

**The Constitution of:**  
**Students for Justice, Pennsylvania State University**  
**Wilkes-Barre Campus**

**ARTICLE I: *Name and Affiliations***

The name of the organization shall be *Students for Justice*.

**ARTICLE II: *Purpose and Mission Statement***

The purpose of the organization shall be to foster the principles set forth in the United States Constitution among the student body of the Pennsylvania State University and to organize student representatives in preserving those fundamental beliefs, as well as acting in a manner respectful to this document. This club's mission shall be to raise awareness of issues concerning Criminal Justice topics, not only on campus but in our surrounding communities, in the form of, speeches, campus actives and community oriented actives.

**ARTICLE III: *Membership***

Membership shall be limited to students, faculty and staff of the Pennsylvania State University, Wilkes-Barre Campus. All members must agree to abide by the Pennsylvania State University policy prohibiting discrimination in organizational membership on the basis of race, color, culture, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age or veteran status.

**ARTICLE IV: *Officers or Executives***

Group officers must be an active member: "Active Member" is defined as attending 50% of club meetings and being active in at least one service project.

*Officers of the Group shall include:*

*President*, whose duties shall be to preside over all meetings, set agendas for meetings, appoint committees, vote in meetings to break ties, and serve as the organization's official representative.

*Vice-President*, whose duty shall be to assume the duties of the president in his /her absence,

*Secretary*, whose duties shall include taking minutes of the meetings, maintaining current attendance records, maintaining a schedule of events, and official record keeping for the organization.

*Treasurer*, whose duties shall include recording and monitoring all organization funds, preparing financial reports, and working with the Student Organization Coordinator in all bookkeeping issues as well as SGA Treasurer.

*SGA Representative*, whose duties shall include regular attendance at all SGA Schedules meetings and give reports pertaining to club actives.

If, for any reason, an officer is unable to perform their duties, they shall be replaced. Replacement shall take place according to normal election proceedings according to Article VIII, Section 3.

**ARTICLE V: Committees**

Committees shall be created and dissolved as needed by official appointment and a majority vote.

**ARTICLE VI: Faculty Advisor**

The Faculty Advisor must be a full-time employee of the Pennsylvania State University. Advisor interference shall be limited.

**ARTICLE VII: Amendments**

This Constitution may be amended by a 2/3-majority vote.

**ARTICLE VIII: Ratification**

This constitution shall become effective upon the approval of the SGA and Student Activities Coordinator.

**By-Laws Outline**

**Section 1: Membership**

It is each member's own duty to attend meetings regularly and participate in club activism projects. Each member of the club shall have the right to vote, although they must be present to do so. Members shall resign their membership at their own discretion.

**Section 2: Fees**

There shall be no fees imposed on membership.

**Section 3: Elections**

Elections shall be held at the end of each spring term. Any member may nominate any fellow member to any office, as long as the nominee in question meets the requirements outlined in Article IV. Elections shall be held at the next meeting following nominations, or at a time stipulated by the group. Election to an office shall be based on a simple majority, determined by a secret ballot.

The seat of president shall not be voted on, but shall be filled by the standing vice president upon completion or resignation of the current president's term. In the case a vice president is unable to fill the president's position, the group may decide upon a new president and/or vice president by majority vote. The group may also override the succession of power from president to vice president by a majority vote, in which case a new president and/or vice president shall be appointed. If an officer for any reason cannot be present for an extended period of time, they

should resign their position and in which case a new person will be elected according to election standards. If person is not present to resign or does not respond then the person may be removed after approval by department chairperson and a majority club vote.

Officer positions will be appointed at the end of each spring semester. . Each officer must recognize the one-year commitment.

Those being considered for an officer position must be a full time student (12 or more hours of courses) of the Pennsylvania State University.

#### ***Section 4: Meetings***

All meetings will be conducted using parliamentary procedure as outlined in Robert's Rules of Order. While attendance of every meeting is not mandatory, attendance of 50% of scheduled meetings is necessary for returning members to exercise their voting right.

- **Point of Privilege:** Pertains to noise, personal comfort, etc. - may interrupt only if necessary!
- **Parliamentary Inquiry:** Inquire as to the correct motion - to accomplish a desired result, or raise a point of order
- **Point of Information:** Generally applies to information desired from the speaker: "I should like to ask the (speaker) a question."
- **Orders of the Day (Agenda):** A call to adhere to the agenda (a deviation from the agenda requires Suspending the Rules)
- **Point of Order:** Infraction of the rules, or improper decorum in speaking. Must be raised immediately after the error is made
- **Main Motion:** Brings new business (the next item on the agenda) before the assembly
- **Divide the Question:** Divides a motion into two or more separate motions (must be able to stand on their own)
- **Consider by Paragraph:** Adoption of paper is held until all paragraphs are debated and amended and entire paper is satisfactory; after all paragraphs are considered, the entire paper is then open to amendment, and paragraphs may be further amended. Any Preamble cannot be considered until debate on the body of the paper has ceased.
- **Amend:** Inserting or striking out words or paragraphs, or substituting whole paragraphs or resolutions
- **Withdraw/Modify Motion:** Applies only after question is stated; mover can accept an amendment without obtaining the floor
- **Commit /Refer/Recommit to Committee:** State the committee to receive the question or resolution; if no committee exists include size of committee desired and method of selecting the members (election or appointment).
- **Extend Debate:** Applies only to the immediately pending question; extends until a certain time or for a certain period of time
- **Limit Debate:** Closing debate at a certain time, or limiting to a certain period of time
- **Postpone to a Certain Time:** State the time the motion or agenda item will be resumed
- **Object to Consideration:** Objection must be stated before discussion or another motion is stated

- **Lay on the Table:** Temporarily suspends further consideration/action on pending question; may be made after motion to close debate has carried or is pending
- **Take from the Table:** Resumes consideration of item previously "laid on the table" - state the motion to take from the table
- **Reconsider:** Can be made only by one on the prevailing side who has changed position or view
- **Postpone Indefinitely:** Kills the question/resolution for this session - exception: the motion to reconsider can be made this session
- **Previous Question:** Closes debate if successful - may be moved to "**Close Debate**" if preferred
- **Informal Consideration:** Move that the assembly go into "**Committee of the Whole**" - informal debate as if in committee; this committee may limit number or length of speeches or close debate by other means by a 2/3 vote. All votes, however, are formal.
- **Appeal Decision of the Chair:** Appeal for the assembly to decide - must be made before other business is resumed; NOT debatable if relates to decorum, violation of rules or order of business
- **Suspend the Rules:** Allows a violation of the assembly's own rules (except Constitution); the object of the suspension must be specified

**Section 5:** Quorum

No less than 25% of club members shall constitute a Quorum. However, the decision in question must have been announced at a prior meeting.

**Section 6:** Amendment of the By-Laws.

By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote.

October 13, 2009

Officers at adoption of Constitution:

President -	Robert Danko Jr	Treasurer-	Ann Marie Gallagher
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Vice President -	Steve Haas	Secretary-	Bethany DeRenzis
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Faculty Advisors at time of adoption:

Marshall Davis	Frank Hughes
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