



**AFFILIATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE LIBERAL GUN CLUB, INC. AND
ITS AFFILIATED REGIONAL CHAPTERS
Revised by the Board of Directors August 1, 2010**

THE LIBERAL GUN CLUB, INC (The LGC) is a nonprofit corporation organized under the nonprofit laws of the state of South Carolina. The mission of The Liberal Gun Club is to provide a voice for gun-owning liberals and moderates in the national conversation on gun rights, gun legislation, firearms safety, and shooting sports.

We serve as a national forum for all people, irrespective of their personal political beliefs, to discuss firearms ownership, firearms use, and the enjoyment of firearms-related activities free from the destructive elements of political extremism that dominate this subject on the national scale.

Importantly, we also actively develop and foster a variety of programs for the purpose of firearms training and firearms safety education, for both gun owners and non-gun owners.

It is highly desirable to maintain uniformity between and among the affiliated Regional Chapters of The LGC. In order to maintain such uniformity, The LGC has developed this Affiliation Agreement that delineates the various requirements for a Regional Chapter to be affiliated with The LGC and is intended to facilitate a cooperative relationship between The LGC and its affiliates. A Regional Chapter seeking to become or maintain its affiliation with The LGC must conduct its business in compliance with the following policies and procedures.

REGIONAL CHAPTER RESPONSIBILITIES

A. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

In order to qualify as an affiliated Regional Chapter of The LGC, a Regional Chapter must have the signatures of a minimum of five (5) active members of The LGC in good standing. All active members of The LGC shall be assigned membership to the affiliated Regional Chapter whose geographic boundaries include that member's residence, if one

exists. New member information shall be shared with the appropriate Regional Chapter. No Regional Chapter may deny membership to a fellow member of The LGC unless the individual's membership has been revoked.

Regional Chapters may not charge membership dues to their members. Any national membership dues are collected by The LGC. However, Regional Chapters may request donations directly to the Regional Chapter and outside the budget of The LGC.

C. APPLICATION FOR REGIONAL CHAPTER AFFILIATION

The President and Secretary of the Regional Chapter desiring an affiliation with The LGC should initiate a formal application for such affiliation. An application is located on The LGC's website and includes such information as: a list of officers and membership; minutes of the meeting at which the request for affiliation was approved by the Regional Chapter; and a description of the proposed geographic boundaries for the affiliated Regional Chapter.

D. LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

A Regional Chapter of The LGC is an independent affiliate organization. The affiliate and its members are required to meet all the provisions outlined in the policies of The LGC.

The Regional Chapters and their members must be willing to uphold the principles and purposes for which The LGC was founded.

The Regional Chapters and their members must follow the philosophy of The LGC. If they are unable to do so, they must work through The LGC to change the philosophy by altering The LGC's policies.

Regional Chapters provide valuable information and insight about firearms ownership in their state to The LGC membership and leadership. Regional Chapters of The LGC are not chartered, but remain an integral part of the complex framework that assures The LGC the maximum amount of knowledge and understanding of issues in that region. Regional Chapters of The LGC strengthen The LGC through their liaisons with their communities and establishment of local educational resources. These relationships allow Regional Chapters to partner with The LGC to effectively address challenges.

The LGC board may withdraw the official recognition of a state affiliate in the event of any action by the state affiliate that is in conflict with The LGC's vision or mission.

The Regional Chapters Relations committee shall review the recognition of each Regional Chapter on a five-year cycle and make recommendations to the board for its consideration.

The LGC reserves the right to charter Regional Chapters in the future.

Incorporation is NOT required to be considered for state affiliate recognition; but it is highly encouraged. For assistance in the incorporation process, please contact us.

In addition, an affiliated Regional Chapter must notify The LGC immediately when any legal problems or claims are identified so that The LGC can protect its interests with respect to such legal matters and claims.

E. FISCAL RESPONSIBILITIES

An affiliated Regional Chapter shall maintain responsible fiscal management policies and practices that must include the following:

- (1) Develop and establish a budget for annual fiscal operations.
- (2) Establish and maintain its own tax preparation and tax payment procedures to be implemented at the close of each fiscal year.
- (3) Upon determination of any financial problems, notify The LGC immediately in writing.
- (4) Comply with fiscal responsibility provisions of the Regional Chapter's Bylaws.
- (5) Regional Chapters that have yearly revenue greater than \$5,000 shall conduct an annual audit of fiscal operations.

F. REPRESENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES

All affiliated Regional Chapters shall promote and foster the specific goals and objectives of The LGC at the regional level. Regional Chapters shall be responsible to report, consolidate, and delineate issues at the regional level and shall participate in the formulation of The LGC policies at meetings. All affiliated Regional Chapters must adopt the official policies of The LGC and shall not adopt, publicize, promote or otherwise convey any policy or principle in the name of The LGC that has not been officially adopted by The LGC. No affiliated Regional Chapter shall adopt, publicize, promote or otherwise convey any policy or principle in the name of the affiliated Regional Chapter that is contradictory to, or in conflict with, official policies of The LGC. Affiliated Regional Chapters in good standing shall have the privilege of using the The LGC insignia in accordance with any specific guidelines or directions established by the The LGC Board of Directors.

It is the responsibility of each affiliated Regional Chapter to assure that at least one (1) delegate attends in full all annual meetings of the The LGC. The Board of Directors of each affiliated Regional Chapter is responsible for facilitating communications between The LGC and the members of the Regional Chapter.

In addition, Regional Chapters, when requested, should support and assist The LGC efforts to communicate with legislators and other public officials. Affiliated Regional Chapters should not, however, support and assist legislators or other public officials independent of The LGC. In this regard, affiliated Regional Chapters shall not make any financial or political contributions of any kind to federal, state, or local candidates or campaigns independent of The LGC.

G. OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

In operating as an affiliated Regional Chapter of The LGC, the Regional Chapter shall provide: educational functions to its members and the regional community; a Regional Chapter Board of Directors and general membership meetings.

Each affiliated Regional Chapter is encouraged to offer four (4) firearms events per year. In addition, each affiliated Regional Chapter shall provide for its members: a minimum of one newsletter annually; an annual meeting at which new officers are installed (may be included with the national meeting); open access to affiliated Regional Chapter leadership through open Board of Directors meetings or "general" Board meetings; and, timely acknowledgement of new members, including invitations to Regional Chapter activities and timely addition of new members to Regional Chapter mailing lists.

Affiliated Regional Chapters, in order to assure that The LGC has knowledge of its activities, shall make the following available to The LGC:

- (1) The Board of Directors and general membership meetings' minutes;
- (2) If required, the annual audit report (including the profit/loss statement, balance sheet, and audit outcomes statement) and income tax filing; and
- (3) An annual report prepared for the general membership and incoming officers.

H. SANCTIONS

The failure of an affiliated Regional Chapter to abide by the responsibilities, policies and procedures set forth herein, in the LGC governing documents, and in the affiliated Regional Chapter's governing documents, may result in The LGC Board of Directors initiating remedial activities as follows:

- (1) The LGC Board of Directors shall notify the leadership of the affiliated Regional Chapter in writing that the Regional Chapter is considered deficient in respect to its affiliation responsibilities.
- (2) The President or Board of Directors of the affiliated Regional Chapter shall respond to The LGC Board of Directors in writing within 90 day, describing both the corrective actions planned to assure requisite compliance and the timetable for their completion.
- (3) The LGC Board of Directors shall review the submitted plans and timetable and shall work with the affected Regional Chapter to facilitate successful completion of the remedial plan.
- (4) The LGC Board of Directors shall assure that a reasonably appropriate amount of time is allowed for the affiliated Regional Chapter to affect its remedial plan.
- (4) Upon majority vote of the The LGC Board of Directors, The LGC may disaffiliate a Regional Chapter for failure to ultimately bring its activities into compliance with affiliation requirements.

GENERAL ORGANIZATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LGC

A. LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The following is the responsibility of The LGC:

(1) Incorporating The LGC as a tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation in accordance with South Carolina law.

B. FISCAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The LGC shall be responsible for all The LGC fiscal operations. The LGC shall be responsible for collecting The LGC dues from members, and maintaining The LGC treasury. The LGC may provide funds and other start-up assistance for a newly affiliated Regional Chapter, however, it is under no obligation to do so. The amount of funds and other assistance provided by The LGC will be at the sole discretion of The LGC Board of Directors and will be determined on a case-by-case basis. The LGC shall be responsible for providing advice to financially troubled affiliated Regional Chapters. Any other assistance provided will be at the sole discretion of the The LGC Board of Directors.

C. REPRESENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES

As permitted by organizational needs, the The LGC Board of Directors shall be responsible for soliciting input from Regional Chapters in a timely fashion prior to making policy decisions.

D. OPERATIONS RESPONSIBILITIES

The LGC shall be responsible for providing the following:

- (1) Development of membership recruitment and retention programs to insure the growth and stability of the organization. The LGC will share these programs with affiliated Regional Chapters for their use as needed
- (2) Development of public relations programs to improve the image of The LGC with other firearms organizations, legislative and regulatory bodies and agencies, and the general public. The LGC will share these programs with affiliated Regional Chapters for their use as needed
- (3) Operations of The LGC office and for the duties of the The LGC staff
- (4) Administering meetings of The LGC Board of Directors and of The LGC committees.
- (5) Maintaining affiliated Regional Chapter membership lists from information received through new memberships, renewals, and information from the Regional Chapters. The LGC will provide to each affiliated Regional Chapter updates on the chapter's

membership changes monthly and a complete membership list for the chapter quarterly, or as determined by The LGC Board of Directors

(6) Basic website and email services to the Regional Chapter for their independent development. Each Regional Chapter will be assigned a subdomain of <http://theliberalgunclub.com> as well as 10 email addresses with the same subdomain.

CHANGES TO THE AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

Any changes to this Affiliation Agreement may be proposed by any affiliated Regional Chapter Board of Directors or by The LGC through its Board of Directors. Any amendments must be approved by majority vote of The LGC Board of Directors.

Signature of Regional Chapter President

Signature of The LGC's Executive Director

Date

Date