**CONSTITUTION OF THE LAW SCHOOL DEMOCRATS OF**

**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

**MORITZ COLLEGE OF LAW**

ADOPTION AND CURRENCY

The Law School Democrats of the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law adopted this constitution and bylaws in February 2018.

ARTICLE I — NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law Democrats. The headquarters of the organization shall be The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

ARTICLE II- PURPOSE AND AFFILIATION

Section 1. We, Democratic students at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, join together to form the Law School Democrats of the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law in order to introduce, develop, and encourage in young people an active interest in governmental affairs and the electoral process at the local, state, and national levels of the United States of America. This organization shall foster and perpetuate the philosophy, principles, and goals of the Democratic Party: to develop leadership skills in our members, to involve ourselves in programs to improve voter education and participation, and to contribute to the well-being of the community at large.

Section 2. This organization shall be affiliated with and seek the advice and cooperation of the Ohio Young Democrats, the Young Democrats of America, the National Democratic Law Students Council, the Ohio Democratic Party, and the Democratic National Committee.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any individual may join. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

Section 2. There shall be one (1) class of membership for individuals in this organization. It shall be~~:~~

A) Regular—Any law student shall be eligible for full rights and privileges as a regular member.

Section 3. Any regular member shall be eligible to vote.

Section 4. Any person who elects to become a member of this organization shall be deemed to have accepted this constitution and policies of this organization and shall be bound by them in all respects.

ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS

Section 1. The elected officers of this organization shall be a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Director of Membership.

Section 2. The appointed officers of this organization shall be the Faculty Advisor.

Section 3. The Executive Committee for this organization shall be composed of those officers named in Article IV, Section 1 of this constitution. The Executive Committee shall formulate, propose, and implement the activities of this organization, and approve the annual budget and means to obtain necessary funding. The Executive Committee shall be subject to the order of the membership and none of its actions shall be in conflict with the constitution. An officer of the Executive Committee shall give prior notice to the Chair when they are unable to attend an Executive Committee meeting.

Section 4. The term of office for all officers shall be one full year. The President may hold their office for two full terms—the president may serve two full terms and a partial term, if, the term is less than ½ of the academic calendar (Spring and Fall Semester combined). All other officers of this organization may only hold their office for consecutive terms. An officer of this organization shall not concurrently serve in two or more offices.

Section 6. The election of officers shall be held during the week following a date proposed by the executive board. The election of officers shall be conducted either by secret ballot, which must be signed by the member, or through a private online poll via the organization’s TWEN page.

Section 6.1 **Member Removal:** If a member conducts themselves in such a manner deemed detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization or is in violation of the OSU Student Code of Conduct, they can be removed through a 2/3 majority vote of the voting membership and majority vote of the officers, under the counsel of the advisor.

Section 7. The duties of elected office shall be as follows:

A) President — The President shall direct and be responsible for the programs and developments of this organization.

i. The President does not possess a vote on the Executive Board, nor

the General Body, unless there is a tie.

ii. The President may fill a vacancy on the Executive Board, subject to

majority consent of the remaining Executive Board, until the position can be permanently filled through a special election.

iii. Should the President deem it necessary, for the ease of conducting meetings, he or she may mandate the use of parliamentary procedure. Should the president exercise this power, the latest commercially-available version of *Robert’s Rules* will be used.

iv. The President shall be the presiding officer at all meetings and shall chair this organization’s Executive Committee.

v. Should the President deem it necessary, he may, with the consent of a majority of the Executive Board and a majority of the general membership, add new positions to the Executive Board. The number of positions must remain odd, including the president.

B) Vice President – The Vice President shall be responsible for assisting the President and shall act as Acting President in his or her absence. Should the president exercise his power under Section 7 (a)(iii), the Vice-president shall act as Parliamentarian.

C) Treasurer—The Treasurer shall be responsible for this organization’s funds, and shall provide the Executive Board with a monthly report regarding funds and expenditures. The Treasurer will be responsible, in conjunction with the President, for proposing the annual budget. The annual budget must be approved by the Executive Board and the general membership.

D) Secretary—The Secretary will keep minutes of Executive Board and General meetings. The Secretary will have the power to propose election dates, including special elections, and will be responsible for scheduling meetings. The Secretary will be responsible for all press and social media accounts of the organization.

E) Director of Membership – The Vice Chair of Membership will be responsible for recruiting, maintaining, and promoting chapter membership. They will also be responsible for maintaining the group’s membership status with other Democratic groups including, but not limited to, the Ohio Young Democrats.

Section 8. In the event the President of this organization is permanently unable to perform the aforementioned duties, the Vice President shall be installed as this organization’s President. The New President shall appoint the new Vice President from among the membership, subject to majority vote of the executive board and the general membership. If the President of this organization chooses to resign during the academic year term, the Vice President shall become President and shall appoint a replacement to fulfill the duties for the remainder of the unexpired term, subject to consent of the executive board and the general membership.

Section 9. In the event an officer, other than the President of this organization, is permanently unable to perform their duties, or a vacancy exists on the Executive Committee, the President shall appoint a regular member to fulfill the duties for the remainder of the unexpired term, with the simple majority approval of the executive board and the general membership.

ARTICLE V — MEETINGS

Section 1. The President shall call to order at least two regular meetings of this organization’s Executive Committee per year to be held at a time and place that is set forth by the President.

Section 2. The President shall call to order at least four regular meetings of this organization’s membership per year at a time and place that is set forth by the President.

ARTICLE VI — STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. There shall be standing committees chaired by the Executive Officers. These committees will be established by amendment to this constitution.

Section 2. The standing committees shall each meet at minimum two times per year.

ARTICLE VII — PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. The rules contained in *Robert’s Rules of Order* shall govern in all cases in which they are applicable.

ARTICLE VIII — ELECTIONS

Section 1. The officers of this organization shall be elected by those members in good standing as outlined elsewhere in this Constitution.

ARTICLE IX — YEAR

Section 1. For all purposes, fiscal or otherwise, the year shall begin the first day of the law school’s academic year and conclude at the beginning of the following year.

ARTICLE X— IMPEACHMENT

Section 1. Any officer may be removed for malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance. A petition for removal of an officer shall be signed by no less than one-third (1/3) of the general membership. The petition shall be submitted to any member of the Executive Committee. The member of the Executive Committee receiving such a petition shall convene a special session of the Executive Committee within (15) days. That Committee member shall present the petition for consideration at that meeting.

Section 2. The petition shall be forwarded to the regular membership following a finding just cause for a hearing by a simple majority of the Executive Committee. A meeting of the regular membership shall be held within thirty (30) days following that finding.

Section 3. At the meeting of the regular membership, the officer receiving the petition shall present the findings and recommendations of the Executive Committee. The officer in question will have an opportunity to present their beliefs regarding the matter. An officer shall be removed from office upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the regular members present.

ARTICLE XI — AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to this constitution may be proposed at any regular meeting or presented in writing to the Vice Chair of Administration. Notice of such amendments shall be submitted, in writing, to the membership.

Section 2. The constitution shall be amended at a regular meeting of this organization’s membership, by a two-thirds *(*2/3*)* majority vote.