



THE FEDERALIST SOCIETY

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW
580 MASSIE ROAD, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22903

CONSTITUTION

- I. **NAME** The name of the organization shall be “The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies at the University of Virginia,” hereinafter referred to as “the Federalist Society” or “the Society.”
- II. **AFFILIATION** The Federalist Society is a Contracted Independent Organization (CIO) at the University of Virginia and is associated with the national Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies.
- III. **PURPOSE** The purpose of the Society is to promote an awareness and application of the following principles: that the state exists to preserve freedom, that the separation of governmental powers is central to our Constitution, and that it is the duty of the judiciary to say what the law is, not what it should be.
- IV. **MEMBERSHIP** Membership shall be open to members of the University of Virginia community who have paid dues to the national organization and to the Society. The Federalist Society does not restrict its membership, programs, or activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, marital status, national or ethnic origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, veteran status, and family and genetic information.
- V. **GOVERNANCE** This Society shall be governed by an Executive Committee, consisting of the following nine elected officers, and any other committee officers and chairmen the Executive Committee deems it appropriate to appoint.
 - a. **President:** The President shall be ultimately responsible for the operations and activities of the Society. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and its Executive Committee, which the President shall chair. The President shall be the primary liaison with the national organization and shall be responsible for the Society’s external relations.
 - b. **Executive Vice President:** The Executive Vice-President shall assist the President in carrying out the functions of the Society, including coordinating speaker events with the President and Vice President for Speakers. The Executive Vice President shall perform all duties of the President in the President’s absence, and shall assume the office of President should that office become vacant.
 - c. **Vice-President for Speakers:** The Vice-President for Speakers shall be responsible for the planning, scheduling, and execution of the Society’s speaker events. The Vice-President for Speakers shall coordinate a speakers program with the President and the Executive Vice President. The Vice-President for Speakers, with the approval of the Executive Committee, is free to appoint the following Committee Chairs, and others as needed, to help fulfill these duties: Food Chair, Faculty Relations Chair.
 - d. **Vice-President for Special Events:** The Vice-President for Special Events shall be responsible for the planning, scheduling, and execution of the Society’s special events, including the annual Supreme Court trip, annual banquet, travel to and from national events, and social events. The Vice-President for Special Events shall undertake any other special projects as directed by the President. The Vice-President for Special Events, with the approval of the Executive Committee, is free to appoint the following Committee Chairs, and others as needed, to help fulfill these duties: Social Chair,

National Events Chair.

- e. **Vice-President for Faculty Relations:** The Vice-President for Faculty Relations shall be responsible for fostering relationships with faculty members at the University of Virginia School of Law. The Vice-President for Faculty Relations shall work with the President, the Vice-President for Speakers, and the Vice-President for Special Events to ensure that UVA faculty members stay apprised of Chapter events, invite faculty members to serve as commentators and panelists, and coordinate other events with faculty members such as the Faculty Lunch Series. The Vice-President for Faculty Relations may appoint, with the approval of the Executive Committee, Committee Chairs and others as needed to help fulfill these duties.
 - f. **Vice-President for Finance:** The Vice-President for Finance shall be responsible for the financial affairs of the Society, including preparation and presentation of the organization's budget to the Student Council and to the Office of Student Affairs, keeping complete and accurate books, managing the Society bank account, processing payments, and managing all reimbursements. The Vice-President for Finance may appoint, with the approval of the Executive Committee, Committee Chairs and others as needed to help fulfill these duties.
 - g. **Vice-President for Membership:** The Vice-President for Membership shall be responsible for promoting membership in the Society, processing membership applications, collecting membership dues, maintaining an up-to-date membership list and ensuring that list is provided to the national organization in a timely fashion, and maintaining the various email lists. The Vice-President for Membership may appoint, with the approval of the Executive Committee, Committee Chairs and others as needed to help fulfill these duties.
 - h. **Vice-President for Communications:** The Vice-President for Communications shall be responsible for ensuring that the Law School community receives notice of the public events of the Federalist Society. This includes maintenance of the Society's internet presence. The Vice President for Communications may appoint a webmaster to create and maintain the Society's website. The Vice-President for Communications shall work with the Vice-President for Speakers to provide proper publicity for speaker events. The Vice-President for Communications, with the approval of the Executive Committee, is free to appoint the following Committee Chairs, and others as needed, to help fulfill these duties: Webmaster, Marketing Chair.
 - i. **Vice-President for Professional Development:** The Vice-President for Professional Development shall be responsible for locating and disseminating information on public service opportunities, summer jobs, alumni relations, and career opportunities for Society members. Specifically, the Vice-President for Professional Development shall coordinate a 1L summer job information session, provide information to 2Ls on firm jobs and clerkship opportunities, and maintain and grow the outline bank and alumni database. The Vice-President for Professional Development, with the approval of the Executive Committee, is free to appoint the following Committee Chairs, and others as needed, to help fulfill these duties: Clerkships Chair, Pro Bono Chair, Alumni Relations Chair.
- VI. **1L COMMITTEE** The Executive Committee shall create a 1L Committee comprised of interested first year students. The 1L Committee shall be responsible for planning 1L specific events and serving as an intermediary between the first year members and the Executive Committee. The 1L Committee shall be led by a chair or co-chairs, selected by a method of the Executive Committee's choosing.
- VII. **ELECTIONS** Officers of the Executive Committee shall be elected by a vote of the members of the Society. Elections shall be called after March 1 and shall be completed, and results declared, at least 21 days before the commencement of spring semester final exams, except in the case of Special Elections. When elections are called, the nomination period shall be open for at least 7 days (4 days for Special Elections), and the voting shall last for at least

four days, including three business days. During the voting period, a meeting shall be held for the candidates to address the voters and for the voters to ask questions of the candidates. Elections shall be conducted by secret online ballot. When a race is contested by more than two candidates, the winner shall be selected using a ranked ballot, with the specific tabulation method (instant-runoff, Condorcet, etc ...) determined by the Executive Committee before voting begins. In the event of a tie, the Executive Committee shall call a runoff election between the tied candidates with the voting period being at least two business days.

- VIII. **TERM** The term of the Executive Committee members shall commence on May 15 following their election and shall continue through May 14 of the following year. In the case of an election held to fill a vacancy pursuant to Article IX, the term shall commence at the later of (i) the declaration of the Special Election results or (ii) the date of a planned vacancy, and any officer elected to fill a vacancy shall serve through May 14.
- IX. **VACANCY** If a position on the Executive Committee becomes vacant, a Special Election may be called by a vote of the majority of the remaining members of the Executive Committee, and if called such election shall be held in accordance with the election procedures of Article VII.
- X. **REMOVAL** Officers may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the Society's dues-paying members in attendance and voting or voting by proxy at a Special Meeting called for that purpose. Absent a Special Meeting, an officer may be removed with a vote of 7/9 members of the Executive Committee. The President shall have the power to suspend an officer for 48 hours, within which time a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be held and the officer shall be either reinstated or removed from office by a 7/9 vote.
- XI. **SPECIAL MEETING** A Special Meeting of the Society may be called by a vote of the majority of the Executive Committee with at least 24 hours' notice to members of the Society. Members unable to attend such a meeting may vote by signed proxy.
- XII. **QUORUM** A quorum of twenty percent of the Society's membership shall be required for any vote taken at a Special Meeting of the Society, except where provided otherwise by this Constitution. Members attending by proxy do not count toward a quorum.
- XIII. **AMENDMENT** This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting or voting by proxy at a Special Meeting called for that purpose, provided that the amendment has been circulated in writing (in print or electronically) to all members of the Society at least one week prior to the Special Meeting.

Amended September 14, 2017