

# PRE-LAW SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

## ***ARTICLE 1 ORGANIZATION***

### A. Name of Organization and Founder

- a. Pre-Law Society will be the name used to represent our organization. The organization will also be informally known as the Pre-Law Club.
- b. The Founder of Pre-Law Society is Cameron Laaly. In recognition of the Founder's role in establishing the organization, this provision shall remain a permanent part of the Constitution and shall not be subject to amendment or removal for as long as the Society continues to exist.

### B. Purpose and Means of Accomplishment

- a. The purpose of the Pre-Law Society shall be to foster a community of students with a shared interest in the study and practice of law, providing an environment where members may connect, exchange knowledge, and support one another in their academic and professional pursuits. The Society aims to equip members with the knowledge, resources, and experiences that will support their pursuit of law school and careers in the legal field.
  1. Pre-Law Society will abide by any and all school policies.
  2. Conduct Statement: Our organization and its members are required to uphold and represent the principles of Los Angeles Valley College, which values respect, communication, community, and diversity. Members may be kicked out of the organization if their behavior does not align with these principles.

### C. Time, Place, and Frequency of Meetings

- a. Meetings will be held weekly Thursdays 6pm-8:30pm
- b. Meetings will be held via Zoom (video calling service).
- c. Members are not required to attend every meeting, but to attend at least two meetings a month.

### D. Dues

- a. To be a member, students should pay the 10\$ ASO fee.

## ***ARTICLE 2 MEMBERSHIP***

### A. Eligibility

- a. Students who have classes at LAVC are eligible to become a member of Pre-Law Society.
  - b. Members must attend at least two meetings per month. If members fail to meet this requirement, the student's membership may be revoked.
- B. Removal of Membership:
- a. Members will pursue resignation by contacting the Secretary via email.
  - b. Membership may be revoked if:
    - i. Membership may be revoked in cases where a member's behavior disrupts the operations of the Society or undermines its purposes.
    - ii. Member does not attend a minimum of two meetings per month.
    - iii. Member's actions are deemed detrimental to Pre-Law Society by the majority of the board.
      - 1. Before all membership revocations, the board will vote upon the decision. The majority of the board must be in favor of the member's membership revocation.
- C. Pre-Law Society does not unlawfully discriminate against any person on any basis prohibited by federal law, the District of Columbia Human Rights Act, or other applicable law, including without limitation, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression.

### ***ARTICLE 3 OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS***

- A. Pre-Law Society shall comprise five (5) Officers: President, Vice President, ICC Representative, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- a. **President.** The president shall serve as the primary representative of Pre-Law Society to the college, external organizations, and the public. The president shall oversee the execution of the Society's programs and initiatives, ensure compliance with the constitution and governing policies, and work in collaboration with other officers to facilitate communication and effective decision-making. In addition, the president shall have the authority to appoint committees, delegate responsibilities as necessary, and provide mentorship and support to all members to promote the growth and success of the Pre-Law Society. Notwithstanding other provisions regarding officer removal, if the president is the founder of the Pre-Law Society, such president may not be removed from office except through voluntary resignation. All other presidents shall serve at the discretion of the governing board and may be removed from office by a majority vote of the board in accordance with the procedures established for officer

removal. The provisions regarding the founder president's tenure shall be permanent and shall not be subject to amendment, unless by the Founder himself.

- b. **Vice President.** The Vice President will act as the President's right-hand man/woman. The Vice President shall always assist the president and preside over meetings in the absence of the president. Additionally, it will be the job of the Vice President to coordinate with other clubs if a collaborative meeting is warranted.
- c. **ICC Representative.** The ICC (Inter Club Council) Representative will be responsible for attending ICC meetings and representing Pre-Law Society. The ICC Rep will gather information and report back to the officers.
- d. **Treasurer.** The Treasurer will be responsible for managing club funds for future meetings and events. The Treasurer will also be in charge of advertising– creating flyers for upcoming events, posters, etc.
- e. **Secretary.** The Secretary shall manage the club membership, take minutes for board meetings, and notify the club's members of that week's topic every Monday via email, social media announcement, or group text. The Secretary will also serve as the right-hand man/woman to the Vice-President.

## B. Officer Selection

- a. The Founding-President reserves the right to remove and replace officers of the Executive Board however they so wish. This overrides all other terms of Section B. However, this section (Article 3, Section Ba) will be rendered null and must be removed from the constitution post November 1st, 2025.
- b. Officers will be decided by elections held preceding the last two weeks of a semester, a specific date will be determined by the President.
- c. All officer positions may be subject to replacement through election, with the sole exception of the office of President when held by the Founder [Refer to Article 1 Section B, Article 3 Section Aa]. If the President of Pre-Law Society is the Founder, the office shall not be assumed by any other individual except in the event of the Founder's voluntary resignation. However, any President serving after the Founder shall be subject to the same election and replacement policies that apply to all other officers with a single exception—the President must have been a member of the club for at least one year.
  - i. Election and Replacement Policy
    1. With the exception of the president, who must be an active member for a full year before running, any active member may run for a board post. Two weeks before the election, nominations will be accepted through a Google Form.

2. Candidates are not permitted to spread the word about their candidacy or engage in any campaigning. Any inquiries regarding their candidacy should be sent to the club president via email or spoken with one-on-one.
3. The election meeting is where voting will take place. To elect an officer, a simple majority vote is required. A run-off election will be held with the two nominees who receive the most votes if a majority cannot be attained. If there is a tie, the President will make the final decision. Voting will be conducted via secret ballot.
4. Special Election Policy: In the event of an emergency, a special election will be called at the club's regular meeting after notification at the regular meeting that comes right before it. Regarding voting and eligibility conditions, the election procedure will be identical to that of the normal election. A special election may be called if both the President and at least two other board members deem a current board member inadequate.

C. Term of Office

- a. The term of office is typically one full school semester, and there are no term limits placed on officers.

D. Definition of Quorum in Regard to Council.

- a. A quorum will be defined as 50% of the active members. No official decisions or votes may be taken unless a quorum is present.
- b. A majority of the Executive Board members—three out of five officers—will constitute a quorum for Executive Board meetings. Without a quorum, the Board is unable to vote on crucial issues like budget approvals or disciplinary actions.
- c. A meeting may proceed informally if a quorum is not reached, but no legally enforceable votes or decisions may be made. When a quorum is reached, any significant votes will be deferred to the following meeting.
- d. Virtual meetings or online voting can also be used to reach a quorum if needed. Quorum will be determined in these situations using the same criteria as in-person meetings.

***ARTICLE 4 CLUB RULES***

A. Attendance:

- a. Members are expected to attend at least two meetings a month. Failure to meet this requirement may result in loss of voting privileges or membership status.

B. Behavior and Conduct

- a. Respect for one another and adherence to the principles of inclusivity, diversity, and open-mindedness are demanded of all members. Any disrespectful behavior, including harassment and discrimination, will not be accepted and will be dealt with disciplinary actions.
- b. Active participation in meetings, conversations, arguments, and club events is encouraged. Although complete involvement is not required, it is expected of all members to participate in conversations politely and to enhance the club atmosphere without using any kind of offensive language.
- c. When representing Pre-Law Society at events or in partnerships with other clubs, members are expected to conduct themselves in a way that promotes the club's and Los Angeles Valley College's reputation. Any inappropriate behavior during these events will result in expulsion from the club or future representation possibilities.

## ***ARTICLE 5 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION***

### **A. Proposal of Amendments**

- a. Any active member of Pre-Law Society can propose an amendment to the constitution.
- b. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the President via email. The proposal should include the specific article or section to be amended, the proposed changes, and the rationale behind the amendment.

### **B. Review and Discussion**

- a. Upon receipt, the President will present the proposed amendment to the Executive Board for an initial review. The Board will assess whether the amendment aligns with the mission and values of the club and may suggest revisions or clarifications.
- b. After the Executive Board view, the proposed amendment will be brought to the next general meeting for discussion. Members will have the opportunity to ask questions, suggest modifications, and debate the merits of the amendment.

### **C. Voting on Amendments**

- a. Voting on the proposed amendment will take place at the next Executive Board meeting following the discussion.
- b. Amendments to the constitution require a three-fifths ( $\frac{3}{5}$ ) majority vote of Executive Officers at the meeting to pass. Voting will be conducted via secret ballot.

- c. In the event that an officer cannot attend the meeting, they can submit their vote to the President through any online platform (email, instagram, etc.). However, their vote will be received publicly—it will not be a secret.
- D. Overriding all sections of Article 5:
- a. The Founder-President holds the right to amend the constitution without a vote. However, this section (Article 5, Section D) will be rendered null post December 1st, 2025 and must be removed from the constitution after that date.
- E. Enactment of Amendments
- a. Once an amendment is approved, it will take effect immediately unless otherwise specified in the amendment.
  - b. Within a week of the vote, the President or Secretary will revise the constitution to reflect the accepted modifications and send out an email or other official statement to all members.