

Real Estate Law Association

Student Organization Constitution

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Real Estate Law Association (RELA)

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

At the Real Estate Law Association (RELA), our purpose is to advance knowledge, foster collaboration, and promote excellence in real estate law. We unite students, legal professionals, and industry experts to explore the complexities of real estate transactions, regulations, and disputes. Through guest speakers, networking events, and educational programs, RELA empowers its members to continuously learn, connect, and grow. We strive to prepare future leaders to navigate the evolving real estate industry with integrity, professionalism, and purpose.

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

Real Estate Law Association *agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status or any other basis in accordance with the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.*

Section B. Hazing

Real Estate Law Association *agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.*

Section C. Bylaws

Real Estate Law Association *retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs (CSA) Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities department, and changes to bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.*

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership Eligibility

Membership is open to all students at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. Voting membership is limited only to students of Moritz College of Law. Any interested individuals who are not students at the Moritz College of Law should contact the RELA President for more information and potential opportunities to become non-voting associate or honorary members.

Section B. Member Selection

Interested students at the Moritz College of Law may become members of RELA by contacting the RELA President. All interested Moritz College of Law students shall be selected as a member. The President will collect each student's name, OSU.#, and contact information, and will add the student to the organization membership roster, email list, and student messaging groups. If an interested student is not a student at the Moritz College of Law, the student should contact the RELA President and the voting membership will vote, with a majority vote required, to allow the non-Moritz student to become a non-voting associate or honorary member.

Section C. Membership Timeline

Membership is open throughout the school year.

Section D. Member Removal

Termination of Membership.

- (1) Membership can be terminated only after a hearing and majority vote by the Officers.
- (2) If the majority of Officers agree after the hearing that the membership should be terminated, then members will vote. If 50% of the members vote in favor of termination, then the member will be removed.
- 3) Any member can request that a member be reviewed for termination if their conduct runs counter to the purpose of the organization

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

Advisor of the organization shall assist as needed in an advisory capacity with the organization and is encouraged to attend organizational meetings.

Section B. Advisor Term

One year with the opportunity to be reappointed.

Section C. Advisor Selection

Any advisor of a student organization must be a full-time member of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. The RELA advisor should be selected from the Moritz College of Law faculty members and have experience and knowledge in real estate-related legal practice areas.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

In the case of resignation or removal, the advisor shall provide notice within a reasonable time to the RELA President and provide a recommendation of Moritz faculty members who may be eligible for the position.

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

RELA's executive board consists of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Executive Committee and Chairpersons may be appointed by the executive board as needed to carry out the functions of RELA. The President is responsible for recruiting membership, leading Executive Board meetings and task delegation, finding guest speakers, organizing events, and communicating with interested students. The Vice President is responsible for assisting the President, supporting the executive committee, and finding guest speakers. The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining the financial accounts, requesting refunds from the Student Bar Association, and filling out all student organization funding request forms. The Secretary is responsible for reserving rooms for events, food orders for events, maintaining all social media accounts, and assisting the President and Vice President.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

Any voting member of RELA.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

Organization leaders are elected or appointed from RELA's voting membership. Each position is elected by a majority vote of the quorum present. For an election to proceed, a quorum must be established, achievable through in-person presence or email participation. A quorum constitutes a majority of the organization's eligible voting members. Should a quorum not be met, positions will be appointed by a majority vote of the incumbent executive board.

Each position is elected in April of each year and will serve for a one year term.

Section D. Officer Removal

Removal of Organizational Leaders.

(1) Any elected officer may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws.

2) The Executive Officers may remove an Officer upon a two-thirds affirmative vote in consultation with the organization's advisor. (The three Officers not up for removal must agree).

(3) Any member can recommend that an Officer be reviewed for removal. If an Officer is removed, a replacement Officer will be elected per election procedures.

ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

A two-thirds majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or if a quorum is not present, a majority of the executive board, and the organization's advisor must vote in favor of a dissolution of RELA.

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

Under no circumstances may RELA leave debts to The Ohio State University or its entities. If any debts exist at the time of dissolution, the RELA Executive Board should immediately contact the Advisor and work to cover any debts with remaining assets.

ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section A. Amendment Process

This constitution is a living, breathing document that may be amended, as needed, to carry out the purpose of the organization and to accomplish the goals of the elected executive board. Passage of an amendment shall require either a two-thirds majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or if a quorum is not present, a majority of the executive board. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.