



At the Court at Buckingham Palace

THE 9th DAY OF OCTOBER 2013

PRESENT,

THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
IN COUNCIL

The following Report of a Committee of the Privy Council dated 25th September 2013 was today considered:—

“YOUR MAJESTY was pleased, by Your Order of 12th December 2012, to refer to this Committee a Petition on behalf of The Forensic Science Society, praying for the grant of a Charter of Incorporation:

“THE COMMITTEE have accordingly considered the Petition and have agreed to report it as their opinion that a Charter may be granted in terms of the annexed Draft.”

HER MAJESTY, having taken the Report and the Draft Charter accompanying it into consideration, was pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to approve them. It is accordingly ordered that the Right Honourable the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain should cause a Warrant to be prepared for Her Majesty's Royal Signature for passing under the Great Seal a Charter in conformity with the annexed Draft.

Richard Tilbrook

ELIZABETH THE SECOND

by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head
of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith:

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!

WHEREAS The Forensic Science Society ("the former Society") was formed in 1959 having as its object to advance the study, application and standing of forensic science and to facilitate co-operation among persons interested in forensic science throughout the world, and has by a Humble Petition prayed that We might be graciously pleased to grant to it a Charter of Incorporation:

NOW THEREFORE know ye that We having taken the Said Petition into Our Royal Consideration and being minded to accede thereto, have been pleased, by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal and of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, to grant and declare, and do hereby for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, grant and declare as follows:

1. The persons who are now Members of the former Society and all other persons as shall hereafter pursuant to this Our Charter become Members of the body corporate hereby constituted shall forever hereafter be one body corporate by the name of "The Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences" and by the same name shall continue to have perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to break, alter and make anew the said seal from time to time at their will and pleasure and, by the same name, shall and may sue and be sued in all Courts and in all manner of actions and proceedings and shall have power to do all other matters and things incidental or appertaining to a body corporate.

2. In this Our Charter:

- 2.1. 'the Bye-laws' means the Bye-laws of the Society made under this Our Charter as amended from time to time as herein provided in the Schedule;
- 2.2. Regulations means such regulations as are made under this Our Charter and are amended from time to time as herein provided;
- 2.3. 'the Constitution' means the body of fundamental principles according to which the Society is governed and being comprised in this Our Charter, the Bye-laws and the Regulations;
- 2.4. 'the Council' means the Council of Trustees of the Society from time to time established in accordance with the Constitution;
- 2.5. 'Member' means a member of the Society (and 'Membership' shall be construed accordingly);
- 2.6. 'the Society' means the Forensic Science Society as hereby incorporated;
- 2.7. 'Special Resolution' means a resolution passed at a Members' meeting by not less than two thirds of the Members present in person or by their delegate or proxy given in accordance with the Bye-laws and voting at the meeting;

- 2.8. words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa, words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender and words importing persons shall include both incorporated and unincorporated organisations;
- 2.9. references to any legislation shall be deemed to include any amending or subsequent legislation;
- 2.10. any definition used in any part of the Constitution shall have the same meaning in any other part thereof; and
- 2.11. in the event of any inconsistency between any of the provisions of the Constitution the prevailing provisions shall be; in the case of the Regulations, the Bye-laws; and in the case of the Regulations or Bye-laws, this Our Charter.
3. The objects of the Society are to advance the study, application and standing of forensic science and to facilitate co-operation among persons interested in forensic science throughout the world.
4. In furtherance of the objects but not otherwise the Council may exercise the following powers:
 - 4.1. power to raise funds and to invite and receive contributions provided that in raising funds the Council shall not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities and shall conform to any relevant requirements of the law;
 - 4.2. power to buy, take on, lease or exchange any property necessary for the achievement of the objects and to maintain and equip such property for use;
 - 4.3. power subject to any consents required by law to sell, lease or dispose of all or any part of the property of the Society;
 - 4.4. power subject to any consents required by law to borrow money and to charge all or any part of the property of the Society with repayment of the money so borrowed;
 - 4.5. power to employ such staff (who shall not be Members of the Council) as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the objects and to make all reasonable and necessary provisions for the payment of pensions and superannuation for staff and their dependants;
- 4.6. power to pay Members for their professional services;
- 4.7. power to co-operate with other charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities having similar or allied interests operating in furtherance of the objects of the Society and may establish branches in any part of the world on such terms as to the Council of the Society shall seem good. The Society may take steps to be represented at national and international conferences concerned with forensic science;
- 4.8. power to establish or support any charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for all or any of the objects;
- 4.9. power to appoint and constitute such advisory committees as the Council may think fit;
- 4.10. power to maintain a database of all Members and a Register of Professional Members and Fellows;
- 4.11. power to award Chartered Forensic Practitioner Status, denoted by the postnominal ChFP, to Members and Fellows in accordance with the regulations laid down by the Council of the Society;
- 4.12. to deposit funds in any lawful manner and to apply or invest all, or part of, its funds in the purchase of or at interest upon the security of all investments or property of whatsoever nature and wheresoever situated (including without prejudice to the generality of subclause 4.2 above the purchase or improvement of any freehold or leasehold house or other property in the United Kingdom or elsewhere including houses or other property intended to be used for the purposes of the Society) and whether income producing or not as the Council shall in their absolute discretion think fit, with the intention that the Council shall have the same powers in all respects as if they were absolutely and beneficially entitled to the fund;
- 4.13. to provide advice or information;
- 4.14. to carry out research;
- 4.15. to accept gifts;
- 4.16. to insure the property of the Society against all foreseeable risk and take out other insurance policies to protect the Society when required;

4.17. to apply for grant of Arms and to bear Arms;

4.18. power to make Bye-laws in the form of the Schedule hereto, or in such form as the Council may in its absolute discretion think fit, and to make and amend Regulations in furtherance of the Constitution;

4.19. power to do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the objects.

5. There shall be a Council of the Society which shall consist of such number of Trustees with such qualifications to be elected or constituted in such manner and to hold office for such period and on such terms as to re-appointment and otherwise as the Bye-laws shall from time to time prescribe. The business of the Society shall be managed by the Council subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Bye-laws. Power to operate the day to day business of the Society shall be conducted by the Council. In matters concerning interpretation of the Constitution the decision thereof shall rest with the Council. The Council shall decide all matters concerning the Society which are not covered explicitly by the Constitution.

6. The first members of the Council shall be the persons who are the Trustees of the former Society at the date of this Our Charter. There shall be a President and such other Officers of the Society which such functions, tenure and terms of office as the Bye-laws may prescribe.

7. The business of the Council and the Society shall be conducted subject to the provisions of the Constitution.

8. The membership of the Society shall be divided into such categories as the Bye-laws may from time to time prescribe. The Bye-laws may also make provision for the establishment or recognition of additional groups of individuals associated with the Society but who shall not by virtue of their membership of such groups be members of the Society. The qualification, method and terms of admission, privileges and obligations including liability to expulsion or suspension of members shall be such as the Bye-laws shall prescribe.

9. The property of the Society shall be applied solely towards the objects of the Society as hereinbefore defined.

10. Conflicts of interest:

10.1. subject to the provisions of sub-clause 10.2 of this clause no Member of the Council shall acquire any interest in property belonging to the Society (otherwise than as a trustee for the Society) or receive remuneration or be interested (otherwise than a Member of the Council) in any contract entered into by Council;

10.2. any Member of the Council for the time being who is a solicitor, accountant or other person engaged in a profession may charge and be paid all the usual professional charges for business done by him or her or her firm when instructed by the other Members of the Council to act in a professional capacity on behalf of the Society; provided that at no time shall a majority of the Members of the Council benefit under this provision and that a Member of the Council shall withdraw from any meeting at which his or her own instruction or remuneration, or that of his or her firm, is under discussion;

10.3. provision of trustees indemnity insurance – the Trustees shall have power to provide indemnity insurance for themselves out of the income of the Society. The insurance shall not extend to:

- (i) any claim arising from any act or omission which the Trustees know to be a breach of trust or breach of duty; or
- (ii) was committed by the Trustees in reckless disregard of whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and the costs of an unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the Trustees in their capacity as Trustees of the Society.

11. The affairs of the Society shall be managed and regulated in accordance with the Constitution, such Constitution to remain in force until revoked, amended or added to as follows:

11.1. the Society may revoke, amend or add to any of the provisions of this Our Charter by a resolution passed by a majority or not less than two-thirds of the Members voting at a meeting, whether in person or by proxy given in accordance with the Bye-laws, and any such revocation, amendment or addition shall, when approved by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council, become effectual so that this Our Charter shall thenceforward continue to operate as though it had been originally granted and made accordingly. The provision shall apply to this Our Charter as revoked, amended or added to in

