

**American Constitution Society of The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law  
Constitution**

**Article I**

This organization shall be known as "The American Constitution Society of The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law" ("American Constitution Society").

**Article II—Statement of Purpose**

The American Constitution Society is a group of students concerned about the pervasive conservative orthodoxy in American law and politics. We believe deeply in the importance of law as the mechanism which governs the relationships between and among the individuals and institutions that form our society, and we recognize the direct relationship between legal theory and the broader political debate about the kind of society in which we live.

In recent years, the view has been ascendant that the traditional values of compassion and respect for human dignity have little or no place in legal discourse. This view permeates all aspects of legal debate: academic scholarship, judicial interpretation, and debate about laws proposed for enactment. The cornerstone of this legal view is an approach to understanding the United States Constitution that is essentially devoid of concern for the way in which the law affects the lives of the people who make up the nation in which we live.

We believe, contrary to this conservative orthodoxy, that the law, and, in particular, the Constitution, serves human values. We believe that the Constitution is a charter of liberty, the blueprint for a noble and unique experiment designed to prevent the excesses of government in order to protect the human dignity necessary for individuals to realize the full potential of their lives. The goal of the Constitution, and the United States it created, is to permit people to succeed in the "pursuit of happiness," one of the inalienable rights this nation explicitly was founded to secure to the American people.

We believe that the Constitution, and by extension, many other areas of American law, can be understood only by reference to principles of decency, reason, humanity and compassion. We believe that those who enforce the law must have concern for the way in which it affects the lives of the people who make up the nation in which we live. And we believe these principles should form a starting point for enactment, as well as interpretation, of the law.

The mission of the American Constitution Society is to harness these values of compassion and respect for each individual, and to re-incorporate them into American law and politics, in order to build a stronger and more decent national community. We seek to restore the fundamental principles of respect for human dignity, protection of individual rights and liberties, genuine equality, and access to justice to their rightful -- and traditionally central -- place in American law. We want to strengthen the intellectual underpinnings of -- and the public case for -- a vision of the law in which these values are paramount. Our goal is a rekindling of the hope that by reason and decency, we can create an America that is better for us all.

**Article III—Membership and Anti-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.

Membership shall be open to all The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law students, faculty and staff. Only students currently enrolled at The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law shall be permitted to vote in American Constitution Society elections.

Any eligible individual may become a member of the American Constitution Society by attending at least one general meeting or official event and by adding their name and contact information to the chapter's membership roster. Continued membership may be maintained through periodic participation in events and communications. No formal application or dues are required unless otherwise determined by the executive committee.

#### Article IV—Member Removal

Members may be removed for good cause by a vote of three-fourths of the general membership of the American Constitution Society. Grounds for removal include, but are not limited to, conduct that is disruptive to the organization's operations, inconsistent with its stated mission and values, or in violation of applicable university policies.

A motion for removal may be raised by any member. The member in question shall receive notice of the proposed removal and the grounds thereof at least seven days prior to the vote. The member shall have the opportunity to respond to the allegations before a vote is held.

The Faculty Advisor shall be consulted prior to any final vote. Removal shall require the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the general membership present at the meeting.

#### Article V—Officers

The American Constitution Society executive committee shall be composed as follows:

The executive committee shall be composed of officers, including at least a President and a Treasurer. Only current The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law students may serve as officers. The officers shall be elected by members at a meeting held pursuant to Article IX or through secure electronic means. The officer roles are as follows:

**President:** The President shall serve as the primary executive officer of the Society, responsible for overseeing the chapter's activities, setting organizational priorities, and ensuring alignment with ACS's mission. The President shall call and preside over meetings, coordinate events, and act as the principal liaison with faculty, the Student Bar Association, national ACS, and other student organizations.

**Vice President:** The Vice President shall assist the President in all duties and assume leadership responsibilities in their absence. The Vice President may oversee specific programming initiatives, coordinate subcommittees or special projects, and help ensure the successful planning and execution of chapter events and outreach efforts.

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall manage the Society's financial affairs, including preparing the annual budget, tracking income and expenditures, and submitting required financial reports to the Student Bar Association. The Treasurer shall also oversee fundraising efforts and ensure responsible stewardship of chapter resources in accordance with university policies.

Secretary: The Secretary shall maintain accurate records of all meetings, including minutes, attendance, and organizational decisions. The Secretary shall also manage internal communications, maintain the membership roster, distribute meeting notices, and ensure compliance with documentation requirements of the law school and ACS national.

The responsibilities of the executive committee shall be as follows:

The committee shall compile and maintain the minutes of meetings and the records of the organization, keep a current list of members, notify members of meetings, maintain the financial accounts and records of the Society, set forth the Society's budget, and submit the Society's financial reports to the Student Bar Association according to SBA guidelines.

The executive committee shall have the power by majority vote to create and eliminate additional officer positions as is deemed necessary to fulfill the missions and purpose of The American Constitution Society.

#### Article VI—Faculty Advisor

The Faculty Advisor shall serve as a resource for the Society members, offer guidance and input in the selection of speakers and serve as a liaison between the local chapter, university administration and the advisors of American Constitution Society chapters at other schools. The Advisor shall also serve as a reference to inform current officers of past activities and events undertaken by the organization.

#### Article VII—Elections

All American Constitution Society officers, including those expressly called for by this document and those otherwise created, shall be elected by the general membership of the organization. Officers shall be elected in the spring of each year, except that first-year representatives shall be elected in the fall. Notice of the vote shall be provided at least seven days in advance of the final day for voting.

Each officer will serve for a term of one year, ending with the election of officers for the following year.

In the event that an elected executive removes themselves from office, a special election will be held, the timing of which will be determined by the current board, in either the Fall or the Spring.

#### Article VIII—Removal of Officers

Officers and members may be removed only for good cause by a vote of three-fourths of the general membership of the American Constitution Society. Any member may make the motion for removal at a general meeting of the American Constitution Society.

#### Article IX—Amending the Constitution

Amendments to this constitution and to the by-laws shall adopted be by a two-thirds vote of the general membership, except that no amendment shall be adopted without the affirmative vote of both the President and the Faculty Advisor.

#### Article X—Governance

This organization shall be governed by this Constitution, its bylaws, and the rules and regulations of The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law.

#### Article XI—Meetings

In each semester, there shall be at least two meetings of the general membership of The American Constitution Society of The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law.

#### Article XII—Dissolution

If at any time the members of The American Constitution Society of The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law believe that the organization can no longer fulfill its purpose, the organization may be dissolved by a three-fourths vote of the general membership. Such vote may only be called by a unanimous vote of the Executive Officers and with the assent of the Faculty Advisor. Any assets in the organization's possession at time of dissolution are to be given to the Michael E. Moritz College of Law Library for the acquisition of materials consistent with the purpose of The American Constitution Society.