

Republican Law Society
University of Maryland School of Law

Constitution

Article I – Name

The name of this group shall be The Republican Law Society of the University of Maryland School of Law (“RLS”).

Article II – Purpose

1. The Society is founded on the principles that:
 - 1.1. The strength of our nation lies with the individual and that each person’s dignity, freedom, ability and responsibility must be honored;
 - 1.2. Free enterprise and encouraging individual initiative have brought this nation opportunity, economic growth and prosperity;
 - 1.3. Government must practice fiscal responsibility and allow individuals to keep more of the money they earn;
 - 1.4. The proper role of government is to provide for the people only those critical functions that cannot be performed by individuals or private organizations, and that the best government is that which governs least;
 - 1.5. The most effective, responsible and responsive government is government closest to the people;
 - 1.6. Americans must retain the principles that have made us strong while developing new and innovative ideas to meet the challenges of changing times;
 - 1.7. Americans value and should preserve our national strength and pride while working to extend peace, freedom and human rights throughout the world;
 - 1.8. The Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these ideals into positive and successful principles of government.
2. The objectives of the Society are:
 - 2.1. To promote an awareness of its principles and further their application through its activities
 - 2.2. To create a conservative intellectual network extending to all levels of the legal community
 - 2.3. To provide a forum for debate on legal and policy issues
 - 2.4. To provide conservative students who feel like their beliefs are in a distinct minority in an environment heavily dominated by a liberal ideology a forum to share their beliefs

3. The organization has been established to encourage students to actively plan and participate in events that further RLS's purpose.

Article III – Membership

1. RLS is open to all students in good standing at the University of Maryland School of Law.
2. To be considered a Member in good standing, students must:
 - 2.1. Attend at least one meeting per semester
 - 2.2. Pay applicable dues
 - 2.3. Adhere to RLS's objectives

Article IV – Officers and Responsibilities

1. The officers shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer
2. The President shall have been a member in good standing for at least one semester and shall:
 - 2.1. Preside over all meetings of the Executive Committee and the Organization at large
 - 2.2. Serve as the primary contact for the national and state organizations
 - 2.3. Serve as ex-officio to all organizational meetings
 - 2.4. Appoint Interim Officers
3. The Vice-President shall perform duties designated by the President and:
 - 3.1. Preside over all meetings in the President's absence
 - 3.2. Appoint Committee Chairs and Members
 - 3.3. Coordinate Committee activities
4. The Secretary shall:
 - 4.1. Record the minutes of all Executive Committee and general meetings
 - 4.2. Be the official custodian of all RLS Records
 - 4.3. Maintain an accurate record of membership
5. The Treasurer shall:
 - 5.1. Collect applicable dues

- 5.2. Meet regularly with the SBA Treasurer/Comptroller to reconcile RLS's account
 - 5.3. Make all deposits
 - 5.4. Sign all SBA requests for reimbursement (other than his/her own)
6. The terms of office shall be one year, to begin after the last general meeting of each school year.
 7. In the event that an interim officer is appointed to office by the President, that term shall last until the next general meeting, at which time an election under Article VI shall be held to fill the vacancy for the duration of the original term.
 8. In the even that the office of the President shall become vacant, the Vice-President shall assume the office and all of its responsibilities until the next general election, at which time an election will be held for the office of President and for any subsequent vacancies.

Article V – Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is the Society's managing body. It consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and three at-large members selected by the four officers at the beginning of each school year.

Article VI – Elections and Voting

1. Elections will be held at the last general election of each school year
2. Elections will be decided by a simple majority vote.

Article VII – Meetings

General Meetings will be held two times per semester.

Article VIII – Committees

The Executive Committee may create committees on an as-needed basis.

Article IX – Amendments

1. This Constitution may be amended at a general meeting by two-thirds of the members present.
2. An amendment may be proposed by any member of the Executive Committee no less than one month prior to the general meeting where the amendment will be considered.
3. The amendment shall be distributed to members no less than 14 days prior to the meeting where the amendment will be considered.