

Constitution

Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice Law Society

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice Law Society (“the PIMML Society”), as a student organization at the Columbus School of Law (“Law School”) at The Catholic University of America (“University”).

Article II: Purpose and Mission

The purpose of the PIMML Society shall be to provide a community within the law school for students interested in tort-based civil litigation, with a particular focus on personal injury and medical malpractice law. The organization aims to promote academic exploration, professional development, and student engagement in one of the most prominent and impactful areas of law .

Personal injury and medical malpractice law intersects with a wide range of substantive legal issues, including negligence, wrongful death, products liability, healthcare regulation, and insurance disputes. These topics also raise broader questions of access to justice, civil jury trials, and ethical obligations of attorneys and medical professionals. The Society will sponsor workshops, speaker panels, and networking opportunities to help students better understand the practice and policy concerns that define this area of law. The PIMML Society will also serve as a liaison between students and attorneys practicing in this area of law, offering alumni engagement and mentorship opportunities for those pursuing litigation-focused careers.

At all times, the PIMML Society will demonstrate respect for the University and Law School mission statements by providing, in particular, opportunities to advance “the dialogue between faith and reason.”

Article III. Social Media

The PIMML Society shall comply with the University’s Social Media policy, <https://policies.catholic.edu/marketing-communications/socialmedia.html>. The PIMML Society shall obtain approval from the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs before posting on its social media sites. According to the University’s Social Media Policy, the PIMML Society “may only use the University’s approved names, seal, logos and other copyrighted or trademarked material in Social Media to identify themselves on matters of official University business.” The PIMML Society shall also obtain approval from the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs before submitting its name to be listed on websites or in directories belonging to third parties.

Article IV. Political and Policy Advocacy

The PIMML Society shall comply with the University’s Political Activities Policy, <https://policies.catholic.edu/governance/politicalactivities.html>. In addition, the PIMML Society will not engage in political or policy advocacy, nor will it challenge or undermine the moral teachings of the Catholic Church, including those related to sexual orientation, marriage, and gender identity.

Article V. Events

The PIMML Society shall comply with the University's Presentations Policy, <https://policies.catholic.edu/students/studentlife/organizations/presentations.html> . In sponsoring forums for discussion, the PIMML Society shall provide law students and the law school community with the opportunity to hear from experts regarding the law of personal injury and medical malpractice so that students may, as provided in the University's Presentations Policy, learn from "legitimate sources of information" in furtherance of "their participation in academic dialogue."

Article VI: Membership

Section 1. Membership in the PIMML society is open to all interested students enrolled at the Law School.

Section 2. The PIMML Society will not deny membership on the basis of race, sex, gender, age, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color, or national origin.

Article VII: Compliance

The PIMML Society shall adhere to all Law School and University rules, policies, and procedures. The PIMML Society shall adhere to its Constitution and to the laws of the District of Columbia. The Executive Board shall be responsible for educating the membership regarding the terms of the PIMML Society Constitution and all applicable Law School and University Policies. The Executive Board shall actively promote compliance with the PIMML Society Constitution and all relevant University Policies.

Article VII: Executive Board

Section 1. All the activities and programs of the PIMML Society shall be managed and governed by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall have the power to administer and enforce the PIMML Society Constitution.

Section 2. The PIMML Society officers ("Executive Board") shall be President, Co- President (if applicable), Vice President, Treasurer, and two First Year Representatives, one from the Day Division and one from the Evening Division.

Section 3. Each officer shall be an upper-class member of the Law School (upper-class member is defined as any second, third, or fourth year day or evening division student), except the First Year Representatives, and shall be elected by the majority of votes cast by the PIMML Society general membership.

Section 4. The duties and qualifications of each officer shall be:

President: The President is charged with providing leadership and promoting the interests of the PIMML Society and its members. The President serves as a spokesperson, representative, and liaison of the PIMML Society to faculty, the University, and the greater community. The President must be actively involved in all decision-making but reserves the right to delegate matters as he or she sees fit. Additionally, the President must represent the PIMML Society at all official functions, communicate with other student groups, remain fair and impartial during organizational decision-making processes, and perform other duties as directed by the Faculty Advisor or school administration.

Vice President: The Vice President must be prepared to assume the duties of the President in the President's absence, assist in organizing events throughout the year in collaboration with the Public

Relations Officer, communicate with other related school student associations in the Washington metropolitan area, represent the PIMML Society at all official functions, remain fair and impartial during organizational decision-making processes, and perform other duties as directed by the President or Faculty Advisor.

Treasurer: The treasurer must prepare an annual budget and all budget requests, manage the disbursement of funds and receipts, coordinate and submit financial reports to the members and the faculty advisor(s) when requested, prepare purchase orders and/or supply requests, represent the PIMML Society at official functions, remain fair and impartial during the organizational decision-making process, and perform other duties as directed by the President or Vice President.

First-Year Representatives: It is the role of the First-Year Representatives to facilitate enthusiasm among the first-year students for the PIMML Society events and activities. Additionally, the First Year Representatives must represent the PIMML Society at official functions, remain fair and impartial during the organizational decision-making process, and perform other duties as directed by the President or Vice President.

Article VIII: Elections and Transitions

Section 1. Elections for the 1L Representative positions shall be held at a general body meeting during the first month of the fall semester. Elections for all other Executive Board positions shall be held at a general body meeting during the spring semester. Elections shall take place either electronically or in person.

Section 2. The President shall coordinate and conduct a meeting to explain each of the Executive Board positions at least two weeks before the election deadline.

Section 3. PIMML Society members interested in running for a position shall submit their name, desired position, and a paragraph describing their qualifications to the President at least one week before the scheduled election. That information shall be provided to PIMML Society members no less than five days before the election.

Section 4. All PIMML Society members shall have the opportunity to vote for each Executive Board position. If only one member submits for a position, a vote for that position will be unnecessary. However, information on that candidate will still be provided to members for review along with the others.

Section 5. Executive Board positions shall be elected by a majority vote of the membership.

Article IX: Meetings, Committees, and Forums

Section 1. A general body meeting shall be held at least once each semester, and special meetings may be called by the President.

Section 2. Committees may be created when it is determined by the Executive Board as necessary to facilitate the organizing and execution of events sponsored by the PIMML Society.

Article X: Removal

Section 1. Any Executive Board member who desires the removal of another Executive Board member shall

approach the President or Vice-President, with a written proposal and supporting reasons to remove that Executive Board member.

Section 2. The President or Vice-President shall contact the officer sought to be removed, in writing, at least one week before the removal meeting, and at that time, shall notify the officer sought to be removed of the Executive Board's removal proposal and supporting reasons.

Section 3. The President or Vice-President shall coordinate a removal meeting, during which the removal proposal and supporting reasons will be considered and adjudicated pursuant to subsections (a) and (b).

- (a) The Executive Board member sought to be removed shall have the opportunity to make a statement addressing the Executive Board.
- (b) Removal of an Executive Board member requires a simple majority vote by all Executive Board members, including the Executive Board member sought to be removed.

Article XI: Faculty/Staff Advisor

Section 1. The Assistant Dean for Student Affairs shall be an ex officio PIMML Society advisor. The PIMML Society will select at least one additional advisor(s) who shall be a member of the faculty or staff of the Law School.

Section 2. The additional faculty/staff advisor(s) shall be selected by the President.

Section 3. The faculty/staff advisor(s), other than the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, may be removed by the President.

Section 4. If a faculty/staff advisor wishes to step down, she or he must notify the President so a new faculty/staff advisor may be selected.

Section 5. The inaugural faculty/staff advisor is Professor Marin Scordato.

Article XII: Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution shall be reviewed yearly by the President.

Section 2. Any member of the Executive Board may propose amendments to the Constitution. Such proposed amendments shall be communicated in writing to the President.

Section 3. If the President determines that an amendment is appropriate, the President shall consult with the Vice-President, and then submit the proposed amendment to the Executive Board for a vote.

Section 4. Amendments to this Constitution shall be approved upon majority vote of the Executive Board. They must also be approved by the Law School's administration.

Article XIII: Ratification

The Constitution, and any amendments thereto, shall be ratified by its members by two-thirds majority vote of

the entire PIMML Society membership and must be approved by the Law School's administration.