Article I: Introduction

This Constitution serves as our mission statement, organizational structure, and general procedures in the absence of any other legitimately-adopted written constitution of this chapter.

Article II: Mission Statement

Inspired by the life and example of statesman and attorney-at-law St. Thomas More, our Society chapter strives to raise consciousness of the obligation of faith-filled attorneys to practice law in high accordance with their individual and community conscience.

In particular, our Society chapter aims to provide its members and fellow law school colleagues with opportunities to learn, discuss, and share ideas and views of moral and theological issues that arise in the practice of law. Further, our Chapter aims to provide its members and fellow law school colleagues an opportunity to give back to the community in a service-oriented manner, within the spirit and example set by St. Thomas More. Finally, our Society chapter focuses on the obligation of an attorney to practice in high accordance with conscience and integrity, as a role model in the public setting, without compromising moral values for self preservation.

Article III: Structural Organization

Our Society chapter consists of members, officers, and faculty/campus ministry sponsors. Membership is open to any UDSL law student or graduate. Officer positions are as follows:

1. President: The duties of the President primarily are to serve as the liaison to the UDSL Student Bar Association, any UDSL committee which requires St. Thomas More Society (Society) group representation, and any University of Dayton Committee which requires Society representation. The President may delegate any committee representation other than SBA to another Society chapter member, with the member’s consent. The President is responsible for calling general and special meetings, and he/she shall serve as the presiding officer at chapter meetings. Additional duties include co-coordinating volunteer/speaker efforts with the Vice President.

2. Vice President: The duties of the Vice President include fulfilling any of the President’s duties in the President’s absence. The Vice President shall oversee any
Society chapter committees as chairperson, and he/she shall make reports at general meetings to committee members. Additional duties include co-coordinating volunteer/speaker efforts with the President.

3. **Secretary:** The primary duty of the Secretary is to conduct, maintain and record all correspondence of the Society chapter. This includes keeping minutes of all meetings, for review of members and officers at subsequent meetings. The Secretary will maintain all Chapter files, excluding financial records, including the depository of membership lists and the Chapter’s Constitution. The Secretary will work with the other officers in communications matters to members of upcoming meetings, events and other relevant Society business.

4. **Treasurer:** The Treasurer is to conduct all financial transactions on behalf of the Society chapter, and is responsible for maintaining the Society account with the banking institution chosen by the Society. He/she shall make monthly reports in the form of financial sheets, such as balance sheets, of all Society income, assets and expenses. The Treasurer shall maintain written records of all transactions. He/she is also responsible for submitting budget proposals to the SBA as required, in cooperation with the other officers and with their approval. The approved budget monies, along with the Society’s own approved budget, will serve as the authority for the Treasurer to make disbursements and reimbursements.

**Article IV: Decision-Making Procedures**

Whenever possible, decisions regarding activities, budgeting, events, etc., except the election of officers, will be made by group consensus of all officers and members. To make a binding decision, a quorum of the Society membership must be present at either general or special meeting called by the President. A binding decision shall be accepted and implemented by the Society upon a simple majority vote of the quorum. A quorum, for Society purposes, constitutes a majority of the members present at either general or special meeting, including at least the President or Vice President, and the Secretary or Treasurer.

Election of Officers shall be held in the spring semester. Present members and officers each shall have one vote, and elections will be determined by a simple majority.

Meetings are to be held monthly for general membership business.