January Update (2020)
TO: POMC State Coordinators, Chapter Leaders and Contact Persons
From: POMC National
Website: www.pomc.org
E-mail: natlpomc@pomc.org

BE SURE TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ALL MEMBERS!

• We wish everyone a peaceful and safe holiday season this year!

• Reminder: The Big Turn Off is January 8, 2020. We are asking everyone to turn off their TV’s during the primetime segment of programming (three hours), to protest TV violence. To learn more go to POMC website www.pomc.org.

• It is the Chapter’s responsibility to contact National with updates to their websites.

• Reminder: Policy #5 in Parents Of Murdered Children’s Policy Book states “The National Organization of Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc. (POMC) shall not assume a position on matters regarding religion, politics, the death penalty and gun control and shall remain neutral regarding these issues”. There are a lot of things that have happened recently that we have to reiterate this policy. An individual may take a stance, but it must be clear it is an individual stance and not as a POMC representative

• Save the Date: It’s not too early to contact the National Office to attend the Grief Retreat Weekend in Cincinnati, Ohio. The dates are April 17-19, 2020. Scholarships are available for the retreat.

• Save the Date: The 2020 Annual Conference is July 23-26, 2020 in Atlanta, Georgia at the Atlanta Hilton Airport. More will follow on the POMC website in the coming months. The room rate is $119.00 for the conference weekend.

• The next Annual Report will be emailed/mailed out by the end of December and will also be available on the website. Please remember when filling out the Annual Report to use the current one and not an old copy. Make sure if your copy of the Annual Report does not print out on 8 ½ x 11 so that it is legible, please notify National so that we can mail you a hard copy to fill out. These are official IRS documents that the information is reported to the government, so we must be able to read them.

- Please type or print legibly.
- The financial section of the Annual Report and the check must be signed by the Chapter’s Treasurer and one other non-family Chapter Officer (Leader, Co-Leader, Secretary).
- The signers on the check must be listed as a co-signer on the Chapter checking account and must be Treasurer and a current Board of Director member.
- There cannot be only one signature on a Chapter Check.
- If checks do not come following these guidelines, the Annual Report will be held.

- Please watch for your yearly Contact Person Update form which will be mailed/emailed around the first of January. These are due on March 1, 2020. If you do not receive your mailing please contact us no later than February 1, 2020.

- It is recommended by the National POMC Board of Trustees, that attendance at an active crime scene for the purpose of disseminating POMC contact and/or other general POMC information, is not recommended unless specifically requested by appropriate authorities.

- Because of another domestic violence situation that occurred National Staff and the National Board of Trustees are asking that when you put someone’s name in your Chapter newsletter that you get their permission first. If they are trying to keep there whereabouts secret so they can stay safe, this could be a problem for them, if their name is in the newsletter. **Also remember to only give month and year of dates of death and no birthdates.** There is so much identity theft that it is important that you follow this recommendation and please get permission from the family before you put their name in your Chapter newsletter.

- It’s getting to the end of the year and it’s almost time for nominations and elections of Board of Directors and we know that some Chapters have problems with this so we are putting the guidelines in to keep your Chapter in compliance. These guidelines are from your Articles of Associations so you can also refer to that. Feel free to call National with other questions.

- **Qualifications for Voting Membership** of a Chapter shall consist of all persons who are survivors of a victim of murder or homicide who sign up to become Voting Members of the Chapter and attend at least one (1) Voting Member meeting per year.

- **The Annual Voting Member Meeting** shall occur in January of each year at a date, time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors. The written notice setting forth the date, time, and place of the meeting shall be personally delivered, mailed or transmitted by Authorized Communications Equipment at least twenty (20) days before the date of each Annual Voting Member Meeting to each Voting Member at the Voting Member’s address as it appears in the Voting Membership Book.

- **Nominating Committee.** At the organization Voting Member meeting and at each Annual Voting Member Meeting thereafter (or special meeting called for that purpose), a Nominating committee shall be selected. The Nominating committee shall prepare a slate of candidates for election to the Board of Directors at the following annual Voting Member Meeting, and shall present
this slate to the Voting Membership at such Annual Voting Member Meeting. The term of office of each Nominating Committee shall expire upon its completion of this function.

- **Election.** The initial Directors shall consist of those persons who sign the original Articles of Association. Thereafter, at the first Annual Voting Member Meeting following the organizational Voting Member Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall present the approved slate of nominees for the Board of Directors. Additional nominations may thereafter be made from the floor by any Voting Member present at the Annual Voting Member Meeting. Directors shall be elected by the affirmative vote of a majority of those Voting Members present in person or by proxy at the Annual Voting Member Meeting at which a quorum exists. Any Voting Member who is not physically present may attend the meeting and may vote by the use of Authorized Communications Equipment. No campaigning whatsoever for the election of Directors shall be permitted.

- **Election of Officers.** The Officers of this Chapter shall be elected by the Board of Directors and shall be one (1) or more Chapter Leader(s), one (1) Secretary and one (1) Treasurer. Any other officers may be elected by the Board of Directors with the prior approval of the Corporation’s Board of Trustees. All officers shall be elected for a term of one (1) year. The Chapter Leader(s) shall be a survivor(s) of a victim of murder or homicide. Any person may hold more than one (1) office, except the Chapter Leader/Co-Leader may not hold the position of Secretary and/or Treasurer. The election of officers shall take place at the first meeting of the Board of Directors following the election of the Board of Directors.

- Amazon supports POMC! Please visit the National website at [www.pomc.org](http://www.pomc.org) and look for the Amazon link. By accessing Amazon through the POMC website, POMC will receive a percentage of all purchases (4-13%, depending on the item). This does not increase the cost of your purchase. This is a great opportunity to purchase items and also contribute to POMC while doing so! Please share this wonderful opportunity with your Chapters, Families and Friends! We appreciate everything you do to support POMC! If you should have questions regarding the Amazon link, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

  - Please remember, if you have a car, RV or boat or any other kind of vehicle you do not need anymore, call Action Donation Services. They will pick the vehicle up and donate the money to POMC. We have received a check from their organization for the donation of an old car. If you are interested, please call 866-244-8464 for more details.

- There are directory changes this month. Please make the following corrections in your directory.

- There is one petition this month. Please get signatures and send them to the Parole Board on each petition.