



**THE CONSTITUTION
AND
CODE OF CONDUCT
OF
THE MONTE VISTA
PLATTEKLOOF GLEN
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
SECTOR 4**

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1.1 Definitions

- 1.1.1 Monte Vista Platteklouf Glen Neighbourhood Watch (MVPGNHW) - A group of individuals that are either resident, owns property, own a business or have a vested interest in Monte Vista and Platteklouf Glen (Sector 4), who are members and participate in community upliftment and crime prevention activities and strategies.
- 1.1.2 Dangerous weapons - As defined by Section 1 of the Dangerous Weapons 2013 Act (Act no 15 of 2013) any object other than a firearm, capable of causing death or inflicting serious bodily harm, if it was used for an unlawful purpose.
- 1.1.3 Neighbourhood Watch structure – All active or inactive members that are or form part of the MVPGNHW and in context would imply the management and decision chain.
- 1.1.4 Non-political – Implies that the Monte Vista Platteklouf Glen Neighbourhood Watch shall not be politically aligned or show favor to any political organization.
- 1.1.5 Community – an interacting population of various kinds of individuals in Monte Vista and Platteklouf Glen.
- 1.1.6 Committee – refers to the elected Executive Committee elected by the members of the MVPGNHW and its Co-Opted Committee Members.
- 1.1.7 Co-Opted – refers to Co-Opted Committee members elected by the Executive Committee.
- 1.1.8 EXCO - refers to the Executive Committee members elected by the MVPGNHW structure only and does not include Co-opted members (see committee 1.1.6).
- 1.1.9 POPIA - refers to the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013 as amended from time to time.
- 1.1.10 Undersigned – In this case refers to applying and being part of the MVPGNHW.

1.2. Purpose, Objectives & Functions

- 1.2.1 The purpose of the MVPGNHW is to enhance the safety, security, and well-being of the community by fostering a sense of unity and cooperation among its members, promoting crime prevention, and engaging in proactive measures to deter criminal activities.

- 1.2.2 To serve as a watchdog for its community, and wherever possible, assist the South African Police Service (SAPS), Law Enforcement (LE) and Metro Police (MP) by identifying and implementing crime prevention strategies to safeguard its community against criminal activities and strive for a safe and secure environment.
- 1.2.3 To ensure and form good relationships with other community groups, crime prevention organizations and local government institutions for the betterment of the community in where MVPGNHW operates and in its surrounding areas, and to try and work in partnership on crime prevention strategies wherever possible.
- 1.2.4 To educate and whenever possible, offer training to its members on the skills needed for the betterment and benefit of the community.
- 1.2.5 EXCO may take on the power and authority that it believes it needs to be able to achieve the objectives of the MVPGNHW.
- 1.2.6 (a) The MVPGNHW members will have powers like that of any other citizen, to perform a citizen's arrest.
(b) In performing a citizen's arrest, the requirements set out in the Criminal Procedure Act No.51 of 1977 (see annexure) will be adhered to and complied with at all times under all circumstances.
- 1.2.7 The MVPGNHW structure must operate within the framework of the law.
- 1.2.8 To foster a safer community for all in the areas of Monte Vista, Platteklouf Glen and N1 City (Sector 4).

1.3. Membership

- 1.3.1 Membership is open to all residents and property owners or those with a vested interest, subject to the criteria set out by the EXCO and falls within the boundaries that MVPGNHW operates in, that are 18 years or older and do not have a criminal record (see section 1.3.7).
- 1.3.2 MVPGNHW committee may determine its own membership fee. In the event where such a fee is applicable, payment will not be enforced in any way, neither shall MVPGNHW affiliation depend on such fee, the membership fees shall always remain voluntary.
- 1.3.3 All members joining the MVPGNHW will undergo a screening process as determined by either the head of the Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety (POCS) or Community Police Forum (CPF) and any member can be asked to undergo screening at any time by the EXCO.

- 1.3.4 Any member found guilty of a crime while a member of MVPGNHW shall inform the EXCO in writing no later than 7 (seven) days from the verdict date.
- 1.3.5 A membership register must be kept by the Committee and updated annually, the register must contain the name, address, identity number, contact details, occupation and useful qualifications.
- 1.3.6 Any eligible individual may become a member by submitting a membership application, either in person or through an online platform provided by the MVPGNHW.
- 1.3.7 (a) Observation and information groups (eyes and ears) will not be considered fully active members and will be exempt from certain membership criteria as set out by EXCO, will have no voting rights or other benefits associated with membership.
(b) All community groups, incl eyes and ears groups affiliated with the MVPGNHW, will be managed by the MVPGNHW structure with a non-political and non-discrimination framework.

1.4. Indemnity

- 1.4.1 The MVPGNHW structure is not a legal person and functions within the guidelines as provided and set out in this Constitution and code of conduct for the Monte Vista Platteklouf Glen Neighbourhood Watch structure.
- 1.4.2 (a) All members acknowledge in consideration of the volunteers' participation in the MVPGNHW, and to the extent permitted by applicable laws, members hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the MVPGNHW, its officers, directors, members, agents, and representatives (hereinafter referred to as "the Indemnified Parties") from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, causes of action, suits, proceedings, costs, expenses, damages, and liabilities, including attorney's fees, arising out of or related to the performance of duties or actions taken by the volunteers in the course of the affiliation to the MVPGNHW.
(b) The indemnification shall apply to any claim, loss, injury, or damage, whether to person or property, and whether arising from negligence, recklessness, intentional misconduct, or any other cause of action, that may be brought or made against the Indemnified Parties by any third party.

- (c) The members further understand and acknowledge that this indemnity shall extend to all claims and liabilities, regardless of whether such claims or liabilities arise from the sole or partial negligence of any of the Indemnified Parties or any other party.
 - (d) It is expressly understood and agreed that the Indemnified Parties shall not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, consequential, or exemplary damages, including but not limited to damages for loss of profits, goodwill, use, data, or other intangible losses, even if they have been advised of the possibility of such damages.
 - (e) This indemnity shall be binding upon and insure to the benefit of the MVPGNHW structure and their respective heirs, successors, assigns, agents, and representatives.
 - (f) The undersigned acknowledge that they have carefully read and fully understand the terms of this indemnity clause and voluntarily enter into this agreement.
- 1.4.3 The Monte Vista Platteklouf Glen structure is voluntary and by joining, members acknowledge this and the indemnity as set out in 1.4.2.

1.5. Liability

- 1.5.1 The MVPGNHW is not a legal person and as such does not have powers of whatsoever the nature might be in law to act or to be acted upon.
- 1.5.2 All individual members and any Neighbourhood Watch members affiliated to the MVPGNHW structure act in their own capacity, as individuals and liability will be in that capacity.
- 1.5.3 The MVPGNHW structure will not be responsible for civil and or criminal actions or omissions that are perpetrated by a member of the MVPGNHW structure, nor responsible for civil and or criminal actions or omissions against its members.
- 1.5.4 All and any criminal and civil actions that are instituted against a member of the MVPGNHW structure will be against the member concerned and not the MVPGNHW structure.

1.6. Accountability

- 1.6.1 The MVPGNHW structure will be accountable to the Goodwood SAPS in the first instance.
- 1.6.2 By virtue of its registration with the Goodwood Community Policing Forum (CPF), the MVPGNHW structure will be accountable to the Goodwood CPF.
- 1.6.3 In the absence of such a Community Policing Forum, the MVPGNHW structure will be accountable to the Area Community Police Board.
- 1.6.4 Should the Goodwood CPF or Area Community Police Board be found to be dysfunctional the MVPGNHW structure will be accountable to the Provincial Community Police Board.
- 1.6.5 The Monte Vista Platteklouf Glen Constitution and Code of Conduct will be binding to the MVPGNHW structure in so far as it is not in conflict with the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (RSA) and the Bill of Rights.

1.7. Affiliation & composition

- 1.7.1 The MVPGNHW must be affiliated to the Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6) to be recognized by Goodwood SAPS.
- 1.7.2 The MVPGNHW will consist of individual households and businesses in clearly demarcated and agreed upon areas, streets, sections, flats, farms, wards or zones of the area "Sector 4" (Monte Vista, Platteklouf Glen & N1 City).
- 1.7.3
 - (a) The Executive Committee (EXCO) will consist of a Chairman, Vice-chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.
 - (b) The Chairman will preside over meetings, represent the association in external matters, and provide overall leadership and direction.
 - (c) The Vice Chairman shall assist the Chairman and assume their duties in their absence.
 - (d) The Secretary shall keep records of meetings, maintain membership records, and handle communication on behalf of the association.
 - (e) The Treasurer shall manage the association's finances, maintain financial records, and present financial reports during meetings.

- 1.7.4 (a) The EXCO members term of office shall be two (2) years, however EXCO members may be re-elected.
- (b) Goodwood CPF (See section 1.6) and, or Goodwood SAPS must oversee an EXCO election at an AGM.
- (c) EXCO members will be voted in at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) by method of majority vote. During a split vote, CPF Goodwood (see section 1.6) and, or Goodwood SAPS will cast the deciding vote.
- (d) Proxies will count as one (1) vote per position, and candidate members will not be allowed to vote for the position they are contesting.
- (e) All votes at an EXCO election will be by show of hands and candidate members will leave the room during voting.
- 1.7.5 In the absence of an EXCO member by resignation or expulsion the remaining EXCO members may co-opt the position until an AGM can be held, but not exceeding sixty (60) days.
- 1.7.6 (a) EXCO members, may by majority vote, co-opt in the following position.
- (b) Operations manager, this position will build close relationships with crime prevention bodies and execute crime prevention strategies, assist in fund raising projects, and assist EXCO in achieving its goals and objectives.
- (c) Media and marketing manager, this position will assist in establishing the image of the MVPGNHW, assist in information distribution, assist in fundraising projects and assist EXCO in achieving its goals and objectives.
- (d) Crime intelligence manager, this position will work alongside the Operations manager and will be responsible identifying crime hotspots, gathering information on crime trends, assist with social development in the area, assist with fund raising and assist EXCO in achieving its goals.
- 1.7.7 Co-opted members must formulate a project relevant to their position described above with a time frame of their projected goals and achievements and present them to EXCO who must assist co-opted members in achieving these goals.
- 1.7.8 (a) Co-opted members will be accountable to the Executive committee.
- (b) Co-opted members may form a sub-committee to assist in achieving their goals and objectives, the sub-committee will be accountable to the Co-opted committee and EXCO.
- 1.7.9 EXCO must stipulate by unanimous vote, at the start of every committee meeting (See 1.6) if co-opted members will participate in voting during the meeting and co-opted

members will only be allowed to vote on stipulated agenda items (excludes general and non- specified items).

1.8. Logos, Letterheads & Dress

- 1.8.1 The MVPGNHW structure set out by its committee may design and use its own logo and letterhead complementing its stated aims and objectives of the MVPGNHW. Such a design shall not be found to be offensive, insulting or demeaning to the public. The design shall not bring CPF or SAPS into disrepute.
- 1.8.2 The MVPGNHW structure will not use the same or similar logo, letterhead or dress as that of the SAPS.
- 1.8.3 The MVPGNHW committee will ensure that the dress by the MVPGNHW structure will assist in its function of crime prevention by visibility.
- 1.8.4 The MVPGNHW structure may use the logo and letterhead of the local CPF after obtaining written consent of the Executive Committee of the Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6)
- 1.8.5 The Committee may change the MVPGNHW logo and letterhead design at any time but any changes to the logo or letterhead of the MVPGNHW shall be sent to the Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6) Executive Committee for approval before its use.

1.9. POPIA & Information

- 1.9.1 The MVPGNHW structure irrevocably and unconditionally agrees that by being a member consents and authorizes the MVPGNHW to undertake the collection, processing and further processing of the members personal information by the MVPGNHW for the purposes of securing and further facilitating the functions and objectives set out by the MVPGNHW structure.
- 1.9.2 The MVPGNHW structure will take reasonable steps to ensure that all information gathered by the MVPGNHW structure from its members or from the public is kept in such a way that it is not accessible by the public.
- 1.9.3 By being a member of the MVPGNHW, members agree to absolve the MVPGNHW structure from any liability in terms of POPIA for failing to obtain the members consent

or to notify the member of the reason for the processing of any of the members' personal information.

- 1.9.4 The MVPGNHW structure undertakes not to transfer or disclose any members' personal information unless it is required for its legitimate requirements and shall comply strictly with legislative stipulations in this regard.
- 1.9.5 The MVPGNHW structure acknowledges that during the course of the performance of their membership, they may gain access to and become acquainted with the personal information of other members', residents', privileged and private information. The MVPGNHW structure will treat personal information as a confidential MVPGNHW asset and agrees to respect the privacy of other members', residents', privileged and private information.

1.10. Identity cards

- 1.10.1 The department of Police Oversight & Community Safety (POCS) will issue all MVPGNHW members with membership cards. Should the POCS be dysfunctional or MVPGNHW not be accredited, the EXCO will ensure that membership cards are issued by the relevant oversight body or take responsibility in issuing members with identity cards.
- 1.10.2 Identification cards must be worn by all members while performing their duties set out by the MVPGNHW structure.

1.11. Resolution and disputes procedure

- 1.11.1 (a) If any dispute arises, a formal complaint, in writing, must be submitted to EXCO by means of email, from the relevant party/parties in which the EXCO will acknowledge receipt of the complaint within a forty-eight (48)-hour period.
- (b) EXCO will appoint a member from the MVPGNHW structure within seven (7) days, that is not implicated by the complaint, to attempt to resolve the dispute and set forth, if applicable, a recommendation to EXCO on a resolution strategy or disciplinary action.
- (c) Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6) will be informed of the dispute/complaint and be kept informed of the progress on its resolution and action taken.

- (d) EXCO will inform the relevant party/parties of the action taken and inform the relevant party/parties that they have an option of appeal.
 - (e) Any appeal has to be submitted to EXCO in writing by email within a forty-eight (48)-hour period after the relevant party/parties have been notified of the actions taken. EXCO will notify Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6) within seven (7) days of the appeal, in which Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6) will try and resolve the dispute.
 - (f) Any decision taken by Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6) shall be binding and final except where Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6) elects for the matter to be escalated to a different department/body.
- 1.11.2
- (a) Any member of the MVPGNHW found not adhering to this Constitution or Code of Conduct of the MVPGNHW can be notified by a Committee member in writing through communication applications like Telegram, WhatsApp, etc. or more serious offenses should be communicated through the official MVPGNHW email.
 - (b) The MVPGNHW structure acknowledges that technology, law and society are ever evolving, and that protocols and directives can be implemented at any time to supplement this Constitution and Code of Conduct set out by a Committee and will be binding.
 - (c) Any changes to protocols or directives must be posted on the accepted members' communication platform of the MVPGNHW. Any objections can be submitted to the EXCO as mentioned in section 1.11.1, no later than twenty-four (24) hours of the posted notification.

1.12. Assets & Funding

- 1.12.1 The MVPGNHW will remain a non-profit organization.
- 1.12.2 The MVPGNHW structure will keep proper accounting records that accurately reflect all its income and expenditure, assets and liabilities. The MVPGNHW will have its financial records reviewed annually and if necessary, have them audited.
- 1.12.3 The MVPGNHW will be permitted to raise funds through fund-raising campaigns, marketing, donations and membership fees (see section 1.3.2).
- 1.12.4 All funds will be managed by the Committee for the purposes mentioned in section 1.2 of this Constitution.

- 1.12.5 If the annual income of the MVPGNHW exceeds the sum of five hundred Rand (R500), the EXCO will ensure that all funds are deposited in a registered MVPGNHW bank account, with a registered and recognized South African Bank recognized by the South African Merchant Bank Act No. 90 of 1994.
- 1.12.6 The EXCO will ensure that a member of the MVPGNHW will be appointed as a custodian of the equipment. The prime function of this portfolio will be upon handing over in the event of dysfunctionality, changing of office or changing of portfolios. A fully completed inventory signed by the appointed custodian be filed with the Chairperson of the MVPGNHW.
- 1.12.7 MVPGNHW funds and assets are not distributable to its members except for use in its intended purposes mentioned in section 1.2 of the Constitution and all assets will remain the property of the MVPGNHW.
- 1.12.8 If it becomes necessary for the MVPGNHW to become a body corporate it shall have an identity and exist distinct from its members and office-bearers.
- 1.12.9 (a) The MVPGNHW will remain a non-profit organization and therefore shall rely on donations from the community and businesses in the area of Monte Vista, Plattekloof Glen and N1 City, its members, and through fund raising (see section 1.12.3).
- (b) Once accredited with POCS, the MVPGNHW may apply for funding from POCS.
- (c) The MVPGNHW financial year will be from 1 January to 31 December.

1.13. Dissolution and dysfunction of the neighbourhood watch

- 1.13.1 The MVPGNHW may be declared dysfunctional if consensus is reached with the NHW structure, Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6), the Goodwood SAPS Station Commissioner and the representatives of POCS if accredited with POCS.
- 1.13.2 Subject to the above (1.13.1), all interest will vest in Goodwood CPF, who will take control of all current and pending projects engaged upon the MVPGNHW. The Goodwood CPF (See section 1.6) will administer all funds and cover all creditors if any.
- 1.13.3 The MVPGNHW structure, together with Goodwood CPF (see section 6) will employ every effort to re-establish a neighbourhood watch or any organization with similar objectives that can be recognized by the local CPF.

- 1.13.4 (a) The MVPGNHW may dissolve if at least two-thirds of its members present at a Special General Meeting (SGM) with a minimum of 60% (including proxy votes) of its total membership in attendance voted in favor of its dissolution.
- (b) The POCS (if Accredited with POCS), Goodwood SAPS Station Commissioner and Goodwood CPF (see section 6) have to be present at this SGM and the MVPGNHW structure may allow community group representatives to attend the meeting.
- 1.13.5 (a) Subject to the above, the Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6) will become custodian of all assets, funds and documentation pertaining to the MVPGNHW.
- (b) The MVPGNHW structure along with Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6) will assist in the administration of the MVPGNHW dissolution or assist in its restructuring to enact clause 1.13.3.
- (c) If after an agreed upon period for restructuring has failed to organize, which includes establishing a similar organization with similar aims and objectives recognized by the local CPF, all assets and funds may be donated by Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6) after all creditors have been paid if any.

1.14. Meetings

- 1.14.1 The MVPGNHW structure will hold at least three (3) annual members' meetings where one (1) of them shall be open to the public.
- 1.14.2 A quorum will consist of at least 10% of the overall membership of the MVPGNHW incl proxies (Including Special General Meetings) except during a dissolution (see section 1.13.4)
- 1.14.3 (a) Notice to members and public meetings (AGM) must be given 15 days (about two (2) weeks) in advance and twenty-one (21) days (about three (3) weeks) for Special General Meetings (SGM).
- (b) Notices of these meetings can either be published via the press and/or any other social media platform, i.e. WhatsApp, Facebook, SMS, email, etc.
- 1.14.4 Minutes of these meetings will be recorded by the Secretary and available at all times for members to consult.
- 1.14.5 Members that are unable to attend should tender apologies.
- 1.14.6 Active members who show interest and attend meetings shall receive minutes of the meeting.

- 1.14.7 (a) The EXCO will hold meetings as required and will constitute an EXCO meeting, any co-opted members invited will constitute a committee meeting.
- (b) Any EXCO or Committee meeting shall be chaired by the Chairperson, in the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson (VC) shall chair the meeting, in the absence of the VC the committee shall choose a Chairperson.
- (c) Acting Chair will have two (2) votes during a split-vote, this will apply to any voting within the NHW structure except during a dissolution vote (See 1.13.4) and Executive Committee vote.
- 1.14.8 The Chairperson or 2 (two) members of the committee can call a Special General Meeting.
- 1.14.9 Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6), Goodwood SAPS Station Commissioner, POCS (If accredited with POCS), and the Ward Councilor must be invited to Public (AGM) or Special General Meetings (SGM).
- 1.14.10 (a) Decisions at meetings will be made by voting, fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the designated members attending the meeting is needed to carry the decision except in a dissolution vote (See 1.13.4.).
- (b) Voting shall be by show of hands unless otherwise decided by the Chairperson.

1.15. Changing the Code of Conduct and Constitution

- 1.15.1 The EXCO members reserve the right to amend the Constitution and/or the Code of Conduct if at least two-thirds of its members present at SGM meeting vote in favor of this.
- 1.15.2 Notice must go out not less than fourteen (14) days before the meeting at which the changes to the Constitution and/or Code of Conduct are going to be proposed.
- 1.15.3 The notice must indicate the motivation and proposed changes to the Constitution that will be discussed at the meeting.

1.16. Disciplinary action and procedure

- 1.16.1 (a) The following disciplinary procedure guide will serve as a guide to assist EXCO in taking appropriate action in order to maintain the good standing of the MVPGNHW with the public, Goodwood CPF (see section 1.6) and SAPS. EXCO will not be bound to the guide and may elect to take more serious action depending on the consequences and repercussions from the offense committed, including historical conflict of a member in violation of the Constitution and Code of Conduct.
- (b) Any dispute regarding the outcome will be subject to section 1.11 of the Constitution.
- 1.16.2 (a) Any offense committed by a MVPGNHW member will be notified by the EXCO of the offense via email or chosen chat platform like WhatsApp or Telegram within seven (7) days of the discovery of the offense.
- (b) Unless expressly stipulated by the Code of Conduct, the Chairperson will decide on the severity of the offense and include it in the communication, mentioned above, to the offending members.
- 1.16.3 (a) Minor offenses may constitute a warning, or in some cases suspension of up to thirty (30) days.
- (b) Minor offenses will only be kept on record for a maximum of twelve (12) months.
- (c) EXCO must investigate why a minor offense was committed and try and educate offending members on the Constitution and Code of Conduct to avoid future offenses.
- (d) Multiple minor offenses may constitute a severe offense.
- 1.16.4 (a) Severe offenses will constitute immediate suspension until EXCO can determine the merits of the offense and schedule a disciplinary hearing.
- (b) EXCO may elect a third party to Chair the disciplinary hearing.
- (c) Minutes of the disciplinary hearing must be kept and submitted to SAPS if any criminal act has been committed and must be reported to SAPS immediately.
- 1.16.5 Although procedures and member conduct requirements may evolve and change depending on the South African law and requirements of the MVPGNHW and its members, it may be that members will be held accountable regardless of its explicit

mentioned within this Constitution and Code of Conduct or not. EXCO must communicate it to the accepted communication platform with its members until such a time it can be changed within either the Constitution or the Code of Conduct.

2. Code of Conduct

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- 2.8 Intellectual property & compensation.

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 A Neighbourhood Watch program is a community-driven effort aimed at enhancing the safety and security of a local area. The success of such a program relies on the commitment, cooperation, and responsible behavior of its members. This Code of Conduct outlines the principles and guidelines that members of the MVPGNHW should adhere to in order to create a safe and harmonious environment.

2.2 Firearms

2.2.1 All members with firearms will ensure that they adhere to the Firearms Control Act 60 of 2000.

2.3 Respect and Inclusivity

2.3.1 Members of the MVPGNHW should treat all individuals with respect, regardless of their background, ethnicity, gender, age, or socio-economic status. Discrimination, harassment, and intolerance will not be tolerated.

2.4 Cooperation with Law Enforcement & SAPS

- 2.4.1 MVPGNHW members are not Law Enforcement or Police officers. Their role is to observe and report suspicious activities to the appropriate authorities. They should cooperate fully with Law Enforcement and SAPS and follow their instructions.
- 2.4.2 MVPGNHW members should offer their assistance at accident scenes to the relevant bodies and follow all instructions from authorities on the scene.
- 2.4.3 MVPGNHW members will, when encountering a crime scene, not interfere in any way, make every effort to keep the scene secure until SAPS arrives and hand it over to SAPS immediately.

2.5 Non-Violence and Non-Confrontation

- 2.5.1
 - (a) MVPGNHW members should never engage in vigilantism and avoid confrontation with potential criminals. The primary responsibility is to observe and report.
 - (b) Engaging in such activities not only endangers the safety of our community but also jeopardizes the reputation and credibility of our Neighbourhood Watch.
 - (c) Any member caught participating in or associated with vigilante activities will be found in violation and be suspended with immediate effect pending expulsion subject to the merits of the matter and may face severe consequences, including criminal prosecution.
- 2.5.2
 - (a) If MVPGNHW members witness a crime in progress, their safety should be their top priority. They should avoid getting directly involved and immediately notify the authorities.
 - (b) Take note of any details that will assist the authorities with their investigation. (see section 2.4.3).

2.6 Confidentiality

2.6.1 Members should respect the privacy of all involved parties and maintain the confidentiality of sensitive information, particularly when reporting suspicious activities. Sharing personal information without proper justification is prohibited and may face disciplinary action if found in violation. (see section 1.9 of the Constitution).

2.7 Training, Communication & Media

2.7.1 Neighborhood Watch members should undergo appropriate training, including guidance on observation skills, communication, and safety protocols. Effective communication within the group is vital for ensuring the dissemination of important information.

2.7.2 (a) The MVPGNHW EXCO will mandate a member within the MVPGNHW structure to address, and or make statements and public announcements.

(b) While the MVPGNHW recognize that we are all individuals and not necessarily officially representing the MVPGNHW, it's essential to acknowledge that some community members may still perceive us as representatives of the Neighbourhood Watch due to our association. Therefore, we must be mindful of our actions and words to maintain a positive image and prevent any misunderstandings.

(c) MVPGNHW members must refrain from addressing the public in a Neighbourhood Watch capacity. This means avoiding making official statements, commitments, or representations on behalf of the Neighbourhood Watch, especially in community groups or public forums.

(d) When participating in community groups or engaging in discussions with fellow community members, please be cautious and mindful of words used. Personal opinions and statements should be made explicitly as your own and not attributed to the MVPGNHW as a whole.

2.7.3 Members found to be making and/or addressing the media without the explicit authority duly mandating the member to act for and on behalf of the MVPGNHW, will be found guilty of a serious offense resulting in the immediate suspension of the member pending expulsion subject to the merits of the matter. The MVPGNHW Committee will with immediate effect rectify the matter and make a public statement in this regard.

2.7.4 No MVPGNHW member may contact the public, including institutions and or businesses to discuss the MVPGNHW, its members and or its operations, unless authorized by the MVPGNHW committee. Members found in violation will be suspended with immediate effect pending expulsion subject to the merits of the matter. The MVPGNHW committee will rectify the matter and make a public statement in this regard (if required).

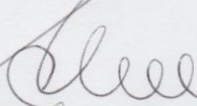
2.8 Intellectual property & compensation

2.8.1 Any procedure, algorithm, design, artwork and/or idea created by current and/or past members for the MVPGNHW will remain the property of the MVPGNHW and will continue to remain with the MVPGNHW unless a written contract has been signed and agreed upon by EXCO.

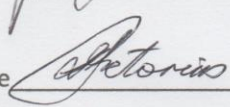
2.8.2 No compensation for services or goods will be given to any member unless agreed upon by EXCO in writing and any service or goods offered to the MVPGNHW will be considered as goodwill for the benefit of the MVPGNHW and community it serves.

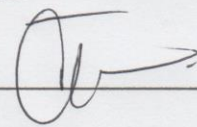
2.8.3 No MVPGNHW member may accept any payment, commission, or gratuity in connection with their membership with the MVPGNHW, unless approved by EXCO.

Re-written by Deon Johann Oosthuizen – Vice Chairman of the Monte Vista Platteklouf Glen Neighbourhood watch in 2023.

Signed & Date  Chairman 27/09/2023 Date

Signed & Date  Vice Chairman 27 SEPT'23 Date

Signed & Date  Secretary 27/09/2023 Date

Signed & Date  Treasurer 27/09/2023 Date