

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF LAW  
IMMIGRATION LAW SOCIETY

**Article I: Name**

- The name of the chapter shall be the University of Miami School of Law Immigration Law Society (“Immigration Law Society”).

**Article II: Objectives**

The Immigration Law Society will serve to:

- Expose our law students to the evolving area of immigration law through guest speakers, presentations, and conferences.
- Facilitate career opportunities through an ongoing effort to maintain active relationships with the immigration legal community in Miami, in both the public and private sectors.
- Create part-time job and research opportunities for law students who are potentially interested in pursuing a career in immigration law.
- Heighten awareness of the impact of immigration law and policy on various immigrant groups, the United States, and the world community.
- Encourage law students to become actively involved in immigration law issues, through service projects and partnerships with Miami-based non-profit groups.

**Article III: Membership**

- Any law student in good standing attending the University of Miami School of Law is eligible for membership in the Immigration Law Society.

**Article IV: Officers**

Section 1: The Immigration Law Society will have four (4) officers: President, Executive Vice President (VP-Exec.), Vice President of Administration (VP-Admin.), and Vice President of Finance (Treasurer).

Section 2: The president shall have completed at least (1) year of law school. The President shall be the Immigration Law Society’s Chief Executive officer and shall preside over all Executive Committee and General Society meetings.

Section 3: The VP-Exec. Shall perform such duties as are delegated by the president. The VP-Exec. Shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President.

Section 4: The VP-Admin. Shall keep the minutes of all Immigration Law Society and Executive Committee meetings and shall be responsible for any society records.

Section 5: The Treasurer shall collect all Immigration Law Society monies, keeping records thereof. The Treasurer shall receive, disburse, and invest the funds of the Immigration Law Society as directed by the Executive Committee.

Section 6: The term of the office shall be one year, which shall begin at the close of the

last general society meeting of each school year.

Section 7: In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the duties, powers and responsibilities of the president shall be assumed immediately by the next officer in the line of succession as follows: VP- Exec, VP- Admin, and Treasurer. In the event of a vacancy in the other offices, notices of the vacancy shall be given to the Members who shall elect to fill the vacancy by majority vote at a meeting to be held not sooner than thirty days after such notice has been given.

For purposes of this Article, a vacancy will arise upon resignation of an officer, or upon certification by two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee that an officer is mentally or physically unable to fulfill the duties of office.

#### **Article V: Executive Committee**

SECTION 1: The Executive Committee shall be the managing body of the Immigration Law Society, and shall direct its affairs.

SECTION 2: The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the four (4) elected Officers.

SECTION 3: The Executive Committee shall hold no less than four (4) meetings per academic year.

SECTION 4: As provided hereinabove, the VP- Admin will be responsible for keeping all Executive Committee minutes.

#### **Article VI: Faculty Advisor**

SECTION 1: The Immigration Law Society shall have a Faculty Advisor who is a professor at the University of Miami School of Law.

SECTION 2: The Faculty Advisor shall provide guidance to the Executive Committee and the president as needed relating to the activities and programs of the Immigration Law Society.

#### **Article VII: Elections and Voting**

SECTION 1: *Eligibility*

1. Only Members in good standing as provided hereinabove shall be entitled to vote in any election or hold office in the Immigration Law Society.

SECTION 2: *Election Rules.*

1. Balloting shall be conducted separately for each position to be filled.
2. A candidate shall secure a position upon receiving a majority of votes of the Members present.

3. The Executive Committee may promulgate election rules, which rules shall serve as permanent rules unless amended by the Executive Committee.

### **Article VIII: General Meetings**

SECTION 1: General Society meetings shall be held at least four (4) times during the school year, with the final meeting held at the close of the school year for the purpose of electing officers for the following school year.

SECTION 2: Notification of a General Society meeting must be provided to all Members seven (7) days prior to the meetings.

### **Article IX: Amendments**

SECTION 1: This Constitution may be amended at the General Membership meeting of the Immigration Law Society by three-quarters (3/4) of the Members present or two-thirds (2/3) of the membership, whichever is less.

SECTION 2: An amendment must be proposed to the President or VP-Admin. In writing not less than three (3) weeks prior to the General Meeting at which the amendment will be considered. The proposed amendment must also be approved by the Executive Committee and circulated in writing to the Members one (1) week prior to the meeting at which the amendment will be considered.

### **Article 12: Bylaws**

SECTION 1: The Executive Committee may adopt a set of Bylaws subject to the approval of the majority of members.

SECTION 2: Adopted Bylaws shall not be inconsistent with this Constitution.

## **IMMIGRATION LAW SOCIETY (I.L.S.) CONSTITUTION**

### **Article I: Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Immigration Law Society (I.L.S.)

### **ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Immigration Law Society shall be to provide its members with a common forum for addressing immigration law issues and interacting with established attorneys, officials, and experts in the field. Furthermore, the aims of this organization are to promote multiculturalism, enable its members to develop a global outlook, and provide an enriched understanding of contemporary immigration practice.

### **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 1: Members of the Immigration Law Society shall be University of Miami Law students committed to the goals and objectives of this organization.

SECTION 2: Membership dues shall be consented to upon proposed by the Executive Board to all members at the first meeting of the I.L.S. on November 3, 1998.

SECTION 3: Membership shall be held by those meeting the criteria established in Section 1 and 2 of this Article.

#### **ARTICLE IV: NONDISCRIMINATION**

In compliance with the policy of the University of Miami, the Immigration Law Society does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, handicap, age, or marital status. This nondiscrimination policy covers membership selection, activities, policies, and practices of the Society.

#### **ARTICLE V: GOALS**

The goals of the Society shall be:

- A. To promote multiculturalism and an interdisciplinary approach to immigration law issues.
- B. To provide members with an opportunity to interact with immigration law experts and practitioners.
- C. To foster community interface and assistance.
- D. To maximize attendees; participation in "Crossfire-type" debates and roundtable discussions and evaluations of potential approaches relating to current immigration law.
- E. To enable members to develop a global outlook and to promote multiculturalism.
- F. To facilitate and improve employment and training opportunities in the field of private and public immigration for society members.
- G. To encourage the Law School Administration to add more immigration-related courses and workshops into its curriculum.
- H. To encourage the involvement of members from diverse backgrounds.

#### **ARTICLE VI: OBJECTIVES**

The Society shall set objectives that are designed to help reach its general organizational goals and fulfill its purpose. Objectives shall be drafted by a standing committee prior to election of the new board and read to the general body.

#### **Article VII: COMMITTEES**

The Society shall have standing committees to plan and organize activities and events aimed at achieving specific objectives and identifying specific organizational needs. Committee shall submit a list of related organizational objectives prior to election of a new board for purposes of implementing programmatic activities in the subsequent academic year. The Society shall consist of but not be limited to the following committees:

- A. COMMUNITY SERVICE: Shall be charged with the responsibility of planning organizing and identifying community-related projects.
- B. SOCIAL: Shall be responsible for planning, organizing, and identify events that will promote diversity and multiculturalism.
- C. RECRUITMENT: Shall be charged with the responsibility of organizing programs to increase membership.
- D. GUEST SPEAKERS: Shall be responsible for soliciting nationally-acclaimed experts and members of the Immigration Law Bar.
- E. FUNDRAISING: Shall be responsible for planning and organizing ways and means of generating financial support for the carrying out of programs and operations of the Society.

### **ARTICLE VIII: ELECTIVE OFFICERS**

The elective officers of the Society shall be the Chair, the Vice- Chair, the Treasurer, the Community Chair, the Social Chair, the Guest-Speaker Chair, and the Fundraising Chair. Officers must at all times be members in good standing. They shall take office as provided in Article XII.

### **ARTICLE IX: THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

All administrative and policy making decisions of the Society shall be vested in the Executive Board subject to veto by two-thirds vote of members present at general body meetings.

### **ARTICLE X: THE SOCIETY**

SECTION 1: Each member of the Society shall have one vote. Proxy voting is permitted.

SECTION 2: Meetings of the Society shall be held at a regular time to be determined by the Executive Board. Emergency meetings may be called by the Chairperson, or in their absence, by the Vice-Chair.

SECTION 3: All meetings of the Society shall be open to all persons.

### **ARTICLE XI: THE CONSTITUTION**

SECTION 1: The Constitution shall be ratified by two-thirds of those present voting at the constitutional ratified meeting.

SECTION 2: Constitutional amendments shall be by a vote of two-thirds of the Society.

### **ARTICLE XII: ELECTIONS**

SECTION 1: Election of officers shall be by a majority of the members in good standing of the general body in attendance.

SECTION 2: Officers of the Society shall be elected during the Spring Semester of each year and are to assume office at that time.

SECTION 3: Two-thirds vote by Society members in good standing will impeach an officer. An officer may request a secret ballot vote.

**ARTICLE XIII: FINANCIAL RECORDS**

Pursuant to University of Miami policy, the society shall make its financial records available to authorized University officials upon request.