

**UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL OF LAW
STUDENT BODY CONSTITUTION
Revised and Amended March 29th, 2012**

**WE, THE STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL OF LAW, IN
ORDER TO PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE OF OUR STUDENT BODY,
HEREIN AND HEREBY SET FORTH THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF
STUDENT GOVERNMENT FOR OURSELVES AND OUR SUCCESSORS AND
ORDAIN AND ESTABLISH THIS CONSTITUTION.**

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ARTICLE I

Section 1 Members of the Law School Student Body

1.1 All Students enrolled in the University of Mississippi School of Law (Law School) who satisfy the required dues, except those hereinafter identified as being Special Students, shall be members of the Student Body. All persons in attendance at the Law School, who are not working toward a Juris Doctorate degree, including those students who have previously obtained their degrees, shall be designated as Special Students and not members of any Class, nor shall they have any right to vote in any Class or Student Body election. All other members of the Law School Student Body (LSSB) who satisfy the required dues shall be designated as Regular Students and shall be divided into three (3) Classes.

Section 2 Members of the Freshman Class

1.1 The Freshman Class shall be composed of all Regular Students who have completed less than twenty-eight (28) semester hours at this or any other school of law recognized by the Law School Administration (Administration).

Section 3 Members of the Junior Class

1.1 The Junior Class shall be composed of all Regular Students who have completed more than twenty-seven (27), but less than fifty-eight (58) semester hours at this or any other school of law recognized by the Administration.

Section 4 Members of the Senior Class

1.1 The Senior Class shall be composed of all Regular Students who have completed at least fifty-eight (58) semester hours but less than the number of semester hours required for graduation at this or any other school of law recognized by the Administration.

ARTICLE II

Section 1 Student Body Officers

1.1 The Student Body shall elect officers to serve as President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Honor Council Chairman, and Social Chairman.

Section 2 Qualifications

2.1 President

- (1) Shall have completed at least twenty-nine (29) semester hours by the time of the election.**
- (2) Shall have at least a 2.25 Cumulative Grade Point Average.**
- (3) Shall be in residence at the Law School during the academic year in which he or she is to serve.**

2.2 Vice-President

- (1) Shall have completed at least twenty-nine (29) semester hours prior to taking office.**
- (2) Shall have at least a 2.25 Cumulative Grade Point Average.**
- (3) Shall be in residence at the Law School during the academic year in which he or she is to serve.**

2.3 Secretary

(1) Shall have completed at least twenty-nine (29) semester hours prior to taking office.

(2) Shall have at least a 2.25 Cumulative Grade Point Average.

(3) Shall be in residence at the Law School during the academic year in which he or she is to serve.

2.4 Treasurer

(1) Shall have completed at least twenty-nine (29) semester hours prior to taking office.

(2) Shall have at least a 2.25 Cumulative Grade Point Average.

(3) Shall be in residence at the Law School during the academic year in which he or she is to serve.

2.5 Honor Council Chairman

(1) Shall have completed at least twenty-nine (29) semester hours prior to taking office.

(2) Shall have at least a 2.25 Cumulative Grade Point Average.

(3) Shall be in residence at the Law School during the academic year in which he or she is to serve.

2.6 Social Chairman

(1) Shall have completed at least twenty-nine (29) semester hours prior to taking office.

(2) Shall have at least a 2.25 Cumulative Grade Point Average.

(3) Shall be in residence at the Law School during the academic year in which he or she is to serve.

2.7 Attorney General

(1) Shall have completed at least twenty-nine (29) semester hours prior to taking office.

- (2) Shall have at least a 2.25 Cumulative Grade Point Average.**
- (3) Shall be in residence at the Law School during the academic year in which he or she is to serve.**

3.1 President

- (1) Shall preside over meetings of the Student Body.**
- (2) May appoint any Regular Student to any Committee at his or her discretion, subject to ARTICLE V, Section 4.1, which he or she deems necessary and proper for the functioning of student affairs.**
- (3) Shall have the power to call meetings of the Student Body.**
- (4) Shall coordinate the proper administration and functioning of the Student Body Office.**
- (5) Shall initiate, by and through a member of the Student Body Senate, any by-law, resolution, proposal or Amendment to this Constitution which he or she deems necessary to carry out any matter properly of interest to the Student Body.**
- (6) In the absence of a signature by the Treasurer, shall sign all checks drawn on Student Body accounts.**

3.2 Vice-President

- (1) In case of any temporary absence of the President, the President's duties shall be performed by the Vice-President.**
- (2) Shall be the presiding officer at all meetings of the Student Body Senate.**
- (3) Shall perform such other duties as are required of him or her by the President or Student Body Senate.**

3.3 Secretary

Shall keep a permanent record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Student Body and the Senate and of all matters deemed advisable by the President or the Senate.

Shall work with the leaders of all law student organizations to compile a master calendar of all events hosted by law student organizations throughout the year and shall publish such calendar to the Law School by way of one (1) or both of the following:

(a) At least one (1) printed calendar in the Mall of the Law School; (b) An electronic calendar appearing on the LSSB Web site

(3) Shall issue notice of all meetings of the Student Body and Senate.

(4) Shall conduct the correspondence of the Student Body and the Senate with the concurrence of the President.

(5) Shall publish to the members of the Student Body the minutes of meetings of the Student Body and of the Senate within two (2) working days of such meeting(s).

(6) In case of temporary absence of both the President and Vice-President, the duties of the President shall be performed by the Secretary.

3.4 Treasurer

(1) Shall collect and disburse the funds of the Student Body, and keep regular accounts which shall at all times be open to the inspection of any member of the Student Body.

(2) Shall publish to the members of the Student Body a bi-semester account of all funds collected, appropriated and/or disbursed from or to the General Fund, Honor Council, and any and all other organizations, committees or groups within the Law School after submitting the same to the Student Body Senate for their approval.

(3) In the case of any temporary absence of the Secretary, the duties of the Secretary shall be performed by the Treasurer in addition to his or her own duties.

(4) Shall have the power, at the direction of the President or Student Body Senate, to audit the financial records of any and all organizations, committees or individuals who are the recipients of any funds appropriated from the Student Body General Fund.

3.5 Honor Council Chairman

Shall perform those duties enumerated in ARTICLE VII of this Constitution.

3.6 Social Chairman

- (1) Shall be charged with the management, planning, production and coordination of all social functions of the Student Body.**
- (2) Shall submit, at the beginning of each semester and/or as is deemed necessary and proper, an itemized budget to the Student Body Senate for the appropriation and disbursement of funds for all social functions.**
- (3) Shall perform such other duties as will be required to comply with ARTICLE VI of this Constitution.**

3.7 Attorney General

- (1) Shall give advisory opinion(s) to the President and LSSB Senate in matters regarding the LSSB Constitution and the LSSB Code.**
- (2) Shall serve as a liaison between the Executive and Judicial branch of the LSSB.**
- (3) Shall prosecute all violations of the Honor Code pursuant to ARTICLE VII of this Constitution.**

Section 4 Terms of Office

- 4.1 The terms of office for the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chairman of the Honor Council, Social Chairman, and Attorney General shall be one (1) year, beginning the day after the completion of the Spring Semester and pursuant to the qualifications set forth in Section 2 of this ARTICLE.**
- 4.2 Elections for the offices set forth in Section 4.1 of this ARTICLE shall be held during the Spring Semester each year.**
- 4.3 Any holder of an elective office governed by this ARTICLE must first resign that office before becoming a candidate for any other Student Body Office or Student Body Senate.**
- 4.4 If the President is unable to be in the Oxford-University area during the Summer Session, the President shall appoint another Officer available for the Summer Session to fulfill his or her duties during that period. If an officer is unavailable, the President shall appoint a member of the Student Body who is**

available during the Summer Session and meets the qualifications to hold the Office of President, as set out herein, to fulfill his duties during that period.

Section 5 Vacancies

5.1 A vacancy of any elective Office within the Law School, for any reason, shall be filled only in accordance with this Section.

5.2 In the event that the President is unable to complete his or her term of office, the Vice-President shall assume the role of President.

5.3 If the unexpired term is for less than one (1) semester, it shall be filled by nomination from the President.

5.4 Any vacancy in the Student Body Senate shall be filled by a nomination from the President, with the unanimous approval of the Senate, of a Regular Student member of the Class in which the vacancy occurs, subject to the qualifications set out in ARTICLE V, Section 1.

5.5 If the unexpired term is for more than one (1) semester, a special election shall be held for the vacant office.

5.6 If the vacancy occurs during the Summer Session, such vacancy shall be filled during the initial LSSB Election held in the Fall Semester, or at such other time as deemed administratively necessary by the President.

ARTICLE III

Section 1 Assessment of Student Body Fee

1.1 There shall be a yearly assessment levied against each Regular Student member of the Student Body in an amount to be decided each year by all Officers of the Student Body (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Attorney General) at the beginning of the Fall Semester. The payment of this amount shall entitle the student to all rights and privileges of the Student Body for one (1) academic year.

Section 2 Standing Account to be Set Aside from General Fund

2.1 There shall be a standing account of one-hundred (\$100.00) dollars, no more or less, assigned to the Honor Council from the General Fund.

2.2 Such fund shall not accumulate but shall at all times be available to the Honor Council for purposes consistent with the function and objectives of the Council as set forth in ARTICLE VII of this Constitution.

2.3 Such fund may be withdrawn only at the request of the Chairman of the Honor Council, subject to the approval of the Senate.

Section 3 Statement of Fiscal Policy

3.1 Funds received pursuant to Section 1 of this ARTICLE should be used for the benefit of all members of the Student Body during the course of the academic year in which such funds are acquired, except for such amount of said fund as the Student Body Senate deems necessary and proper for the efficient administration of Student Body affairs. All money received pursuant to ARTICLE III, Section 1, not spent within current school year shall be carried forward, and kept in the Student Body general account for the upcoming year.

3.2 In no case shall Student Body funds be used for the sole benefit of one (1) or more students to the exclusion of the remaining Student Body without a prior statement of the reasons for such expenditures, which shall be submitted to the Treasurer, subject to the approval of the Senate.

3.3 In each semester the Senate shall establish a budget in a meeting as early in the semester as practicable. All requests for funding of organizations, committees or other recognized groups must be submitted in writing to the Senate, through the Treasurer, before the first day of the third month classes are in session.

3.4 The class composite shall be paid for each year out of the General Fund.

3.5 All money paid out of the Student Body funds toward payment of the Law School yearbook must be approved by the Senate.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1 Election Commission

1.1 At the beginning of each academic year the President shall appoint three (3) members of the Student Body to serve for that semester as Election Commissioners. The term of the Election Commission shall expire at the end of the academic year in which they are appointed.

1.2 No person shall serve as Election Commissioner if he or she is a candidate for any office, nor shall any relative of any candidate serve in any capacity on or for the Election Commission.

**1.3 The Election Commission shall not be composed entirely of students from one
(1) Class.**

1.4 Duties of the Election Commission:

(1) Set the date of elections and the last date and time for filing petitions

(2) Post notice of the date of elections and the last date and time for filing petitions for candidacy

(3) Accept and verify positions for candidacy

(4) Insure that all candidates possess the qualifications for their respective office

(5) Prepare the ballot or ballots to be used in the election

(6) Supervise the polling place, tally the votes, and certify the results of the election

Section 2 Petitions for Candidacy

2.1 All candidates for any office governed by this Constitution shall submit a petition for candidacy to the Election Commission. Such petition must be submitted on or before the last date and time set by the Commission for the filing of such petition.

2.2 All petitions for candidacy shall contain at least ten (10) signatures of current law students.

2.3 Failure to file a petition for candidacy within the time set by the Election Commission shall render a candidate ineligible to have his or her name appear on the ballot.

Section 3 Election Procedures

3.1 No elections shall be held until notice of such election has been posted in a prominent place in the Law School for at least three (3) full class days.

3.2 All elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.

3.3 A majority of the votes cast is required for the election. If no candidate receives a majority in an Election for the position of any LSSB Officer, a run-off election between the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes shall be conducted not later than the fifth class day following the regular election.

The procedure for run-offs in an Election for the position of LSSB Senator shall be determined in accordance with ARTICLE V, Sections 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5.

ARTICLE V

Section 1 Law School Student Body Senate

1.1 The Law School Student Body Senate shall be composed of nine (9) Senators. Three (3) Senators shall be elected from the First Year Class at the beginning of the Fall Semester. Second and Third Year Senators shall be elected in the Spring Semester prior to taking office. The members shall serve for the Fall and Spring Semesters.

1.2 No person, with the exception of the first semester Freshmen, shall be eligible for the office of Senator unless he or she possesses a Cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 2.25 and shall be in residence at the Law School during the semesters in which he or she is to serve. A Senator must be a Regular Student member of the Class from which he or she is elected.

1.3 Each student may cast votes for up to three (3) candidates on the ballot for his or her class.

1.4 The three (3) candidates receiving the highest number of votes in each class will be elected.

1.5 In the event that there is a tie among the candidates receiving the third most votes, there will be a run-off election between the tying candidates.

Section 2 Organization and Voting

2.1 The Student Body Vice-President or President Pro Tempore shall be the Presiding Officer of the Senate, but shall vote only in case of a tie. The Senate shall, at the first regular meeting of each semester, select one (1) of their number to serve as President Pro Tempore of the Senate, who shall preside over any meetings at which the Student Body Vice- President is absent or otherwise unable to preside. Where the Student Body Vice-President is present and serving

at Senate Meetings, the President Pro Tempore shall not be considered as serving in that capacity for the purposes of voting.

2.2 A quorum of six (6) Senators must be present at any meeting before any matter may be considered. All matters coming before the Senate for action must be passed by no less than a majority vote of the quorum, with the exception of funds appropriation, which shall require the approval of no less than six (6) Senators, in accordance with Section 4.8 of this ARTICLE.

2.3 LSSB Officers, excluding the President Pro Tempore when not serving in such capacity, shall not vote on any matters coming before the Senate. In the event of a tie, voting shall be carried out in accordance with ARTICLE V, Section 2.1.

Section 3 Meetings

3.1 The Senate shall meet at least once a month, but may be convened at any time at the direction of the Student Body President or upon concurrence of at least three (3) members of the Senate.

3.2 Notice of the place, date and time of any Senate meeting shall be posted by the President at least one (1) class day prior to such meeting.

3.3 All meetings of the Senate must be open to the Law School Student Body, but may be closed to other persons upon concurrence of a majority of the quorum present.

Section 4 Powers and Duties of the Student Body Senate

4.1 Approve all appointments made by the Student Body President.

4.2 Approve all appointments made by the ABA-LSD Representative.

4.3 Approve the Financial Reports of the Student Body Treasurer.

4.4 Initiate recommendations for action to the Student Body President and other Offices of the Student Body.

4.5 Initiate Amendments to this Constitution for the approval of the Student Body.

4.6 Senators shall be the Executive Officers of their respective Classes, and shall have the power to convene and preside over Class meetings on two (2) class days notice of the time, date and place.

4.7 All Student Body projects and activities involving the appropriation and disbursement of funds acquired from the Student Body in excess of two hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars shall be subject to the prior approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the membership of the Senate as a whole.

4.8 The Senate shall have the power to make any and all statutes, by-laws and resolutions in the name of the Law School Student Body on any issue which would properly be the concern of Regular Students attending the University of Mississippi School of Law.

No powers or duties herein enumerated may be waived except that the Senate may, by majority vote of a quorum present, waive the approval of specified appointments; delineated by Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of this ARTICLE.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1 The Social Committee

1.1 The Social Chairman shall be elected at large from the Student Body and shall serve a term of one (1) year.

1.2 The Social Chairman may appoint up to six (6) students to serve as members of the Social Committee, subject to majority approval of the Senate.

Section 2 Powers and Duties

2.1 The Social Committee shall be responsible for planning, production and coordination of social functions of the Student Body.

2.2 The Social Committee shall be funded through the Senate, which shall have final authority over the appropriation and disbursement of such funds.

2.3 The Social Chairman shall submit to the Senate a budget each academic term, or at such other interval as may be deemed required by the Senate or the Committee. Funding shall be provided on a per event basis

ARTICLE VII

Honor Council

[Click here to download the Current Honor Code](#)

ARTICLE VIII

Section 1 Amendment and Revision Procedures

1.1 The procedure to be used for amending or revising any ARTICLE or ARTICLES of this Constitution shall be determined by the Senate.

1.2 Amendment and Revision Procedures shall become a separate ARTICLE and incorporated within this Constitution.

ARTICLE IX

Section 1 Amendment of the LSSB Constitution

1.1 This ARTICLE is incorporated pursuant to ARTICLE VIII, Sections 1.1 and 1.2 of this Constitution.

1.2 Employment of the Procedures established in this ARTICLE shall afford any member of the LSSB the opportunity to initiate an Amendment to this Constitution pursuant to either of the two (2) procedures outlined below: amendment by petition (ARTICLE IX, § 3), or amendment through the Senate (ARTICLE IX, § 4).

Section 2 Limitations

2.1 Any Regular Student initiating an Amendment to this Constitution must be enrolled in the Law School at the time such Amendment is proposed and voted on.

2.2 Any signatories to such a Proposed Amendment must be enrolled in the Law School at the time of their signature. Enrolled is defined as one who is registered and is attending classes.

Section 3 Procedure: Amendment by Petition

3.1 The name, signature and Class of the person(s) initiating the amendment by petition process must appear directly following the text of the Proposed Amendment.

3.2 The Proposed Amendment must include as an attachment thereto the reason(s) or justification for the adoption of the proposed Amendment. The

attachment must also bear the name(s), Class and signature of the person(s) initiating the Proposed Amendment.

3.3 The proposed Amendment must be signed by no fewer than seventy-five (75) Regular Students enrolled in the Law School.

3.4 By his or her signature, each signatory shall warrant that they have read and agreed with ALL of the terms, qualifications and consequences of the Proposed Amendment.

3.5 The Proposed Amendment shall be submitted to the Honor Council.

(a) The Honor Council shall first review the Proposed Amendment for technical compliance with sections 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 of this ARTICLE, as well as for any material contradictions with other, non-amended, constitutional provisions.

(b) If any technical deficiencies or material contradictions are noted, the Proposed Amendment shall be returned to the initiators for correction of the technical deficiency and/or further amendment to correct material contradictions.

(c) The Honor Council shall not engage in evaluation of the substantive merits of the Proposed Amendment, limiting the scope of their review to the aspects of the Proposed Amendment outlined in this Section.

3.6 If the author of the Proposed Amendment is a member of the Honor Council, he or she must recuse him or herself from the review process.

Section 4 Procedure: Amendment through the Senate

4.1 The name, signature and Class of the person(s) initiating the Amendment by petition process must appear directly following the text of the Proposed Amendment.

4.2 The Proposed Amendment must include as an attachment thereto the reason(s) or justification for the adoption of the Proposed Amendment. The attachment must also bear the name(s), Class and signature of the person(s) initiating the Proposed Amendment.

4.3 The Proposed Amendment shall be submitted to the Senate.

(a) The Senate shall first review the Proposed Amendment for technical compliance with the Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of this ARTICLE, as well as for any material contradictions with other, non-amended, constitutional provisions.

(b) If any technical deficiencies or material contradictions are noted, the Proposed Amendment shall be returned to the initiators for correction of the technical deficiency and/or further amendment to correct material contradictions.

4.4 After reviewed for technical compliance and/or material contradiction, the Senate shall vote on the Proposed Amendment. For any Proposed Amendment to be presented to the Student Body for a vote, two-thirds (2/3) of the Senate must affirm it.

4.5 If the author of the Proposed Amendment is a member of the Senate, he or she must recuse him or herself from the review process and the vote on whether or not to present the Proposed Amendment to the Student Body.

Section 5 Affirmation by Student Body

5.1 After the Proposed Amendment has either been found to be technically compliant by the Honor Council or has been approved by the Senate, the Honor Council or the Senate, respectively, shall submit the Proposed Amendment to the Election Commission who shall, in compliance with ARTICLE IV of this Constitution, set a date for the Proposed Amendment to be voted upon by the Student Body.

5.2 The date of the vote shall be on or before the next LSSB election after completion of the review process by the Honor Council or Senate.

5.3 For any Proposed Amendment to be adopted and incorporated into this Constitution, two-thirds (2/3) of the voting Student Body must affirm it.

ARTICLE X

This Constitution, as revised and amended, shall become effective on the Twenty-Ninth Day of March, Two Thousand and Twelve (2012).