

Criminal Justice & Reentry Initiative

Constitution and By-Laws

Article I: Name, Mission Statement , and Non-Discrimination Policy

Section I-Official Organization Name: Criminal Justice and Reentry Initiative

Section II-Mission Statement: Our purpose is to create a space for students of OSU interested in criminal justice & reentry services to have an avenue by which to channel such interest. We not only discuss the issues pertaining to CJ/reentry but also what can be done to alleviate such issues. There are also academic and professional opportunities in our organization that our members are encouraged to take advantage of.

Section III-Non-Discriminatory Policy: Here at CJRI we do not discriminate against any form of identity, whether it be gender, sex, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, or any other form of identity. Any form of identity discrimination will not be tolerated in this organization. Anyone found committing discrimination in the organization will be immediately dismissed from the organization affiliation.

Article II: Categories of Membership and Membership Qualifications: First and foremost we have the CJRI general body in which consists of any member of the organization.

Next comes the executive board of the organization in which consists of:

1. President
2. Vice President

3. Treasurer
4. Marketing and Social Media Chair
5. Community Outreach Chair

Details about the responsibilities of each of these positions will be explained in the Article IV section.

Then there is of course also our esteemed advisor who stands as a support system for the CJRI organization and its operations.

In order to qualify to be a member of CJRI you just have to be an affiliated student of The Ohio State University. You can also be a faculty member of the University in case we ever needed a new advisor or multiple advisors. Any student is welcome. If you have an interest in criminal justice and reentry then this is the place for you.

Article III-Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers: Any member found violating the following will be served with a warning and then dismissed immediately from all organization activities and arrangements if the violation occurs again.

1. The non-discriminatorion policy in Section 3 of Article 1
2. Spreading shared personal information of another member with other people without the member's permission whether the spreading is to someone in the organization or not a part of the organization.
3. The judgment free zone and safe space of the CJRI student organization
4. Any By-Laws of the organization

Dismissal decisions of any CJRI members from the organization will be voted on by the executive board committee.

Any executive board members who are not doing their duties, fulfilling their responsibilities, or violating the by-laws of the organization will be served with the following progression of disciplinary action:

1. Served with a warning
2. If the lack of responsibility to the organization continues then the executive board position will be suspended for the member along with its responsibilities and duties
3. If the lack of responsibility to the organization continues then the member will be relieved of and terminated from their executive board position indefinitely/permanently.

Suspension or termination decisions of executive board members will be voted on by the rest of the executive board committee.

Article IV-Executive Board Officer Responsibilities:

President: Oversee all organizations events, collaborations, outreach, finances, and planning.

The president will make sure that everyone in the other positions does their duties and shows leadership.

Vice President: Be a consultant with the president. Make decisions for the organization, being a second opinion for the president, and also bringing up creative ideas for the organization to the president. If the president and Vice President do not come to an agreement on a certain decision,

then it's their responsibility to consult with the other e-board officers to come to a unanimous decision.

Treasurer: Make sure that the events are in an affordable budget range. Work with the outreach chair, vice president, and president.

Marketing Chair: Create and manage the organization's social media accounts. Then tell the president and vice president what should be posted on the organization's social media page. Also, come up with ways to effectively advertise the organization while working with the president and vice president.

Community & Outreach Chair: Reach out to other organizations and come up with ways to collaborate with their organizations. Speak with the president and vice president about the organizations that were chosen to collaborate with. In addition, work with the president and vice president to figure out how to plan the collaboration event.

By-Laws:

Non-Discriminatory Clause: No amount of discriminatory actions are allowed in this organization. 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.

Title IX: As a student organization at The Ohio State University, the CJRI student organization 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.

Judgement Free Zone and Safe Space: As an organization, it is important to provide all members with a comfortable environment to express themselves freely without physical, emotional, or verbal harm. This includes not being judged, criticized, harassed or discriminated against due to any topics that may be discussed within each meeting. Any member that violates this by-law will be suspended or dismissed from future meetings.

Any executive board member found to have violated any of the by-laws are subject to the progressive disciplinary actions detailed in Article III, paragraph 3 concerning dismissal of executive board members

Below are the progressive disciplinary actions if the general members violate this by-law:

1. A warning will be given promptly.
2. Immediate dismissal from the organization.

Academic Integrity and Misconduct: As an organization based on academia and social change we adhere to the Ohio State University's policies on academic integrity and misconduct. Any member found sharing sensitive content from university classes such as homework answers or exam material will be immediately dismissed from our organization. We expect our members to have the utmost academic integrity. For more information on these matters consult

<https://oaa.osu.edu/academic-integrity-and-misconduct>.

Conflict Resolution:

- A. Members of the executive board share responsibility for overseeing the well-being of its officers and members.
- B. Should conflict arise, those involved should actively work towards:
 - Identifying the issue unbiasedly
 - Discussing the issue constructively and efficiently
 - Seek a compromise or resolution for involved parties
- C. If conflict proves to be more serious, board members may seek a mediator such as an advisor or neutral member within the organization's membership.
- D. All members should keep private information confided in them confidential, unless specified or harmful to others

Financial Matters: All organization events and activities in which require funds have to be first approved and consulted by the treasurer. After that the President and Co-Vice Presidents are to be consulted on the matter.

Election Methods:

President and Vice President positions: In order to be considered for the President and Vice President positions, a member would have needed to already been assigned to another executive board position. When considering the President position the member will be interviewed by the Vice President. When considering the VP position, the current president will conduct the interview. If another e-board member wanted to be VP then they'd go through two interviews, one with the President and a current VP and then another with the President and the other current VP. If there are two judges who can't come to an agreement then they need to consult another selected e-board member in order to make a majority decision. The decision will be based on whoever is the most qualified for the respective position.

Treasurer, Marketing Chair, & Outreach Chair positions: When considering members for these positions the member will be interviewed by the President and Vice President. The decision will be based on whoever is the most qualified for the respective position.

Constitution Amendments:

- A. This constitution is fundamentally flexible and may be subject to change at any point during the semester with approval from the executive board.

- B. All changes to this constitution require a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote from the executive board.
- C. All changes will be disclosed and published in the organization's sources of communication, also being made available to all members and advisors if needed.