

# Constitution

## Officers' Christian Fellowship of the United States of America

### For North Carolina State University's NROTC, AFROTC, and AROTC units

#### Article I

##### Name

The name of this organization shall be "Officers' Christian Fellowship of the United States of America," further referred to herein as "OCF" or the "Fellowship."

#### Article II

##### Purpose

OCF's purpose is to glorify God by uniting Christian officers for biblical fellowship and outreach, equipping and encouraging them to minister effectively in the military society.

#### Article III

##### Statement of Doctrine

The following is the Doctrinal Statement of OCF. All Council Members, Field Staff, and Support Staff who are designated by the Executive Director, must subscribe to this statement without reservations:

1. We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2. We believe that the Old and New Testaments as originally written are the verbally inspired Word of God.
3. We believe that man was created in the image of God, but that he sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death which is eternal separation from God; and that each human being is born with a sinful nature and cannot by his own efforts please God.
4. We believe that Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit, was born of the Virgin Mary, and is true God and true man.
5. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins as our vicarious sacrifice in accordance with the Scripture, and that all who believe in Him are cleansed of their sins by His shed blood and are justified before God.
6. We believe that all who by faith receive the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and so become the children of God, to live with Him through all eternity.
7. We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into heaven, and in His present life there as our High Priest and Advocate.
8. We believe in the personal, visible and glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ to this earth.

#### Article IV

##### Spiritual Pillars

The pillars of OCF, as well as its purpose and vision, rest upon the foundation Jesus Christ has laid and upon His person, leadership and Lordship.

1. **Lay-Led.** We are a lay-led movement of Christian officers within the U.S. Armed Forces.
2. **Centering on Scripture.** We believe the Bible is God's Word written and stress the importance of studying and applying its teachings both individually and corporately.

3. **Engaging in Prayer.** We recognize our dependence on the Holy Spirit and are committed to prayer.
4. **Uniting for Fellowship.** We consider authentic biblical fellowship essential for individual growth and the advancement of God's Kingdom within the military.
5. **Equipping to Serve.** We are committed to the spiritual development of each person by helping him or her find expression in godly service and outreach to the military.
6. **Integrating Faith and Profession.** We call Christian officers to integrate biblical standards of excellence into their professional responsibilities.
7. **Nurturing the Family.** We are committed to encouraging, supporting, and assisting military families as they implement the biblical principles of marriage and parenthood.
8. **Supporting the Chaplaincy.** We seek to support and encourage chaplains.

#### **Article V Membership**

1. Membership in OCF shall be of three classes: Regular, Associate and Honorary.
2. All applicants for Regular and Associate Membership shall subscribe to the following statements of faith and participation without reservation.

#### **Statement of Faith**

Inasmuch as I am a sinner and deserve the wrath of God, and since Jesus Christ died for my sins, was buried and has been bodily resurrected, according to the Scriptures, I have accepted Him as my own personal Lord and Savior and am saved by His grace alone.

#### **Statement of Participation**

I am committed to the purpose of OCF: To glorify God by uniting Christian officers for biblical fellowship and outreach, equipping and encouraging them to minister effectively in the military.

As an expression of my commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ and to His work in the military society, I will, by God's grace, participate actively and prayerfully in the ministry of OCF with my time, talents, spiritual gifts, and financial resources.

3. The Regular Membership of OCF shall consist of present and former officers or warrant officers of the Armed Forces of the United States, and anyone training for such commissions, who subscribe to the Statements of Faith and Participation in paragraph 2 of this Article.
4. The Associate Membership shall include those not eligible for Regular Membership, but interested in the purposes of OCF and who have similarly subscribed to the statement of faith and participation in paragraph 2 of this article.
5. The Honorary Membership shall consist of those persons whose faith and belief are known to be in accord with the Statement of Doctrine in Article III, and who have been elected to such membership by the Council.

6. Regular, Associate, and Honorary Membership in the Fellowship shall continue unless terminated by the following provisions.

- a. Written resignation by the member.
- b. Failure of the member to confirm interest in continuing membership status when officially requested in writing to do so within ninety days.
- c. If after three attempts to deliver mail and no contact is established with the member, the staff has the authority to remove the member from the OCF database.

## **Article VI Council**

### 1. Composition and Term of Office

- a. OCF shall be governed by a Council consisting of not less than six and not more than twenty-two Regular Members of OCF, including the Executive Director. No other staff member is eligible to serve on the Council.
- b. The term of Council Members shall be one year. Newly elected Council Members shall be announced at the last regularly scheduled meeting of the calendar year.

### 2. Council Responsibilities

a. The corporate role of the Council is to:

- (1) Determine the OCF's mission, purposes, and strategic direction.
- (2) Provide policy and ministry guidance.
- (3) Ensure financial integrity.
- (4) Monitor the effectiveness of OCF's programs, products, and services.
- (5) Enhance OCF's image inside and outside the military.
- (6) Assess its own performance.

b. The Council is authorized to make such Bylaws as are necessary for the orderly conduct of the Council and the affairs of the Fellowship.

c. The council may remove from office, by majority vote, a Council Member if no communication is received from the individual by members of the Council for a period of six weeks.

3. Election Process. The Regular Membership will annually elect no more than five of the seven possible positions. To be eligible for election, each nominee must be a Regular member and must receive a minimum of three Regular member recommendations. If the Membership has failed to nominate more than five persons, those nominated shall be considered elected without formal ballot, subject to Council approval. In addition to those elected, the Council each year may select, by majority vote, additional members up to the seven allowable positions with the purpose of encouraging Membership representation of service, rank, and gender.

### 4. Meetings and Business

- a. The Council shall meet semi-annually in scheduled meetings to review, approve and direct as necessary the business of OCF.
- b. Two-thirds of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.

c. The President, or in his or her absence the next available officer of OCF present, shall preside as Chariman of all meetings. If no elected officer is present, the Council Member senior in military rank shall preside.

d. In all cases not specified otherwise, questions before the Council shall be determined by majority vote. Each Member of the Council shall have one vote.

#### **Article VII Officers**

1. The officers of OCF shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The last two named officers may be combined in one individual if deemed appropriate by the Council.

2. The Council shall elect the officers of the Fellowship from the Membership of the Council.

3. Officers of OCF shall be elected by the Council for a one-year term.

4. Officers of OCF shall be elected at the last regularly scheduled meeting of the calendar year. Installation of the new Council Members and Officers shall become effective immediately.

#### **Article VIII Amendments**

1. Amendments to the constitution or by-laws shall be presented by members of the club in writing and read at a regular meeting but shall not be voted upon until the next regular meeting, and then only after informing each member of the proposed amendments. A majority of 2/3 of the members present and voting, as well as the simple majority of the Council, is needed to pass said amendment.