

Proposed Amendments to the AAPS By-Laws

Over the past 6 years, the AAPS Board of Directors has received several requests to solve business disputes among members. As the Board of Directors has no authority or constitutional power to arbitrate business conflicts. Nor is it within the purview of the Association's articles of Incorporation, or Non-Profit filing with the IRS.

In addition, AAPS has been an International organization for well over the past decade.

Therefore, the association is best served by amending the following sections of the By-laws pertaining to our Code of Ethics and encourage members to resolve such conflicts with the aid of an attorney if needed.

Proposed Amendment 1: Amend Paragraphs 1 and 5, Merge Paragraphs 8 and 9 and renumber paragraph 10

ARTICLE III. CODE OF ETHICS

All members of the Association of Applied Paleontological Sciences will:

- 1) Strive to stay informed of and comply with **International**, National, State/**Province** and Local regulations pertaining to collecting activities and general business practices.
- 2) Obtain permission from land owners or governmental authorities to gain access to collecting sites.
- 3) Assure that all lands, properties, flora and fauna are left without damage to property or ecology as a result of collecting activities.
- 4) Require that fossil materials received from outside collectors are obtained in compliance with the above collecting guidelines set forth by the Association.
- 5) Report to ~~proper local~~ **scientific authorities** **experts** any significant discoveries of scientific or public interest.
- 6) Strive to place specimens of unique scientific interest into responsible hands for study, research, and preservation.
- 7) Make no misrepresentation as to identity, locality, age, formation, repairs or restoration of paleontological specimens.
- ~~8) Conform to professional business practices when obtaining and disposing of specimens.~~
- ~~9) Maintain a good credit standing among fellow suppliers of earth science materials.~~
- 8) Members will strive for best business practices in all aspects of business, dealing with customers and other AAPS members in a fair and honest manner and maintaining a good credit standing. AAPS encourages members to follow good ethics but cannot act as a resource to settle disputes between said members or disputes involving customers.**
- ~~10~~ 9) Encourage good relations and cooperation with agencies, institutions, and organizations actively involved in paleontological pursuits.