

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER
STURM COLLEGE OF LAW
BUSINESS LAW SOCIETY
(RATIFIED SPRING 2007)

ARTICLE I- NAME

The name of the organization shall be the “Business Law Society” of the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, herein after referred to as the B.L.S.

ARTICLE II- OBJECTIVES

SECTION I- The B.L.S. is dedicated to providing its members with opportunities to interact and network with lawyers and other professionals in the Denver business community, and throughout the United States and the world.

SECTION II- The B.L.S. sponsors events which bring law students in contact with practitioners in the field of business law and other related fields, providing a unique opportunity for its members to listen and ask questions in an informal atmosphere.

SECTION III- The B.L.S. has three goals:

ONE- Provide the B.L.S. members with opportunities to interact with lawyers and other professionals in the Denver business and legal communities and throughout the United States. The B.L.S. will afford members a chance to inquire into and learn about fields of law relating to business, to provide students with networking opportunities, and to prepare students for practice in the business and corporate sectors.

TWO- Build a strong sense of community within the University of Denver Sturm College of Law and the University of Denver Daniels College of Business. The B.L.S. looks for opportunities to sponsor events and activities with other student organizations that will foster a greater understanding of the University of Denver’s diverse student body. The B.L.S. seeks to be an all-inclusive organization building bridges of trust and understanding among its members, the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, and the community.

THREE- Augment the standing and prestige of the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. The B.L.S. supports events that have a positive influence on the university’s reputation and

perception. It is the B.L.S.'s responsibility to further promote the positive perception of the institution. The B.L.S. will organize events and activities which will promote the reputation and standing of the university throughout the legal community; it also seeks to partner with the University of Denver Sturm College of Law to become the premier law school for the study of business law.

ARTICLE III- MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I- Membership shall be open to all individuals associated with the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, including, but not limited to, students (undergraduate, graduate, full-time, part-time, and continuing education), faculty, staff, and administrators.

SECTION II- The B.L.S. shall not discriminate on the basis of ancestry, color, or race; cultural or ethnic background; economic situation; ideological, philosophical, or political belief or affiliation; marital or parental status; national or regional origin; physical disability; religion or religious or denominational affiliation; sex; sexual orientation; or age. The B.L.S. will not condone or encourage discrimination, implicitly or explicitly and shall actively discourage any such discrimination.

SECTION III- The B.L.S., through the Officers, may establish annual membership dues.

ARTICLE IV- MEETINGS

SECTION I- The B.L.S. shall meet regularly at the discretion of the Officers.

SECTION II- B.L.S. members shall attend at least one (1) general or speaker meeting and one (1) event sponsored by the B.L.S. per annum, and pay dues if such are enacted (see Article III, Section III), in order to be in good standing.

SECTION III- Meetings shall be held in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, except where such would be in conflict with this Constitution, the By-Laws of the B.L.S., or unless the Executive Board shall direct otherwise by unanimous decision.

ARTICLE V- OFFICERS

SECTION I- Executive Board. The Officers for the B.L.S. shall be vested in the Executive Board comprising of one (1) President or two (2) Co-

Presidents, Vice-President(s) as defined by the B.L.S. By-Laws, one (1) Secretary, and one (1) Treasurer.

- SECTION II- President(s). The President(s) shall have completed one year of law school, and shall be the Chief Executive Officer(s). The President(s) shall preside over all meetings of the B.L.S. The President(s) may create committees as needed.
- SECTION III- Vice Presidents. The Vice-Presidents shall perform the duties delegated by the President or Co-Presidents and the B.L.S. By-Laws.
- SECTION IV- Secretary. The Secretary shall take minutes at all general meetings, executive board meetings, and other meetings as directed by the President or Co-Presidents. The Secretary shall also be responsible for keeping the history of the chapter and maintaining and updating the B.L.S. website regularly.
- SECTION V- Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies and membership dues (if any) and for the keeping of accurate and up-to-date records thereof. The Treasurer shall receive, disburse, and invest the funds of the B.L.S. consistent with the majority vote of Officers. The treasurer shall be the liaison between the Executive Board and the SBA Treasurer and Sturm College of Law C.F.O.
- SECTION VI- The Officers shall be elected at the first general member meeting in April and shall commence their terms at the end of the academic school year. The terms of office for the Officers shall be one academic year.
- SECTION VII- All Officers must remain in good standing. In order to remain in good standing Officers must attend at least seventy-five (75) percent of Executive Board meetings and must participate in at least seventy-five (75) percent of events per semester. Participation shall be understood to include, but shall not be limited to: planning, preparing, setting-up, hosting, and taking-down.
- Officers not in good standing may be subject to impeachment proceedings in accordance with Article VIII.
- SECTION VIII- The Officers shall have regular Executive Board meetings to be determined by the President or Co-Presidents, but shall meet no less than five (5) times per semester.

SECTION IX- The B.L.S. shall include at least one faculty member of the University of Denver Sturm College of Law who shall act in the capacity of advisor. The advisor(s) shall not have voting rights.

The faculty advisor(s) shall provide guidance to the Officers as needed relating to activities, programs, events, questions, or concerns of the B.L.S.

ARTICLE VI- COMMITTEES

SECTION I- Standing committees shall be established during the first general meeting of the school year.

SECTION II- Events Committee. The Events Committee shall be a standing committee. The Events Committee shall be established at the first general meeting of the school year. All B.L.S. members in good standing are eligible to serve on the Events Committee.

SECTION III- Ad-hoc committees may be formed at any time at the request of the President or Co-Presidents as needed.

SECTION IV- Committees shall be directed by a chairperson who shall report to the Executive Board as needed.

SECTION V- Committee chairpersons shall be appointed by the President or Co-Presidents and are subject to the approval of a majority of the Executive Board (the President or Co-Presidents excluded). The Vice President of Events will oversee the Events Committee; the Vice President of Speakers shall oversee the Speaker Committee (if one is formed).

SECTION VI- Committee chairpersons may be removed as chairperson by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board.

SECTION VII- A committee within the B.L.S. shall meet at the discretion of the committee chairperson or at the discretion of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII- ELECTIONS

SECTION I- Elections for Executive Board positions shall normally be held the first general meeting of April. However, the President or Co-Presidents may call a special general meeting in order to fill a vacant position.

SECTION II- Notice of Executive Board positions shall be conveyed to the B.L.S. membership no less than one (1) week before the elections shall be held.

SECTION III- Nominations of candidates for Executive Board positions shall be made from the floor by any B.L.S. member in good standing.

SECTION IV- Officers will be elected by a majority vote of B.L.S. members present, in good standing, who have paid dues (if any).

ARTICLE VIII- RESIGNATION, VACANCY, AND IMPEACHMENT

SECTION I- For the purposes of this Constitution a vacancy shall be understood to occur in the death, resignation, or physical or mental incapacitation of an Officer or upon an impeachment by two-thirds (2/3) of the B.L.S. membership.

SECTION II- In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, if a Co-President has been elected, the Co-President shall assume full responsibility; if there is no Co-President the Vice-Presidents of Events and Speakers shall then assume the presidency until an election may be called within 10-days of the vacancy. A mid-term vacancy in the office of the President may only be filled by a current Officer or Committee chairperson in good standing.

SECTION III- In the event of a vacancy in one of the other Officer positions, the President or Co-Presidents may (1) appoint a successor which shall be ratified by the Executive Board of the B.L.S at the following Executive Board meeting (not to exceed 20 days from appointment), or (2) the President or Co-Presidents shall call a general meeting where B.L.S. members in good standing who have paid dues (if any) shall elect a member in good standing who has paid dues (if any) to fill the vacancy.

SECTION IV- Any Officer may be impeached on the grounds of malfeasance or nonfeasance. Officers not in good standing, per Article V, Section VII, may be impeached for nonfeasance.

A. Impeachment proceedings may be initiated by any B.L.S. member or Officer in a formal written request to the Executive Board.

B. The Executive Board shall meet in a timely manner to discuss the formal written request for impeachment.

- C. Upon a majority vote of the Executive Board, not to include an Officer subject to impeachment, an impeachment hearing shall be held before the B.L.S. membership present at a general meeting.
- D. At least seven (7) days prior to the hearing, the President or Co-Presidents shall notify in writing the B.L.S. Officer subject to impeachment.
- E. The B.L.S. Officer subject to impeachment shall have the right to present his/her case at the impeachment hearing before the B.L.S. membership.
- F. Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote by secret ballot of B.L.S. members present, not to include the Officer subject to impeachment, the impeached Officer shall be immediately removed from office.

ARTICLE IX- AMENDMENTS

SECTION I- This Constitution may be amended by the B.L.S. membership at a general meeting by a three-fourths (3/4) majority of present members in good standing, who have paid dues (if any).

SECTION II- An amendment must be submitted to the President or Co-Presidents in writing by a member in good standing, who has paid dues (if any), no less than two (2) weeks before the general meeting at which the amendment shall be considered and (1) be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Executive Board and (2) be circulated in writing to the B.L.S. members no later than five (5) days prior to the meeting at which the amendment shall be considered.

ARTICLE X- BY-LAWS

SECTION I- The Executive Board shall have power to make, amend, and/or repeal the by-laws at any time by a three-fourths vote of the Officers.

SECTION II- By-laws may be overridden, amended, or created by the B.L.S. members if (1) a member in good standing, who has paid dues (if any) submits a petition to the President or Co-Presidents no less than five (5) days before the general meeting regarding the by-law and (2) two-thirds (2/3) majority of the B.L.S. members in good standing at the meeting vote to override, amend, or create the by-law.

SECTION III- By-laws must be consistent with this Constitution or shall be null and void.

ARTICLE XI- ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION

This Constitution shall be adopted by a three-fourths majority vote of the B.L.S. members in good standing, who have paid dues (if any) present at a general meeting or by a two-thirds majority of B.L.S. members in good standing, who have paid dues (if any) via e-mail communication.