

CONSTITUTION OF THE
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY'S CRIMINAL LAW SOCIETY

PROLOGUE

WHEREAS the history of criminal law dates back to the beginning of civilization and provides a cornerstone for civilized society, and the pursuit of justice in this field is a noble cause, therefore, let it be known: in the interest of promoting the field of criminal law, the Nova Southeastern University Law Center Criminal Law Society is a student organization organized in accordance with the regulations of the Nova Southeastern University's Shepard Broad Law Center for that such purpose. In the event of any conflict between this Constitution and any policy, procedure, or rule of the University, Law Center, or Student Bar Association, this Constitution shall defer and be interpreted so as to not be in conflict.

ARTICLE I

SECTION I: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Criminal Law Society is: to foster interest in the field of criminal law within the NSU Law Center community, provide opportunities for students to engage with criminal law specialists, further networking opportunities for members in the area of criminal law, and educate members about career opportunities within the area of criminal law. These ends are to be furthered through the creation of opportunities for students interested in criminal law to interact with faculty, practitioners, judges, and community organizations that work in the field by inviting guest speakers, holding panel discussions, networking events, community service, and field trips. When possible, the Criminal Law Society will partner with other organizations and departments in the Law Center to further these goals and contribute to the community of the Law Center.

SECTION II: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Criminal Law Society is open to any student at the NSU Law Center as well as any interested faculty or administration member. "Active members" are those that are current on their dues. Dues shall be determined by the executive board at the beginning of each academic year. Dues are to be paid annually.

SECTION III: FACULTY ADVISOR

The Faculty Advisor of the Criminal Law Society will be a faculty member of the NSU Law Center. In the absence of a Faculty Advisor it shall be the duty of the President to secure a new Faculty Advisor as soon as possible.

ARTICLE II

SECTION I: OFFICERS

The Criminal Law Society shall have the following officers: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Director of Operations, Director of Programming, and Director of Development. The executive board shall meet once per month and additionally as determined by the President. The Executive Board shall administer all routine business of the Society.

SECTION II: DUTIES

The Criminal Law Society Officers shall have duties described below and any other duties that the President shall from time to time decide is expedient for the Society.

- A. President: The President shall be the chief executive of the Criminal Law Society. The President shall call and preside over all Criminal Law Society meetings and Executive Board meetings. The President shall supervise all club activities and the execution of the duties of the other officers. The President shall have veto power concerning Society expenditures which can be overturned by two thirds of the executive board.
- B. Vice President: The Vice President shall assist the President and shall preside in case of his or her absence or disability. The Vice President shall rule on all matters of parliamentary procedure. The Vice President shall act as a liaison between the Society and all other clubs, organizations, and entities both on-campus and in the community. The Vice President shall supervise any committees through their respective Chairpersons.
- C. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for the finances of the Criminal Law Society. The Treasurer shall keep accurate records of all financial transactions of the Society. The Treasurer shall follow all University and Student Bar Association regulations and procedures regarding the budgetary process and funding disbursements. The Treasurer shall be responsible for any fund raising activities and for the collection of Society dues. The Treasurer shall chair any committee formed concerning the finances of the Criminal Law Society.
- D. Director of Operations: The Director of Operations shall be responsible for reservation or acquisition of any rooms, equipment, or materials needed by the Society. The Director of Operations shall be responsible for coordinating any general business meetings, the Annual Meeting, and Elections including the creation of an agenda for any meetings. The Director of Operations shall assist the Director of Programming in the management of special events.

- E. Director of Programming: The Director of Programming shall create, facilitate, and coordinate the development of special events, guest speaker opportunities, panel discussions, community service opportunities, and any other events besides fundraising.
- F. Director of Development: The Director of Development shall coordinate the growth of membership and student involvement in the Society. The Director of Development shall coordinate any Public Relations matters. The Director of Development shall keep a roster of active members and a list of prospective members. The Director of Development shall coordinate a Society presence at any school-wide events where student organizations must or should be represented.

SECTION III: VACANCIES IN OFFICE

In the event that any officer is unable to fulfill his term for any reason, an election for that office shall be held during the next regularly scheduled Criminal Law Society meeting following the vacancy. During the vacancy, the office may be filled on an interim basis by the Executive Board.

SECTION IV: REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Removal of an officer may only occur for an abandonment of their office or a failure to fulfill their duties. To remove an officer a majority of the executive board must call for a special general meeting. After debate, a majority vote of active members shall cause the officer to be removed from office.

ARTICLE III

SECTION I: COMMITTEES

Committees shall be organized to administer various aspects of the Criminal Law Society and are composed of Society members at large. The President shall appoint Committee Chairpersons, to take effect upon approval of the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall chair any committee formed concerning the finances of the Criminal Law Society. Standing committees may be created by amendment to this Constitution. Special committees may be created by the Executive Board as the need arises. Special committees shall be dissolved upon the election of a new Executive Board.

SECTION II RESPONSIBILITY

All committee chairpersons shall be immediately responsible to the Vice-President who shall coordinate the committees and shall assign to the committees

any responsibilities delegated by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE IV

SECTION I .ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting shall be held in April of each year. The Treasurer shall report the status of the budget at that time. Any business matters pertaining to the organization of the Society may be set on an agenda at the Annual Meeting. The candidates for the executive board for the next year are to be announced at the Annual Meeting. Business meetings may be held from time to time as necessary throughout the academic year upon a majority vote of the executive board or at the discretion of the President.

SECTION II: ELECTIONS

At all times the election procedure shall conform to any regulations of the University and Student Bar Association. Letters of Intent must be sent to the Director of Administration at least one week before the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE V

AMENDMENTS AND BYLAWS

Any active member of the Criminal Law Society may propose amendments or bylaws to this Constitution. Amendments shall take effect upon ratification by two-thirds of the active members. Bylaws shall take effect upon approval of a majority of the active members.

ARTICLE VI

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the most recent edition of *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the business meetings of the Criminal Law Society in all cases to the extent that such do not conflict with any express provisions, policies, or procedures of this Constitution.

ARTICLE VII

RATIFICATION

This Constitution shall be ratified upon unanimous consent of the founding executive board and approval by the Student Bar Association.

CONSTITUTION OF THE
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY'S CRIMINAL LAW SOCIETY

PROLOGUE

WHEREAS the history of criminal law dates back to the beginning of civilization and provides a cornerstone for civilized society, and the pursuit of justice in this field is a noble cause, therefore, let it be known: in the interest of promoting the field of criminal law, the Nova Southeastern University Law Center Criminal Law Society is a student organization organized in accordance with the regulations of the Nova Southeastern University's Shepard Broad Law Center for that such purpose. In the event of any conflict between this Constitution and any policy, procedure, or rule of the University, Law Center, or Student Bar Association, this Constitution shall defer and be interpreted so as to not be in conflict.

ARTICLE I

SECTION I: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Criminal Law Society is: to foster interest in the field of criminal law within the NSU Law Center community, provide opportunities for students to engage with criminal law specialists, further networking opportunities for members in the area of criminal law, and educate members about career opportunities within the area of criminal law. These ends are to be furthered through the creation of opportunities for students interested in criminal law to interact with faculty, practitioners, judges, and community organizations that work in the field by inviting guest speakers, holding panel discussions, networking events, community service, and field trips. When possible, the Criminal Law Society will partner with other organizations and departments in the Law Center to further these goals and contribute to the community of the Law Center.

SECTION II: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Criminal Law Society is open to any student at the NSU Law Center as well as any interested faculty or administration member. "Active members" are those that are current on their dues. Dues shall be determined by the executive board at the beginning of each academic year. Dues are to be paid annually.

SECTION III: FACULTY ADVISOR

The Faculty Advisor of the Criminal Law Society will be a faculty member of the NSU Law Center. In the absence of a Faculty Advisor it shall be the duty of the President to secure a new Faculty Advisor as soon as possible.

ARTICLE II

SECTION I: OFFICERS

The Criminal Law Society shall have the following officers: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Director of Operations, Director of Programming, and Director of Development. The executive board shall meet once per month and additionally as determined by the President. The Executive Board shall administer all routine business of the Society.

SECTION II: DUTIES

The Criminal Law Society Officers shall have duties described below and any other duties that the President shall from time to time decide is expedient for the Society.

- A. President: The President shall be the chief executive of the Criminal Law Society. The President shall call and preside over all Criminal Law Society meetings and Executive Board meetings. The President shall supervise all club activities and the execution of the duties of the other officers. The President shall have veto power concerning Society expenditures which can be overturned by two thirds of the executive board.
- B. Vice President: The Vice President shall assist the President and shall preside in case of his or her absence or disability. The Vice President shall rule on all matters of parliamentary procedure. The Vice President shall act as a liaison between the Society and all other clubs, organizations, and entities both on-campus and in the community. The Vice President shall supervise any committees through their respective Chairpersons.
- C. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for the finances of the Criminal Law Society. The Treasurer shall keep accurate records of all financial transactions of the Society. The Treasurer shall follow all University and Student Bar Association regulations and procedures regarding the budgetary process and funding disbursements. The Treasurer shall be responsible for any fund raising activities and for the collection of Society dues. The Treasurer shall chair any committee formed concerning the finances of the Criminal Law Society.
- D. Director of Operations: The Director of Operations shall be responsible for reservation or acquisition of any rooms, equipment, or materials needed by the Society. The Director of Operations shall be responsible for coordinating any general business meetings, the Annual Meeting, and Elections including the creation of an agenda for any meetings. The Director of Operations shall assist the Director of Programming in the management of special events.

- E. Director of Programming: The Director of Programming shall create, facilitate, and coordinate the development of special events, guest speaker opportunities, panel discussions, community service opportunities, and any other events besides fundraising.
- F. Director of Development: The Director of Development shall coordinate the growth of membership and student involvement in the Society. The Director of Development shall coordinate any Public Relations matters. The Director of Development shall keep a roster of active members and a list of prospective members. The Director of Development shall coordinate a Society presence at any school-wide events where student organizations must or should be represented.

SECTION III: VACANCIES IN OFFICE

In the event that any officer is unable to fulfill his term for any reason, an election for that office shall be held during the next regularly scheduled Criminal Law Society meeting following the vacancy. During the vacancy, the office may be filled on an interim basis by the Executive Board.

SECTION IV: REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Removal of an officer may only occur for an abandonment of their office or a failure to fulfill their duties. To remove an officer a majority of the executive board must call for a special general meeting. After debate, a majority vote of active members shall cause the officer to be removed from office.

ARTICLE III

SECTION I: COMMITTEES

Committees shall be organized to administer various aspects of the Criminal Law Society and are composed of Society members at large. The President shall appoint Committee Chairpersons, to take effect upon approval of the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall chair any committee formed concerning the finances of the Criminal Law Society. Standing committees may be created by amendment to this Constitution. Special committees may be created by the Executive Board as the need arises. Special committees shall be dissolved upon the election of a new Executive Board.

SECTION II RESPONSIBILITY

All committee chairpersons shall be immediately responsible to the Vice-President who shall coordinate the committees and shall assign to the committees

any responsibilities delegated by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE IV

SECTION I. ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting shall be held in April of each year. The Treasurer shall report the status of the budget at that time. Any business matters pertaining to the organization of the Society may be set on an agenda at the Annual Meeting. The candidates for the executive board for the next year are to be announced at the Annual Meeting. Business meetings may be held from time to time as necessary throughout the academic year upon a majority vote of the executive board or at the discretion of the President.

SECTION II: ELECTIONS

At all times the election procedure shall conform to any regulations of the University and Student Bar Association. Letters of Intent must be sent to the Director of Administration at least one week before the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE V

AMENDMENTS AND BYLAWS

Any active member of the Criminal Law Society may propose amendments or bylaws to this Constitution. Amendments shall take effect upon ratification by two-thirds of the active members. Bylaws shall take effect upon approval of a majority of the active members.

ARTICLE VI

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the most recent edition of *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the business meetings of the Criminal Law Society in all cases to the extent that such do not conflict with any express provisions, policies, or procedures of this Constitution.

ARTICLE VII

RATIFICATION

This Constitution shall be ratified upon unanimous consent of the founding executive board and approval by the Student Bar Association.

Bylaws of *Nova Southeastern University's Criminal Law Society*

Last Updated: January 29, 2008

Section 1:	GENERAL INFORMATION AND DEFINITIONS	1
Section 2:	ORGANIZATION	2
Section 3:	EXECUTIVE BOARD	2
Section 4:	EXECUTIVE BOARD COMPOSITION.....	2
Section 5:	ELECTIONS.....	6
Section 6:	ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP	6
Section 7:	BYLAWS AMENDMENT.....	6

Section 1: GENERAL INFORMATION AND DEFINITIONS

The purpose of the Criminal Law Society (hereinafter *CLS*) is: to foster interest in the field of criminal law within the NSU Law Center community, provide opportunities for students to engage with criminal law specialists, further networking opportunities for members in the area of criminal law, and educate members about career opportunities within the area of criminal law. These ends are to be furthered through the creation of opportunities for students interested in criminal law to interact with faculty, practitioners, judges, and community organizations that work in the field by inviting guest speakers, holding panel discussions, networking events, community service, and field trips. When possible, the Criminal Law Society will partner with other organizations and departments in the Law Center to further these goals and contribute to the community of the Law Center.

These Bylaws are subject to Nova Southeastern University's Criminal Law Society's Constitution (hereinafter *Constitution*). All provisions of the *Constitution* shall be complied with and carried out by the *CLS*. In the event of inconsistency, the *Constitution* shall supersede the inconsistent provision of these Bylaws.

Definitions:

- (a) Member - any NSU law student who has completed a *CLS* membership application
- (b) Active Member – any member who has paid all membership dues
- (c) Affiliate Member: any person, not a NSU law student, who is an active member

- (d) Dues – the financial obligation required by each member to be paid on a yearly basis. This is a requirement to be considered an active member

Section 2: ORGANIZATION

- (A) The *CLS* shall consist of members drawn from those students attending and who are in good standing at Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad Law Center. The *CLS* shall be structured in the following manner: Executive Board Members, Officers, and Members.
- (B) The *CLS* shall be governed by the Executive Board and Officers, and the Faculty Advisor(s) serving as an appellate review board. The Executive Board shall be constituted as hereinafter provided.

Section 3: EXECUTIVE BOARD

- (A) The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Director of Operations, Director of Programming, and Director of Development.
- (B) The Executive Board's duties shall include but shall not be limited to:
 1. the making and enforcement of policies applicable to *CLS* membership; and
 2. setting the amount of dues owed by each member; and
 3. setting and enforcing the deadlines for collection of annual dues; and
 4. making policies for and assisting with the smooth operation of *CLS* sponsored events; and
 5. the appointment of officers, as the Executive Board deems necessary, by a simple majority vote of the Executive Board.
- (C) Each member of the Executive Board shall have one vote, and all matters addressed by the Executive Board shall be approved by a simple majority vote unless otherwise specifically provided for by these Bylaws.

Section 4: EXECUTIVE BOARD COMPOSITION

(A) *President*

The overall function of the President is to ensure the smooth running of the *CLS*. In keeping with this statement, the President shall:

1. be the chief executive of the *CLS*;
2. be in charge of the day-to-day operations of the *CLS* and shall be the presiding Officer at all general meetings;
3. be the liaison between the *CLS* and the Law Center Faculty and Administration and the Legal Community as concerns the general policy and other matters not specifically provided for in these Bylaws;
4. supervise all club activities and the execution of the duties of the other officers;
5. be responsible for maintaining these Bylaws and ensuring their current nature in light of any decisions made by the Executive Board;
6. be responsible for issuing a call of the entire Membership of the *CLS* at least once at the beginning of each semester to discuss the functioning of the *CLS* and to allow the airing of any complaints;
7. be responsible for ensuring the maintenance of the business records of the *CLS*, which shall be maintained by the Director of Operations;
8. work with the SBA and Administration to ensure the *CLS* is incorporated into as many school functions as possible to assist in raising Nova law students' knowledge of the *CLS* such as participating in orientation, visiting 1L's classes, etc.; and

These powers, duties, and responsibilities are in addition to those which are specifically provided for elsewhere in these Bylaws. Any powers, duties, responsibilities or otherwise not specifically provided for in these Bylaws shall reside exclusively in the President. The President may delegate those duties which form a part of the day-to-day simple operations of the *CLS*.

(B) Vice President

The overall function of the Vice President is to assist the President and shall preside in the case of this or her absence or disability, the Vice President shall:

1. rule on all matters of parliamentary procedure;
2. act as a liaison between the Society and all other clubs, organizations, and entities both on-campus and in the community;

3. assist the Treasurer in overseeing and maintaining the fiscal and business management of the *CLS*;
4. supervise any committees through their respective Chairpersons;
5. oversee the posting and maintenance of the *CLS* website and listserv;

These powers, duties, and responsibilities are in addition to those specifically provided for elsewhere in these Bylaws.

(C) *Treasurer*

The overall function of the Treasurer, in consultation with the executive board, is to be responsible for the finances of the *CLS*. In keeping with this statement, the Treasurer shall:

1. be responsible for the finances of the Criminal Law Society;
2. keep accurate records of all financial transactions of the Society;
3. follow all University and Student Bar Association regulations and procedures regarding the budgetary process and funding disbursements;
4. be responsible for any fund raising activities and for the collection of Society dues;
5. chair any committee formed concerning the finances of the Criminal Law Society;

These powers, duties, and responsibilities are in addition to those specifically provided for elsewhere in these Bylaws.

(D) *Director of Operations*

The overall function of the Director of Operations is to be responsible for reservation or acquisition of any rooms, equipment, or materials needed by the *CLS*. In keeping with this statement, the Director of Operations shall:

1. be responsible for coordinating any general business meetings, the Annual Meeting, and Elections including the creation of an agenda for any meetings;
2. work with the Director of Programming in the management of special events;

3. chair any committee formed concerning the operations of the *CLS*;

These powers, duties, and responsibilities are in addition to those specifically provided for elsewhere in these Bylaws.

(E) Director of Programming

The overall function of the Director of Programming is to coordinate events for the *CLS*. In keeping with this statement, the Director of Programming shall:

1. create, facilitate, and coordinate the development of special events;
2. create, facilitate, and coordinate the development of guest speakers;
3. create, facilitate, and coordinate the development of panel discussions;
4. create, facilitate, and coordinate the development of community service opportunities;
5. chair any committee formed concerning the programming of the *CLS*;

These powers, duties, and responsibilities are in addition to those, which are specifically provided for elsewhere in the Bylaws.

(F) Director of Development

The overall function of the Director of Development is to coordinate the growth of membership and student involvement in the *CLS*. In keeping with this statement, the Director of Development shall:

1. coordinate any Public Relations matters;
2. keep a roster of active members and a list of prospective members;
3. shall coordinate a *CLS* presence at any school-wide events where student organizations must or should be represented;
4. chair any committee formed concerning the development of the *CLS*;

These powers, duties, and responsibilities are in addition to those specifically provided for elsewhere in these Bylaws.

Section 5: ELECTIONS

(A) Procedure

1. Any active member seeking a position on the executive board shall:
 - (a) Submit a letter of intent to the Director of Operations no later than two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting; and
 - (b) Deliver a candidacy speech, not to exceed three minutes, at the Annual Meeting.
2. Elections shall be conducted online the week following candidacy speeches

(B) Limitations

1. Any candidate must be current with all financial responsibilities to the *CLS*
2. No candidate shall run for more than two positions during any election period
3. No candidate running for President shall hold the position of President in any other NSU law school organization.

(C) Term of Office

All elected Executive Board members shall assume their duties at the end of the academic year and duties shall continue through the following academic year.

Section 6: ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Any law student who is in good standing with the university shall be eligible for membership. Any person who is not a student shall be eligible for affiliate membership.

Section 7: BYLAWS AMENDMENT

Any active member of the *CLS* may propose amendments to these by-laws. These Bylaws may be amended or revised upon a three-fourths majority vote of a quorum consisting of two-thirds of the Board of Editors.