and printed in the Convention's Annual as supplements to the Convention's minutes or printed in the *Book of Reports* available to messengers at each annual meeting. The recording secretary may appoint such assistants necessary to perform duties of the office at Convention meetings.

Section 4. Convention officers shall serve as ex officio members of the Executive Board with all rights of members. The president shall serve as an ex officio member without vote of all Convention committees, provided however, that the president shall not serve on the Convention Nominating Committee.

Article VIII--Executive Board

Section 1. The corporate powers of the Convention shall be reposed in the Executive Board of the Convention. The Board shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri and shall be responsible for the faithful observance of all legal requirements. This Board shall have charge of the missionary, educational, and benevolent work of the Convention.

Section 2.

a. The Executive Board shall be composed of Convention officers as at large members and three members from each of eight areas of the state, as defined in the Bylaws, which has a resident membership of affiliated churches of at least 16,000. For each additional 10,000 resident members or major fraction thereof above the basic 16,000, one additional board member will be chosen, up to, but not to exceed, a total of nine Board members from each area. Each church in the area shall be invited to present names of prospective Board members to the area representatives of the Convention Nominating Committee no later than July 10, in the manner specified in the Bylaws.

b. Board members shall be elected to three-year terms, approximately one third of the members from each area being elected each year. All terms shall expire as scheduled. An area member may serve two successive three-year terms, but may be eligible for re-election after two years have transpired, provided, however, that one elected to a term expiring within one year may be eligible for two successive three-year terms. An area member who has not served two successive three-year terms may be eligible for re-election after one year has transpired. Only one person from an affiliated church may serve as an area member at a given time on the Board. An area member who moves out of the area, but within the State, may remain on the Board for the remainder of the current Convention year.

c. The Board shall declare vacant any position from which a member has been absent for two consecutive regular meetings of the full Board without an acceptable reason formally submitted to the Board chairman.

d. If a vacancy on the Board occurs between annual meetings of the Convention, the chairman of the Board shall promptly notify the chairman of the Convention Nominating Committee, and the Nominating Committee shall, within sixty days, from the list for that area offered by the last committee, fill the position until the next annual meeting of the Convention.

e. No salaried employee (nor a spouse of such salaried employee) of the Executive Board or of any agency owned or controlled by this Convention or to which the Convention makes direct appropriations shall be eligible for membership on the Board during the period of employment.

Section 3.

a. The Convention officers shall serve as officers of the Board without pay as follows: the president as chairman, the first vice president as first vice chairman, the second vice president as second vice chairman and the recording secretary as secretary. The Board shall adopt all regulations necessary for the conduct of its business; appoint such committees as it or the Convention may deem wise; and report annually to the Convention. The Board may from time to time report its work to Convention constituents in ways calculated to inform them.

b. The Board shall have full power and authority to act for the Convention between annual meetings of the Convention in any and all matters pertaining to the Conventions business; but the Board shall not have power to reverse any action of the Convention, to do anything contrary to this Convention's Constitution, Bylaws, and Business and Financial Plan, or to violate accepted Baptist faith, polity, and practice.

c. The Board shall present to the Convention in its annual meeting a Cooperative Program allocations budget for the succeeding calendar year, including both Convention and Southern Baptist Convention objects, for the Convention's consideration and adoption. All undesignated contributions to this Convention shall be faithfully distributed among the objects included in the budget upon the basis of the percentage or amount fixed for each object, and distribution shall be made in accordance with the Convention's Business and Financial Plan.

d. The Board shall elect and determine the compensation of an executive director, who shall have general supervision of all work directed by the Board. The Board shall employ and determine the compensation of other persons necessary for directing the Board's work.

e. The Board shall, consistent with Article IX, have general oversight over all educational and benevolent agencies owned, operated, or maintained in whole or in part by the Convention. It shall keep itself fully informed as to the conditions and the needs of all agencies, approve arrangements for all campaigns for funds, and conduct a continual campaign for enlightenment as to the claims and the needs of these agencies.

f. The treasurer of the Board shall be the executive director, who shall receive, maintain custody over, and disburse all funds as directed by the Convention or the Board. The treasurer shall maintain proper financial records, which shall be properly audited. The Board shall provide for bonding the treasurer adequately to protect the Convention's and the Board's interests.

Article IX--Agencies

Section 1. This Convention shall own, operate, or in covenant relationship contribute to such educational, benevolent, or other agencies approved by the Convention.

Section 2. All charters and charter changes shall be approved by the Convention upon recommendation by the Executive Board.

Section 3. The Convention shall elect or approve members of the governing board of each agency. Each board shall have full authority over the internal operation of the agency but shall be required to make a report of its operation and financial condition to the annual meeting of the Convention in accordance with the Business and Financial Plan.

Section 4. Before an agency can borrow money for which the Convention is responsible, it shall secure formal approval in writing of the Executive Board.

Article X--Committees

Section 1. The Committee on Convention Committees consisting of eight persons--one from each area--shall be appointed by the president not fewer than ninety days prior to the annual meeting of the Convention. The names of committee members shall be published in the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention. This committee shall nominate all standing committees of the Convention, except the Nominating Committee, according to provisions of Convention Bylaws.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall consist of twenty-four members, serving terms of three years each, eight of whom shall be nominated by the president in consultation with other Convention officers and elected by the Convention at each annual meeting. Three members from each of the eight geographical areas shall make up the committee. One half of the committee shall be lay persons and one half ministers. This committee shall nominate persons to serve on the Executive Board, on the governing board of each agency, and on each commission. The area representatives on the Nominating Committee shall be responsible for inviting

nominations from the churches for the Executive Board. The committee shall be guided by such rules and procedures as the Convention may adopt from time to time. The Nominating Committee shall declare vacant any position from which a member has been absent for two consecutive meetings without an acceptable reason or any position occupied by a member who moves out of the geographical area from which elected. The Convention president shall appoint a person to fill such vacancies until the next annual meeting of the Convention, at which time the position shall be filled for the remainder of the term.

Section 3. The Tellers Committee, consisting of an adequate number of members to carry out the tasks, shall be appointed by the president not fewer than thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting of the Convention. This committee shall assist the presiding officer, as needed, with the taking of all votes by voice, hand and standing or ballot, collecting the ballots, tabulating the results, and announcing results to the presiding officer.

Section 4. The Convention shall have such other committees as authorized by the Bylaws.

Article XI--Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by two-thirds of the messengers voting, provided that the text of the proposed amendment shall have been presented to the previous annual meeting, and provided further, that Article V shall not be subject to any amendment that would violate the principle that it embodies. Any proposed amendment to this Constitution shall, upon introduction and being seconded, stand referred to the Committee on Continuing Review, as established in the Bylaws of the Convention, for examination and hearing on such amendment and a report and recommendation to the Convention at its next annual meeting.

BYLAWS OF THE MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION

I. Preparation for Annual Meeting

1. The time, the place (city), and the site of a particular annual meeting shall be set by the Convention four years in advance, on recommendation of the Executive Board after due consideration of available facilities and other factors.
2. In the event that unforeseen circumstances make it impossible or impractical to hold an annual meeting as scheduled, the Executive Board and the Convention officers, after consultation with the Committee on Local Arrangements, shall have power to determine its time and place, provided that an official notice of any change, signed by the Convention president, shall be mailed to each cooperating church at least thirty days prior to the first day of the rescheduled annual meeting. The notice shall be promptly and prominently carried in the Convention's paper.
3. The Committee on Order of Business and officers of the Convention, assisted by the Executive Board staff, shall be responsible for the program of the Convention's annual meeting.
4. The Convention staff, assisted by the Committee on Local Arrangements, shall be responsible for the physical arrangements for the Convention's annual meeting.
5. The Executive Board shall cause to be published in the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention at least thirty days prior to a regularly scheduled annual meeting the text of each of its recommendations, provided, however, that it may cause to be published in a Convention bulletin, not later than the day of the Executive Board's report, any recommendation necessitated by any emergency.
6. The Executive Board, assisted by its administrative personnel, shall make available to messengers at the time they register, at nominal cost, a copy of Book of Reports containing the annual report of each Convention board, commission, agency, standing or special committee, or area of responsibility required to have its report in printed form prior to the Convention's opening session.
7. Supervision of exhibits and displays incident to the annual meeting shall be the responsibility of the Executive Board, assisted by the executive director and staff.

II. Enrollment of Messengers

1. The Committee on Enrollment, assisted by the Executive Board staff, shall arrange for enrolling messengers before and during the annual meeting. Each messenger shall present approved credentials before being enrolled as a messenger. If a question about a messenger's credentials arises, it shall be referred to the Credentials Committee, appointed by the president, for study and report or recommendation to the Convention for action. All duly enrolled messengers shall constitute the Convention. Each messenger shall have all rights and privileges granted by the Convention Constitution, Bylaws, and parliamentary authority.

III. Conduct of Annual Meeting

1. Each session shall be opened with a devotional exercise and a prayer.
2. The Committee on Order of Business shall present at the first session an agenda for the annual meeting. The agenda shall provide ample time for the promotion of the Convention's objects. The agenda shall also provide time for miscellaneous business

introduced by messengers. The Committee on Order of Business shall set the time for special orders. A list of ministers deceased since the last annual meeting shall be prepared from the Annual Church Profile and printed in the Convention's Daily Bulletin, and a memorial prayer shall be scheduled during a convention session. The Committee on Order of Business shall also set aside a time for a memorial service to respectfully honor deceased Missouri Baptist ministers who have passed away the previous associational/church year as compiled from the Annual Church Profile. This service shall include reading the list of compiled names of such ministers.

3. The presidential address shall be scheduled for the first session and the annual sermon for the second session.
4. The names of persons appointed to the Committee on Convention Committees and the Tellers Committee shall be announced at the first session. At the second session the Committee on Convention Committees shall nominate persons to serve on the Committee on Convention Preacher. This committee shall make recommendations at a scheduled time during the annual meeting. On the final day the Committee on Convention Committees shall nominate persons to serve on committees that report at the next annual meeting: Committee on Continuing Review, Committee on Enrollment, Committee on Order of Business and Committee on Resolutions. Messengers shall have liberty to nominate persons after the Committee on Convention Committees nominations. The Committee on Convention Committees also nominates the Committee on Local Arrangements to serve for two years to prepare for the annual meeting two years hence. If there are no nominations from the floor, the Convention shall act on the Committee's nominees by motion; there shall be a ballot on any contested position.
5.
 - a. Any motion introduced as miscellaneous business shall be presented to the Convention in writing not later than the day before the final session. Each original motion presented as miscellaneous business shall be duplicated or visually projected as information to messengers before it can be debated.
 - b. Proposed resolutions should be sent to the Committee on Resolutions thirty (30) days before the annual meeting of the Convention in order to make possible more thorough consideration and to expedite the Committee's work. All proposed resolutions including those previously sent to the Committee on Resolutions, shall be submitted to the Convention Secretary by registered messengers not later than the adjourning of the evening session on the first day of the Convention. Titles of proposed resolutions shall be read into the Convention record during the first time for introduction of miscellaneous business on the second day of the Convention by an individual appointed by the President. Only registered messengers are eligible to submit resolutions. Resolutions should be typewritten, if practicable; titled; dated; containing the names and addresses of the messengers submitting the resolution; and the church from which persons are messengers. Each resolution shall be referred to the Committee on Resolutions for review and revision, and this committee shall make a report on each properly introduced resolution not later than the last day of the annual meeting.
 - c. The text of a constitutional amendment proposed for action at the following annual meeting may be presented at any miscellaneous business session.
 - d. The Committee on Continuing Review may publicize a proposed amendment to Convention Bylaws or the Business and Financial Plan at least thirty days prior to the

annual meeting and such amendment shall be printed in the Book of Reports or in the first day bulletin of the Convention, but any amendment to these Bylaws or the Business and Financial Plan proposed by a messenger shall be introduced as miscellaneous business not later than the day preceding the final day of the annual meeting.

6. The Convention shall elect Executive Board members not later than the day preceding the final day of the annual meeting in order to facilitate the organization of the new Board.
7. Election of officers shall be by ballot; provided, however, that, if there is only one nomination to a particular office, the Convention may designate the recording secretary or someone else to cast the Convention's unanimous ballot. There may be only one nominating speech, not to exceed three minutes, for each nominee. The president shall be elected not later than the first full day of the annual meeting, provided, however, that a runoff may be held the following day. The first vice-president, the second vice-president, and the recording secretary, shall be elected on the final day of the meeting. Officers shall serve from the end of one annual meeting through the next annual meeting.
8. No personal appeal for funds shall be made at any session. No collection shall be taken for any cause at any session except by a special order approved by an affirmative vote of two thirds of all messengers voting.
9. No material may be distributed on the floor of the Convention, except material that pertains to business to come before the Convention, and that is identified by the name of the messenger, or agency or Executive Board program personnel distributing said material, or such materials that have been approved by the Executive Board.
10. The quorum for conducting business during the annual meeting of the Convention shall be a minimum of twenty percent (20%) of those duly registered and seated messengers.

IV . Parliamentary Authority

1. The parliamentary authority of the Convention shall be Roberts Rules of Order (latest edition), but this authority shall not supersede any provision of the Convention Constitution, the Bylaws, and the Business and Financial Plan.

V. Follow-up of the Convention

1. Within thirty days following the annual meeting, the recording secretary responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting shall, by mail, notify each person whom the Convention elected to a board, a commission, or a committee; and he shall also mail to any board, agency, or commission a copy of any motion affecting it, adopted or referred by the Convention with or without instruction. The executive director shall provide such assistance as the recording secretary may request.

VI. Standing and Special Committees

1. The Convention shall elect standing committees as follows:
 - a. Reporting at the annual meeting at which elected: Committee on Convention Preacher, consisting of three members elected at the second session; it shall recommend the preacher of the annual sermon at the next annual meeting and an alternate.
 - b. Reporting at the annual meeting following election with one-year terms for members.

- (1) Committee on Enrollment, consisting of three members elected on the final day; it shall arrange for the enrolling of messengers before and during the annual meeting, assisted by the Executive Board staff.
- (2) Committee on Resolutions, consisting of five members elected on the final day; it shall draft and submit to the messengers such resolutions as it determines appropriate and shall also report, with or without recommendation, on all resolutions introduced by messengers and referred to it.
- c. Serving prior to and during the annual meeting two years following election:
 - Committee on Local Arrangements, consisting of eight members elected on the final day; it shall assist the staff in making all necessary local arrangements for conducting the annual meeting two years hence.
- d. Reporting at the annual meeting following election with three-year terms for members:
 - (1) Committee on Continuing Review, consisting of six members, two of whom shall be elected each year on the final day; it shall review Convention operations and shall recommend for Convention action such revisions of the Constitution, Bylaws, or Business and Financial Plan as it determines necessary. Any amendment to the Missouri Baptist Convention Constitution proposed during the annual sessions shall upon introduction and being seconded, stand referred to this committee for examination and hearing on such amendment and a report and recommendation to the Convention at its next annual meeting. Any proposed amendments to the Bylaws or Business and Financial Plan upon being seconded shall stand referred to this committee for report on the final day of the annual meeting.
 - (2) Committee on Order of Business, consisting of six members, two of whom are elected each year on the final day; and the officers of the Convention; it shall prepare the program for the annual meeting; present for adoption; at the first session an agenda for the annual meeting; and set time for special orders.
 - (3) Credentials Committee, consisting of six persons, at least two of whom shall be elected each year on the final day of the annual meeting.
 - A. The Credentials Committee shall be a standing committee. Initially, two members shall serve a term of one year, two shall serve a term of two years and two members shall serve a term of three years. Thereafter, members shall serve three year terms.
 - B. This committee shall review and make recommendation upon all questions which may arise regarding membership of churches or enrollment concerning the credentials of messengers.
 - C. The committee shall be guided by such rules and procedures as the convention may adopt from time to time.
 - D. Should the cooperation of any church in the convention be challenged or questioned the committee shall notify the church and seek the church's reply. Upon completing such investigation as the committee deems appropriate the committee shall issue its recommendation and promptly notify the challenged or questioned church. Such recommendation shall be presented to the messengers at the next business session of the annual meeting.
 - E. Should the enrollment of any messenger at the annual meeting of the convention be challenged or questioned the committee shall notify the messenger(s) and, if reasonable, notify their church and seek their respective

- replies. Upon completing such investigation as the committee deems appropriate the committee shall issue its recommendation and promptly notify the challenged or questioned messenger(s) and, if reasonable, their church. Such recommendation shall be presented to the messengers at the next business session of the annual meeting.
2. The Convention may create such special committees as it considers necessary, fix the number of members and the duration of each special committee's life, and define its assignments.
 3. Should a vacancy occur between annual meetings, the president, in consultation with the other Convention officers, shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy. If the vacancy is for a term extending beyond the next annual meeting, the appointment shall be temporary and the Committee on Convention Committees shall nominate a person to complete the term.

VII. Boards and Agencies of the Convention

1. The Convention unit with ad interim powers between annual meetings is the Executive Board, consisting of persons as provided in the Constitution.
2. The agencies and the commissions of the Convention are:
 - a. Education Agencies: Hannibal-LaGrange College, Hannibal; Missouri Baptist College, Creve Coeur in St. Louis County; and Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar.
 - b. Benevolent Agencies: The Baptist Home, Ironton; and Missouri Baptist Children's Home, Bridgeton in St. Louis County.
 - c. Commissions: Christian Life Commission and Missouri Baptist Historical Commission.
 - d. Other: Missouri Baptist Foundation, Jefferson City; Windermere Baptist Conference Center, Roach; and *Word&Way*, Jefferson City.
3.
 - a. Anyone serving on any of the boards of agencies listed above shall be eligible for nomination to a second term. An unexpired term shall be considered a whole term unless otherwise defined by the Constitution or a board's charter. After serving two consecutive terms on an agency's board, one shall be ineligible for reelection to the same board for twelve months unless the agency's charter permits more than two consecutive terms.
 - b. If a vacancy occurs on any Convention board, the board chairman shall advise the chairman of the Convention Nominating Committee. This committee may fill the vacancy unless prevented by the board charter. If the board charter provides for election by the Executive Board, then the Nominating Committee shall nominate a person for election by the Executive Board. The Convention shall fill the position in accordance with the Constitution if any unexpired term extends beyond the next annual meeting.
4. No one may serve simultaneously on two or more of the boards of agencies listed in Article VII, subparagraph 2, under the same classification, and membership on no agency board listed above, except the Missouri Baptist Foundation or *Word&Way* shall cause a person to be ineligible for simultaneous service on the Convention Executive Board. No person who serves on the board of an entity listed under Article VII, subparagraph 2 shall serve on the Inter-Agency Relations Committee of the Executive Board. Nothing contained herein shall prohibit the executive director or chairman of the Executive Board from serving on the Windermere Board of Trustees.
5. No person shall serve on the governing board of any Convention agency if he is an employee, full time or part time, of any agency listed in Article VII, subparagraph 2. When

a member of any governing board becomes such an employee, the member shall resign from the board and inform the chairman of the Convention Nominating Committee; and the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with established Convention procedure.

6. Each agency may adopt its own bylaws, provided that the bylaws are consistent with the Convention Constitution, Bylaws, and Business and Financial Plan and with all applicable federal and state laws. An agency shall deposit with the executive director of the Executive Board a copy of its bylaws or each amendment thereto, and all bylaws shall be open to any affiliated Missouri Baptist upon reasonable request.

VIII. Representation on Convention Committees, Boards, and Commissions

1. Each Convention committee, governing board of any agency, and commission shall include ministers and lay persons as members. Not more than two thirds of any group's members shall be from either category. The term minister is defined to mean ordained ministers or other church-related employees (pastors, directors of missions and ministerial staff members of churches and associations).
2. No person who has resigned from one agency's board before the expiration of the term to which elected shall be eligible for nomination or election to the same or any other board in the same classification until the term has expired.
3. For purposes of terms of service on Convention committees, boards, and commissions, a Convention year is defined as being from the close of one annual meeting to the close of the next annual meeting.

IX. Executive Board

In keeping with the Missouri Baptist Convention Constitution Article VIII on the Executive Board, the Board shall organize itself and conduct its work along the following lines.

1. Committee Structure

- a. The Executive Board shall organize itself into standing committees of approximately equal size including an Administrative Committee, Inter Agency Relations Committee, and other committees deemed necessary by the executive board.
- b. The Administrative Committee shall have as full members the chairmen of the other standing committees.
- c. There shall be two special committees of the Executive Board: an Audit Committee composed of four members and a Committee on Executive Board Committees composed of six members. The Executive Board officers shall select and appoint the six members of the Committee on Executive Board Committees in the same proportion of laymen and ministers as constitute the Executive Board and designate its chairman. The members of this committee shall not be eligible to be elected as chairman of any standing Board committee or Audit committee while holding said office.
- d. The chairman of the Executive Board and the executive director shall be members without vote of all standing committees.

2. Committee Duties

- a. The Executive Board shall incorporate into its bylaws a description of all of its committees and their responsibilities.

- b. The duties of the Committee on Executive Board Committees shall be to nominate members of the standing committees, the Audit Committee and other committees and work groups as requested by the Board.
- c. The duties of the Audit Committee shall be as follows:
 - (1) Recommend to the Board the employment of an auditor for the auditing of the books kept by the Board in keeping with the terms prescribed by the Business and Financial Plan.
 - (2) Receive the audit from the auditor.
 - (3) Report on the audit to the Administrative Committee and the Executive Board.

3. Staff Structure and Organization

- a. The Executive Board shall elect an executive director who shall also serve as treasurer for the Board. He shall be the chief executive officer of the Board and shall have the general oversight of all its staff and business activities. He shall be responsible and accountable at all times for carrying out the policies and the instructions of the Board.
- b. The Executive Board staff shall organize as specified in the Executive Board Bylaws.

4. Staff Administration

- a. Administration of Executive Board staff shall be specified in the Executive Board Bylaws.
- b. The Board shall provide job descriptions for all of its employees professional, clerical, and manual.
- c. The job description of the executive director shall be made part of the Executive Board Bylaws.

5. General Policies

- a. The Executive Board shall meet not fewer than four times each year, but as often as need requires.
- b. A majority shall constitute the quorum for the Executive Board and for each committee thereof.
- c. The Board president, the secretary and the administrative officer of each agency shall be provided with a copy of Executive Board minutes or minutes of any Board committee that may be informative to the particular agency.
- d. Except for executive sessions called by the chairman to handle sensitive matters, such as but not limited to purchase or sale of property or personnel matters, all meetings of the Board and its committees shall be open to all Missouri Baptists; and the editor or the reporter of the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention shall be free to attend open meetings and to report on proceedings. The Board or a committee may submit a report to Missouri Baptists through the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention, but such a report shall not prevent news reporting or editorial comment by personnel of the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention.

X. Adoption of Reports, Motions, Recommendations and Resolutions

- 1. The adoption by the Convention of a report of any agency shall not bind the Convention; but the adoption of any motion or recommendation, as amended, shall be regarded as an

expression of the Convention's will and therefore binding on any party or parties specified or implied therein until further action by the Convention. The adoption of any resolution shall be viewed as an expression of the Convention's sentiment and may serve as guidance, but not instruction, to Convention agencies and as information to churches, associations, and individual Missouri Baptists until such time as the Convention, in a subsequent annual meeting, adopts another resolution on the subject.

XI. Areas

1. The areas of the state mentioned in Articles VIII and X of the Constitution are as set forth on the map attached hereto and hereby constitute a part of these Bylaws. (Area map is located at the end of Missouri Baptist Convention Bylaws)

XII. Amending Bylaws

1. These bylaws may be amended by two thirds of the messengers voting at any annual meeting, provided that any amendment to these bylaws shall be made by motion no later than the end of the business session on the day preceding the final day of the annual meeting, and upon receiving a second shall stand referred to the Committee on Continuing Review for report on the final day of the annual meeting.



RESOLUTION FOR AFFILIATION

In a business meeting on _____, 200_____,

_____ (Church or Mission Name)

voted to affiliate with the Missouri Baptist Convention in its program of single alignment with the Southern Baptist Convention.

Check one: Church Mission

If mission, sponsoring organization: _____

Number of members on date of the vote to affiliate: _____

Date of first service: _____, 200_____.

What association will you be affiliated with, if any: _____

Mailing address for the applying church/mission: _____
(person receiving mail)

(Street or PO Box) (City) (Zip)

Present Meeting Address: _____
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Church Number: (____) _____

Congregation ethnicity:

White Non-Hispanic

Black (African American)

Hispanic

Native American

Korean

Chinese

Other: _____

Pastor Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____
(PO Box or Street) (City) (Zip)

Home Number: (____) _____ Work Number: (____) _____

Church Secretary Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____
(PO Box or Street) (City) (Zip)

Home Number: (____) _____ Work Number: (____) _____

Church Treasurer Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____
(PO Box or Street) (City) (Zip)

Home Number: (____) _____ Work Number: (____) _____

Church Clerk Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____
(PO Box or Street) (City) (Zip)

Home Number: (____) _____ Work Number: (____) _____

I hereby state that the above information is accurate.

Signed:

CHURCH CLERK

MODERATOR OR PASTOR

SAMPLE REMITTANCE

Missouri Baptist Convention – Remittance Form

XXXXXX Church Number
 XXX Association Number

Date: _____

Cooperative Program	[*] 10	\$ <u>500.00</u>	Other: <u>Iraq Partnership</u>	\$ <u>25.00</u>
Missouri Missions Offering	20	\$ <u>100.00</u>	Other: <u>Romania Partnership</u>	\$ <u>25.00</u>
Annie Armstrong Easter Off	30	\$ _____	Other: <u>North American Missions</u>	\$ <u>20.00</u>
Lottie Moon Christmas Off	34	\$ _____	Other: <u>Agency Restoration Fund</u>	\$ <u>50.00**</u>
World Hunger	36	\$ <u>50.00</u>	Other: <u>Any other not listed at left</u>	\$ _____
Birthday Offering	41	\$ _____	Other: _____	\$ _____
Anniversary Offering	43	\$ _____		
Madge Truex	70	\$ _____		
			GRAND TOTAL \$	<u>770.00</u>

Church Name
 Treasurer
 Address
 City, MO Zip +

* Fund numbers for MBC use only.

**If your church votes to designate funds for agency restoration, please indicate specific dollar amount, not percentage.