



In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful.

# CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF MASAJID

P. O. Box 4456, Hamden, CT 06514. Tel. 203-562-2757



Berlin Masjid  
1781 Berlin Hwy.  
Berlin, CT 06037

Masjid An - Noor  
1300 Fairfield Ave  
Bridgeport, CT 06606

Daar ul Ehsaan  
739 Terryville Ave  
Bristol, CT 06410

Islamic Soc. of WC,  
388 Main Street  
Danbury, CT 06810

Farmington Area  
U.Conn. Health Ctr.  
Farmington, CT

ICFC (Jamia Karam)  
57 Pepper St.  
Monroe, CT 06468

Masjid-AH-Islam  
624 George St.  
New Haven, CT 06511

Islamic Center of N. London  
23 Connecticut Ave.,  
New London, CT 06320

Norwalk Area  
4 Elton Court  
Norwalk, CT 06851

Norwalk Area  
7 Academy Street,  
Carver Hall,  
Norwalk, CT 06851

U. Bridgeport Masjid  
P.O.Box 1106  
Southport, CT 06606

Stamford Area  
77 Judy Ln.  
Stamford, CT 06906

Stamford Islamic Center  
10 Outlook Street.  
Stamford, CT 06902

United Muslim Masjid  
132 Prospect Ct.,  
Waterbury, CT 06722

West Haven Masjid  
2 Pruden St.  
West Haven, CT 06516

Madina Masjid  
1 Madina Drive  
Windsor, CT 06095

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لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

There is no god but Allah, Muhammad is messenger of Allah

## Connecticut Council of Masajid - Bylaws

- 1. NAME:** The name of this corporation shall be Connecticut Council of Masajid (CCM).
- 2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:** This corporation is organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes specified in section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).  
The corporation is nonprofit and shall not have or issue shares or stock. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in this document.  
No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation unless such legislation restricts Muslims from the practice of their religion, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.  
Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed shall be disposed of by the appropriate court exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

This corporation is further organized to:

- i. Establish and manage places of worship, *madaris* (religious schools), facilities for sacrifice, cemeteries, facilities for washing and shrouding dead bodies, and other facilities needed for the establishment of a Muslim community. Financially and otherwise assist Muslims who are in need and seek such help to otherwise be self-sufficient and independent regardless of their race, color, sex, nationality or national origin.
- ii. Facilitate and enhance the establishment of a sound family and community structure.
- iii. Provide economic support to counteract the deterioration of family-unit in the community by expanding their socioeconomic opportunities, by fostering housing rehabilitation, by increasing their ownership of productive capital and property, by improving health and safety and living conditions.
- iv. Provide jobs and job enhancement and education opportunities;
- v. Cater for their general welfare and intellectual development, including maintenance and establishment and management of places of worship and educational facilities and any other facilities needed by the communities.
- vi. Islamic relief work, raising funds on a constant basis and dispensing such funds to designated Islamic causes.
- vii. Develop priorities in terms of causes that need support. These causes may include building, finishing or expanding masjid in the area, establishment of *madaris*, scholarships for higher learning, beginners' courses in Islamic Religious Knowledge (IRK), sponsoring *huffaz* and scholars to come to Connecticut for short or long duration, financial, organizational, legal or social help to Muslim individuals or groups in or outside this country, *dawa* work and its coordination, and any other cause/s that may be approved by the Board of Trustees.
- viii. Respond to emergency situations in a deserving manner. Such situations may include legal matters involving Muslims, help of Muslim widows and divorcees, Muslim immigrants and refugees, Muslim students interactions with their surroundings, and job-related and financial needs of Muslims.
- ix. Formalize ties between Muslim institutions, facilitate the formal functional unification of area Islamic institutions, provide a forum where area community leaders would meet on a regular basis to deliberate on all issues concerning the Muslim community and take appropriate steps to address those issues, monitor all activities that concern Muslims in the area, keep Muslims better informed about such activities, coordinate all programs and activities to foster a greater sense of unity among the area Muslims and support the publication as a medium which represents the entire Muslim community.

### **3. POLICY:**

- i. The corporation shall not deal with any form of usury (interest) in any form, whatsoever.
- ii. It shall not engage in any activity that is Islamically prohibited or is otherwise unethical or illegal.
- iii. Members of the Board of Trustees, Management Board and various committees shall not be paid, except for actual expenses, for attending the meetings of the Board or any of the committees. They

may be paid for any other service, contractual, administrative or otherwise, that they provide to the Corporation. All such payment arrangements shall require prior approval of the Management Board and shall be reported to the Board of Trustees.

**4. MEMBERSHIP:** The membership in CCM shall be open to all Muslims and Muslim institutions and organizations in the State of Connecticut and adjacent areas, who agree with the aims and objectives and bylaws of this corporation. Affiliation with the CCM would not supersede nor nullify affiliation with any other Islamic organization or group. To safeguard the interests of the Muslim community the membership of this council shall be open only to declared Muslims who do not openly defy the laws of Qur'an and Sunnah of Prophet Muhammed (PBUH) established according to the Sunni Shariah laws. No one who is overtly or covertly a member or an affiliate of an anti-Islamic organization shall be eligible to be a member or officer in this organization. An anti-Islamic organization includes but is not restricted to any organization that preaches godlessness or secularism, or is established to teach or preach any religion other than Islam.

**5. ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION:** The organizational structure of CCM shall consist of a Board of Trustees, a Management Board and committees that may be set up by the Management Board.

**A. BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

i. Any member of CCM who is willing to serve, give his time and financial resources to the betterment of this Corporation and is duly elected by the Board of Trustees on the recommendation of the Management Board, may become a member of the Board of Trustees.

ii. The Board of Trustees shall elect the following officers:

- a. Chairman
- b. One to three Vice Presidents
- c. Secretary
- d. Joint Secretary
- e. Treasurer

iii. The officers of the Board of Trustees constitute the Management Board for CCM. The Management Board shall have powers to modify these bylaws. Any such modification shall be valid only if it is reported to the Members of the Board of Trustees within thirty days of their enactment and at least half of the members of the Board of Trustees and the Chairman do not object to the proposed modification within one week after they have been reported.

iv. The Board of Trustees shall meet at least once in a calendar year to review the activities of CCM. Additional meetings may be held at the request of the Chairman of the Management Board or if requested by at least five members of the Board of Trustees..

v. Any officer or director of the Board of Trustees except its chairman may be removed from office by the Board of Trustees following the voting procedures explained elsewhere in this document (see 7).

vi. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees may be removed from his office if more than two-thirds of the members of the Board of Trustees express no confidence in him during a meeting called for that specific purpose.

- viii. Any officer or member of the Board of Trustees may resign his position. In such a case the Board of Trustees may or may not elect a new person to fill the vacancy so created.
- B. **MANAGEMENT BOARD:** The Management Board of CCM shall consist of: a president (the Chairman of the Board of Trustees), one to three vice presidents, a secretary, a joint secretary and a treasurer. The Management Board shall have the responsibility and authority to enact bylaws or make changes therein in accordance with 5Aiii above. The Management Board shall also have the responsibility and authority to establish committees. The Management Board shall also have the responsibility and authority to engage, replace or remove any paid or volunteer staff. The Management Board shall have the responsibility and authority to conduct any and all affairs of CCM, even those affairs that may not be explicitly mentioned in this document. The Management Board shall meet as often as the President deems necessary. The President shall be the chief executive officer and shall assign duties to other members of the Management Board.
- C. **COMMITTEES:** Besides the Management Board, which shall act as the executive committee, CCM shall have a *Majlis e Shura* (consultative body). The Amirs of all local masajid and any *alim* (scholar) residing in the area would constitute the *Majlis e Shura*. The Management Board may establish other committees if it deems necessary. The members of these committees may be selected from outside the Board. These committees shall report to the Chairman of the Board.
- 6. FINANCING AND THE POWER TO SIGN DOCUMENTS AND CHECKS:**
- A. All activities of CCM shall be financed through individual and institutional donations, loans (including *qard e hasana*), rent from properties and grants from various sources that are Islamically and legally acceptable.
- B. **Power to sign checks and contracts of CCM.** The President of CCM shall have the power to sign all documents on behalf of CCM, except that checks shall also be signed by one other member of the Board. The President may designate one of the other officers to sign checks or documents on his behalf, provided that such designation will be done in writing.
- 7. VOTING PROCEDURE:** Any decisions of the Board of Trustees, the Management Board or any of its committees shall be deemed approved only when at least a simple majority of those present and the Chairman or the President of a respective committee or Board are in favor of that decision, except for removal of the chairman in which case 5-A-vi above would be followed.
- 8. QUORUM:** One third of the members of a board or committee shall form the quorum for a meeting, provided that the president or chairman of such bodies is also present at that meeting or has given permission in writing to another member to act in his place.
- 9.** This document forms the constitution and bylaws of Connecticut Council of Masajid (CCM).

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ . أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ . أَسْتَغْفِرُكَ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْكَ .