

By-laws of the Paranormal Investigation and Research Organization

Investigations and Investigation Training

Article 1: Name, Meetings, and Jurisdiction

Section 1 - This organization shall be known as the Paranormal Investigation and Research Organization (PIRO).

Section 2 - PIRO Investigators and PIRO Investigator Trainees shall meet, as needed, at a time and location to be determined each year by the current Executive Board members.

A) PIRO Investigator meetings shall follow the rules and guidelines set by the University of New Haven regarding Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs) and the PIRO Constitution.

Section 3 - PIRO will be able to investigate any location approved by the current Executive Board members of PIRO.

Article 2: Definitions

Section 1 - **Lead Investigator** – the Lead Investigator(s) on an investigation will be comprised one (1) or more members of the Executive Board.

A) The President will be the primary lead, the Vice-President the second lead, and the Sergeant at Arms shall be the third lead.

I. Other Executive Board members may lead, as needed.

B) The President, Vice-President, and Sergeant at Arms may choose to not lead an investigation and may appoint another Executive Board member to fulfill their duties.

C) In the extreme case, an experienced investigator may act as a lead, only with approval of all Executive Board members.

Section 2 - **Investigators** – Investigators are defined as active members of PIRO who have:

- A) Taken the Investigator Training Class, and has successfully completed a personal investigation reviewed by all members of the Executive Board.
- B) Signed the Investigator Disclaimer form.

Section 3 - **Investigator Trainee** – an Investigator Trainee is defined as an active member currently enrolled in the Investigator Training Class.

Section 4 - **Investigation Paperwork** – The paperwork to be completed on all investigations and during Investigator Trainees’ personal investigations. This is comprised of:

- A) Site History
- B) Private Property Contract
- C) Photo/Evidence Release
- D) Site History
- E) Investigation Log
- F) Investigation Summary

Section 5 - **Alumni Investigator** – An Alumni Investigator is defined as an active investigator who successfully graduates from the University of New Haven.

- A) This does not include investigators who leave the University of New Haven for any reason.
- B) Graduate students studying at the University of New Haven and have graduated from the University of New Haven as an undergraduate also qualify for Alumni Investigator status.

Article 3: Objectives

Section 1 - Conduct scientific, unbiased paranormal investigations of any location legally secured and deemed able to investigate by the Lead Investigators.

Section 2 - Examine evidence collected and compile a report to be sent to the contact person for the investigation.

Section 3 - Report validated claims and/or evidence to the PIRO members and to the PIRO website, if contracts allow evidence to be shared in a public venue.

Section 4 - To use budget allocated towards “Investigation Supplies” as necessary, in order to properly carry out investigations.

Article 4: PIRO Logo

Section 1 - The PIRO logo may change from year to year as long as the logo represents PIRO and what we stand for and shall meet the University of New Haven Undergraduate Student Government Association (USGA) standards.

A) All media (such as the resume, website, etc.) containing the PIRO logo must contain the currently accepted logo.

Article 5: Investigations

Section 1 - Upon agreement to conduct an investigation legally given to PIRO, Investigators will be chosen by availability and by lottery system, if needed as defined by the PIRO Constitution.

Section 2 - Investigators attending an investigation are expected to show utmost professionalism at these investigations and follow the PIRO Code of Conduct, defined in the PIRO Constitution.

A) Violations will result in disciplinary action, defined by the PIRO Constitution and the Lead Investigators.

Section 3 - Investigators going on investigations are required to pay all required fees defined by the Executive Board.

Section 4 - The procedure for the investigation shall be as follows:

- A) A contact person is to be established with the location to coordinate date/time, present activity, and any other necessary preparations.
- B) On the day of the investigation, investigators will meet at a time and place determined by the Lead Investigators and travel as a group, if possible.
 - I. For all investigations requiring travel, all vehicles must have at least one (1) point of contact with each other.
 - II. A meeting point can be determined near the investigation site so that investigators may regroup prior to visiting the location.
- C) Lead Investigators will meet the contact person or other representative and finish the contracts and site history, if not done prior to arrival.
- D) All investigators will take part in a lights-on walk-through lead by the contact person or one (1) of the Lead Investigators.
- E) Lead Investigators will organize the teams, if not done already, and assign roles to team members.
- F) The Sergeant at Arms will set up and disperse all necessary equipment to the teams.
- G) Teams will go to assigned areas in shifts, come back for breaks, and switch as needed.
- H) Upon conclusion, all equipment must be returned, and evidence collected shall be returned to the Sergeant at Arms.
- I) Evidence shall be reviewed and abnormalities shall be documented and reviewed by all investigators.
 - I. Investigators who did not attend the investigation may attend the evidence review for that investigation.
- J) A report shall be drafted with all abnormal findings and sent to the contact person.
 - I. May include the Investigation Log and Investigation Summary.

Section 5 - All necessary equipment shall be put in the equipment box, to be maintained by the Sergeant at Arms.

A) A television is also required for investigations where video recording is permitted.

Section 6 - Alumni Investigators and non-members of PIRO, such as the contact person, employees, residents, etc., may accompany PIRO on investigations at the discretion of the Lead Investigators.

A) Any person(s) attending the investigation shall sign all necessary paperwork.

Article 6: Investigator Training

Section 1 - PIRO shall provide an Investigator Training Class free of charge at least once per year.

Section 2 - The class will consist of nine (9) lectures which will cover the topics (other topics may be discussed as needed):

- A) Investigation 101
- B) Investigative Equipment and Techniques
- C) Photography
- D) EVPs
- E) Types of Hauntings
- F) Religion
- G) Protection from the Paranormal
- H) Symbology
- I) Paperwork

Section 3 - There shall be two (2) written quizzes drafted and administered by the Vice President and Sergeant at Arms within the period of the Investigator Training Class.

A) These quizzes may be considered in the application for Investigator status, but will only be a secondary factor to the personal investigation.

Section 4 - Investigator Training Classes will be open to all active members of PIRO.

Section 5 - The classes shall be run by the PIRO Vice President and PIRO Sergeant at Arms.

Section 6 - Investigator Trainees are expected to follow the PIRO Code of Conduct, stated in the PIRO Constitution, and are subject to disciplinary action.

Section 7 - Investigator Trainees are required to attend all classes. Classes may be made up for excused absences, such as academic or health reasons, by the Vice President or Sergeant at Arms.

A) Any other excuses shall be reviewed and considered at the discretion of the Sergeant at Arms and Vice President.

B) Tegrity recordings shall only be sent out for quiz review, and may take place of making up an excused absence in extreme cases with approval of the Executive Board.

Article 7: Donations and Funding

Section 1 - PIRO shall request funds each year through USGA, part of which shall include funding for new equipment and supplies.

Section 2 - Donations made to PIRO through any means shall be spent in accordance with the decision of the membership.

A) The Executive Board can make recommendations on uses for donated funds.

Section 3 - PIRO is a non-profit organization and will not charge for services on any investigation.

Section 4 - The fiscal year shall start every year on July 1st, in accordance with the University of New Haven.