**Business Leaders in Law Constitution**

***Article I - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization.***

1. **Name: Business Leaders in Law at The Ohio State University**
2. **Purpose**:We exist to build a community of students interested in both business and law to encourage educational growth and professional development.
3. **Non-Discrimination Policy**: This organization does not discriminate 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 bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

***Article II – Membership***

1. As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. Active members and Executive Committee are able to make decisions regarding the membership of community and other non-student members of an organization. Community or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
2. As an organization focused both on business and law, we encourage membership from all students, whether they are students interested in only business or law respectively; business majors who are pre-law; pre-law majors considering combined JD/MBA programs; or any combination thereof. We welcome all students.

***Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers***

1. If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization’s constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the officers in consultation with the organization’s advisor.
2. Any elected officer of the chapter 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. The Executive Committee may act for removal upon a majority affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization’s advisor.
3. In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members, the executive board, in consultation with the organization’s advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

***Article IV – Organization Leadership: Titles, terms of office, type of selection, and duties of the leaders.***

1. **President**
   1. The President will act as the Primary Leader of the organization. Their responsibilities include, but are not limited to: leading the organization in the accomplishment of two clearly defined annual goals; establishing the agenda for all Executive Board and General Body meetings and conducting them; and general administrative duties as required by the day-to-day operations of the organization.
2. **Vice President**
   1. The Vice President will act as the Secondary Leader of the organization. Their role includes supporting the management of the day-to-day operations of the organization in conjunction with the President; long-range planning of annual goals and direction; and development of the leadership abilities of the Executive Board members.
3. **Secretary**
   1. The Secretary is the main leader responsible for communication. This position is the head of all communication, be it internal within the organization; external to non-organization members through marketing and recruitment; or administrative in scheduling and reserving event spaces and times, distributing minutes and written summaries of meetings, etc. In the event that organization demand requires more leadership, multiple positions of Secretary may be established to fulfill each of these specific areas.
4. **Treasurer**
   1. The Treasurer is the primary position responsible for all financial matters of the organization. Whether this be establishing the requirement and payment of dues; handling the allocation of annual budget for the organization; or the raising of funds for various uses within the organization, all duties involving money reside within the jurisdiction of to the Treasurer.

***Article V – Establishing Organization Leadership***

1. Procedures for the establishment of this organization’s leadership are to be further discussed in the By-Laws section of this Constitution as they are developed and formed throughout the organization’s first full foundational year, under the supervision and guidance of the organization’s advisor. In the event that establishment of new organization leadership is necessary before time permits the informed development of formal procedures, ultimate authority will rest with the advisor.
2. In this organization’s second year, given the uncertainty amid student organizations and the coronavirus pandemic, a selection process will take place. For those seeking to hold a position on the Executive Board for the 2021-2022 Academic Year, applications will be due April 1, 2020. A complete application consists of personal information, as well as a written statement detailing the individual’s primary motivations for wanting to hold a position. Four (4) positions will comprise the Executive Board: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Applications will be reviewed by the Special Selection Committee. The Committee will be comprised of all non-returning Executive Board members, who will review applications and conduct candidate interviews at their discretion. The Committee may also take into account a vote of the General Body as they deem necessary. Final selection of Executive Board positions rests with the Committee and the Advisor.
3. In all foreseeable years after this organization’s second year (all years after the 2021-2022 Academic Year), elections for the four (4) Executive Board positions (namely, of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary) will be held by election of the General Body – pending the condition that the General Body consists of at least 15 members.
4. Whenever the presiding Executive Board deems necessary, they may establish additional positions within the Board to best address the need for a specific role. They must codify this new role under Article IV of the Constitution.

***Article VI - Executive Board***

1. The Executive Board of this organization will be comprised of the positions detailed in Article IV of this constitution. The authority for formation of new leadership positions within the club, be it a new position on the Executive Board or another leadership position with authority within the organization, rests with the Executive Board.

***Article VIII – Advisors***

1. **Qualifications**: Advisors of this organization must be full-time members of The Ohio State University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. If a person is serving as an advisor who is not a member of the above classifications, a co-advisor must be chosen who is a member of these University classifications.
2. **Responsibilities**: The Advisor exists to guide the organization in the creation of organization culture; in long-range and strategic goal planning and direction setting; and in all matters concerning the achievement of excellence within the organization. In the event of any dispute or tie among the Executive Board or organization as a whole, the Advisor will be sought to resolve any conflict.

***Article IX – Membership Attendance***

1. **Reservation**: This organization reserves the right to govern membership requirements through the By-Law section of this Constitution as is necessary in accordance with the development and establishment of the organization in its first full foundational year.

***Article X – Attendees of Organization Events***

1. **Reservation**: This organization reserves the right to address member or event attendee behavior where the member or event attendee’s behavior is disruptive or otherwise not in alignment with this organization’s Constitution.

***Article XI – Procedure for Amending Constitution***

1. Any member associated with this organization may propose an amendment to this Constitution at any time. Amendments may be approved and thereby codified into this document through:
   1. *Majority Vote from the Executive Board*
   2. *Mandate of Advisor or*
   3. *Two-Thirds Majority Vote from the General Body*
2. This Constitution is by no means intended to be inerrant; nonetheless, in order to function properly as the primary governing document of this organization, this Constitution must possess a degree of rigidity with which it can adequately support and systematically unify the organization. The Constitution is to be regarded as an officially binding document for this organization, and as such, it should only be modified with great care and after thoughtful and wise consideration by the Executive Board and counsel of the Advisor.
3. Temporary Provision – Governance Guidance for First Years: In order for this organization to develop into its fullest potential, throughout its first full foundational year, the Executive Board may need to modify the Constitution more frequently than would be necessary in subsequent years. The Executive Board should act with more flexibility in the development and successful formation of the Constitution in the organization’s first full foundational year than in the years to follow.

***Article XII – Method of Dissolution of Organization***

1. In the event of the necessity of dissolution of this organization, the Executive Board and Advisor hold authority to decide on matters such as:
   1. Remaining Asset Allocation
   2. Resolution of Outstanding Debt
   3. Any Final Matters Required in Dissolution
2. Student Activities staff at The Ohio State University must be contacted to remove organization information from website.