

# **Enlighten-OSU Constitution/Charter**

## **Article I – Name, Purpose, Objectives, and Non-Discrimination Policy**

### **Section 1: Name**

- This organization will be called *Enlighten*

### **Section 2: Purpose**

- The purpose of *Enlighten* is to aid in the fight against human trafficking by mobilizing college students to confront human trafficking in Central Ohio. This will be accomplished through outreach to survivors, on campus awareness events, and legal advocacy.

### **Section 3: Objectives**

- *Raise awareness about human trafficking and human trafficking related causes in the Columbus community.*
- *Volunteer with and provide resources to local nonprofits that work with survivors.*
- *Advocate for human trafficking survivors through petitions and promote fair housing through working with local landlords and state officials*

### **Section 4: Non-Discrimination Policy**

- This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individual 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, ethnicity, or protected veteran status.

## **Article II – Membership**

### **Section 1: Eligibility**

- Following the organization's creation, membership will be extended to all currently enrolled students who demonstrate interest in membership and are selected by the Executive Committee to uphold the same values as those of this organization. Once accepted, no further application will be required for following years, and membership may be revoked upon the commission of an expulsion worthy action.

### **Section 2: Voting Eligible member status**

- Members shall forfeit voting eligible status in Enlighten if they fail to attend more than two (2) consecutive meetings, or more than four (4) meetings in a semester, without excuse.

### **Section 3: Grounds for Expulsion**

- The commission of discriminatory or inappropriate behavior at the discretion of the board is grounds for expulsion from the organization.

### **Section 4: Grounds for Impeachment and Removal of Officers**

- Failure to main Voting Eligible member status (as described in section two (2) of this article) and/or the dereliction of duty are grounds for removal of an Officer.

## **Article III – Organizational Leadership**

### **Section 1: Executive Board**

- The Executive Board of Enlighten will be responsible for high level leadership of the organization, being the main point of contact with the advisory board, representing the organization in conferences and meetings unless otherwise decided by a vote of general members, and aid in miscellaneous tasks needed for the success of the organization. The Executive board shall consist of, two co-presidents, Treasurer, Outreach Chair, Legal Advocacy Chair, Awareness Chair, and Social Media Director. The roles of these positions shall be expounded on in the remaining sections of this article.

### **Section 2: Co-President**

- The President will have an office term of one year and will be elected by a majority vote of active members. The President will be responsible for overseeing the officers and will chair executive board meetings as well as general organization meetings.

### **Section 4: Treasurer**

- The Treasurer will have an office term of one year and will be elected by a majority vote of active members. The Treasurer will be responsible for managing all financial matters.

### **Section 5: Awareness Chair**

- The Awareness chair will have an office term of one year and will be elected by a majority vote of active members. The awareness chair is responsible for overseeing a creating promotional and educational material and organizing campus outreach events.

### **Section 6: Outreach Chair**

- The Outreach Chair will be responsible for managing the outward activities of the organization in regards to our non-profit partners. The focus of this role will be managing our relationships with local organizations by acting as or managing a team of liaisons and setting collaborative events between students and organizations to provide volunteer opportunities, but also will work with the other executive board members on issues related to marketing and branding.

### **Section 7: Legal Advocacy**

- The Legal Advocacy Chair will be responsible for managing the legal advocacy for the organization at the state and local level. The focus of this role is the betterment and protection of survivors of human trafficking through the process of law.

### **Section 8: Social Media/Recruitment Chair**

- The Social Media and Recruitment Chair and oversee and manage social media accounts, recruit new members, run involvement fair table, and send out newsletter to general. This person will oversee Marketing tactics as well as journals/artistic components of the organization.

### **Section 9: Future Executive Board members**

- Any executive board members added later will be added following the official guidelines for amending the constitution.

## **Article IV- Committees**

### **Section 1: Committees**

- This organization will have no committees mandated by the ratification of this constitution.

## **Article V- Impeachment and Removal of Officers and Expulsion of Members**

### **Section 1: Impeachment and Removal of Officers**

- Grounds of impeachment for members of the executive board are outlined in Article 2 Section 2 of this document. For an impeachment to result in removal, 75% of the voting eligible members who attend a designated impeaching meeting must agree to the removal. Additionally, at least 2/3 of the voting eligible status members in the organization must be in attendance for the vote to be valid.

### **Section 2: Expulsion of members**

- Members of any status may be expelled by a majority vote of the board upon the commission of an expulsion worthy act, defined in Article 2 Section 3 of this document.

## **Article VI – Faculty/Staff Advisor Qualification Criteria**

### **Section 1: Staff advisor**

- The Faculty Advisor(s) shall be a full-time faculty or staff member of The Ohio State University. The Faculty Advisor shall be responsible for advising club officials on any decision he or she feels necessary.

### **Section 2: Board Members**

- The Organization may create a board of both staff and non-staff members to guide them on any operational decisions.

### **Section 3: Board member terms**

- Board members will serve a term at their discretion

### **Section 4: Approval of the board**

- Board members may be approved by a majority vote of the executive board.

## **Article VII – Meetings of the Organization**

- This organization will meet weekly unless otherwise decided by a majority vote of the executive board. Members are encouraged to attend as many meetings as possible to promote the success of the organization.

## **Article VIII – Method of Amending the Constitution**

- Proposed Amendments shall be submitted by any member of the organization and distributed in writing to all other members. The Amendment will then be voted on in a general body meeting, and may be passed with a two-thirds majority vote of voting eligible status members.

### **Article IX: Method of Dissolution**

- The dissolution proposal may be brought forth by any member of the executive board. The decision to dissolve will be made with a four-fifths majority vote of voting eligible status members in a general body meeting.

### **Article X: Miscellaneous Provisions**

**Section 1.** Any member found to be misrepresenting the views of the group as a whole (i.e. on the internet or in an interview) shall be required to rescind or edit his/her statement. However, members are encouraged to talk to members of the press about their individual opinions on certain issues pertaining to the mission and goals of the organization. Members who make damaging public statements about the organization can have their membership revoked at the discretion of the board.

## **Enlighten by-laws**

### **Article I- Parliamentary Authority**

- Robert's Rule of Order shall guide this organization in all cases to which they are applicable and are consistent with the by-laws of this organization.

### **Article II- Membership**

- The procedures governing membership shall be determined by the Executive Committee on an annual basis. Members shall be selected through the standard they set forth. All members who apply shall be currently enrolled students at The Ohio State University. Individuals who are not currently enrolled students may apply as honorary members. Honorary members shall have no voting power, but shall be included in general body meetings. An individual's membership will be standing unless he or she violates the terms of membership set forth in Article VI of this document. In this instance, a majority vote of the executive committee may result in the revocation of the individual's membership.

## **Article III- Elections and Appointments**

### **Section 1: Elections**

- Elections are to be held once a year, at the first meeting in April. Elections must be held on a day in which at least one-half of the eligible voting members are present and all current members of the executive committee must be present. Procedures for the election process are at the discretion of the executive committee. Individuals who are eligible for office must have been active voting members of the organization for at least one academic semesters prior to the election, and all nominations shall be self-nominated or nominated by an active member using the instant runoff method.

### **Section 2: Officer Impeachment and Removal**

- Grounds for impeachment are up to the discretion of the current executive board; including but not limited to: a failure to attend meetings and events without cause, failure to complete the required duties of the position, or inappropriate conduct. A vote of three-fourths in a general body meeting shall be required to remove any officer from their position. In the event that an officer position is vacant, the current officers of the organization may appoint a person of their choosing to fill the position until the next elections are held.

### **Section 3: Appointments**

- The Executive Committee may appoint members to special positions if needed to accomplish a relevant and pressing goal.

## **Article IV- Responsibilities of the Executive Committee**

- The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the review of applications for membership, decisions regarding organizational procedures and logistics, and for the day-to-day activities of the organization.

## **Article V- Standing Committees**

- *Refer to Article V of the Enlighten Constitution for reference*

## **Article VI- Advisors**

### **Section one: Non profit board**

- If this organization pursues a non-profit status, then an Ohio State staff adviser will serve as a chief board member to the organization. The Executive board will keep the advisor in regular communication on the operational matters of the organization, and the advisor will provide guidance and input as they see fit.
- Other board members can be approved by the Executive board

### **Section two: Student org status**

- The advisor is required to fulfill all duties as established by the Registration Guidelines for Student Organizations, including but not limited to: verifying the organization's information and agreeing to the terms of the Campus Safety Act by signing off on the

organization's online registration, signing off on CSA funding requests, being listed as a signatory on the organization's checking account, attending an advisor certification session once every three years, and signing off on reservations of University space and equipment, as requested by the University department granting the reservation. Additional obligations may be negotiated annually between the Executive Board and the acting advisor.

### **Article VII- Meeting Requirements**

- Any meeting requirements for the academic year shall be determined at the start of fall semester by a majority vote of the full executive committee. These requirements shall last until removed by a majority vote of the full executive committee or a 60% majority vote of the general body.

### **Article VIII- Method of amending by-laws**

- Amendments to the by-laws may be proposed by any organization member and are approved by a 2/3 vote of voting eligible members present. The vote will take place the next week after being proposed.