**Truancy Mediation Project Constitution**

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Truancy Mediation Project is to train mediators pursuant to Ohio Supreme Courts rules and provide mediation for students in Columbus facing truancy in order to problem-solve through mediation in lieu of sending the student through the judicial system.

**Non-discrimination policy:** The Truancy Mediation Project 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.

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, the Truancy Mediation Project expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here: https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf.

If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at http://titleIX.osu.edu or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleIX@osu.edu**.**

**Land acknowledgement:** The Truancy Mediation Project would like to acknowledge that the land The Ohio State University occupies is the ancestral and contemporary territory of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe and Cherokee peoples. Specifically, the university resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greeneville and the forced removal of tribes through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. We want to honor the resiliency of these tribal nations and recognize the historical contexts that have and continue to affect the Indigenous peoples of this land.

**Membership:** Voting membership is limited to the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law students who have completed truancy mediation training pursuant to Ohio Supreme Court rules. The advisor of the Truancy Mediation Project will be the Langdon Fellow in Dispute Resolution or another faculty member involved in the Alternative Dispute Resolution program. The Truancy Mediation Project is open and willing to coordinate and plan with other Ohio State student clubs and organizations. Members of this club will receive mediation training, exposure to the legal mediation field, and gain real world experience mediating in schools.

**Organization Leadership:**

1. **President**
   1. Term length: 1 year beginning on the first day of the summer semester
   2. Elected position
   3. General duties: organizing student meetings; scheduling mediations; scheduling training; supervising mediations
2. **Vice President**
   1. Term length: 1 year beginning on the first day of the summer semester
   2. Elected position
   3. General duties: main point of contact for local high schools working with the Project, lead an expansion of the Project; recruitment for the Project; supervising mediations
3. **Treasurer** 
   1. Term length: 1 year beginning on the first day of summer semester
   2. Elected position
   3. General duties: secure funding for the program; seek reimbursement for organization related activities; supervising mediations
4. **Advisor**
   1. Term length: 1 year beginning on the first day of the summer semester
   2. Appointed by the Current Officers
   3. General duties: insure compliance with University rules and regulations
5. The Current Officers have full ability to add a co-president or a co-vice president if multiple general members have interest in the president or vice president positions and doing so would benefit the organization.
6. Although each officer has separate general duties, the Truancy Mediation Project follows a nonhierarchical structure and duties can be shared between members as the Current Officers see fit.

**Method of Selecting and Removing Officers:**

**A. Method:**

1. New officers are elected by a plurality vote of the members of the Project after submitting an interest statement at the end of spring semester.

2. In the event there are no candidates in the election, the current President, Vice-President, and Treasurer (“Current Officers”) will appoint new officers.

**B. Selecting:**

1. After submitting an interest statement to the current officers, an individual is selected to be an officer if the individual receives a plurality vote in the election.

2. If there is no candidate to elect, the Current Officers will appoint individuals who (1) participate in the Project (2) have been trained in mediation (3) want to be an officer

**C. Term limit:**

1 year term. Each officer or position must be reelected or reappointed each year.

**D. Removal**

1. A Current Officer may be removed at any time by a majority vote of the other Current Officers; provided that (1) the removal is approved by the faculty advisor and (2) elected officer of the chapter is removed from their position for cause.

*Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution, 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.*

**Required training:** All members must attend and successfully complete the mediation training. Meeting attendance is not required.

**Mediation conduct:** The organization reserves the right to address member behavior where the member’s behavior at a mediation is unprofessional or otherwise not in alignment with the organization’s constitution and goals.

**Amendments:** This Constitution may be amended by any member of the organization through unanimous consent of the leaders or a majority of all of the members after the amendment has been presented to the organization in writing.

**Dissolution:** Upon the official dissolution of the organization, Student Activities staff must be contracted to remove the organization information from the website. Additionally, the club advisor must be contacted and consulted with how to best dissolve the organization. Any funds, assets, or debts must be resolved pursuant to university guidelines and ethical practices.