

CODE OF CONDUCT

Purpose

The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to provide clear guidelines for the expected conduct of the Executive Council, our Officers, and of our members and the remedies available for breaches of those expectations.

This Code of Conduct is not intended to replace the University of Southern Queensland's Code of Conduct for students, nor any of the policies found in the Policy Library. Instead, it is intended to reinforce, provide clarification for and outline the expectation held by the USQ Law Society.

Where the USQ Law Society's Code of Conduct or Policy Library does not deal with a specific concern, the USQ Law Society will defer to the University of Southern Queensland's Policy Library.

<u>General</u>

USQ Law Society Executive and Officers

The Executive of the USQ Law Society are elected to be representatives of the Law Society. They have been placed in a position of trust by the Law Society.

The Officers of the USQ Law Society are representatives of the Law Society and have been placed in a position of trust by the Executive of the Law Society.

<u>Behaviour</u>

The Executive Council and Officers will at all times be professional in their actions and uphold the reputation of their office and the Law Society.

Communication

The executive council and officers will maintain professional and courteous communication with all parties. This will include, but not be limited to:

- internal communication within the council, including via email, social media and in person;
- communication with the legal professional, including private firms, government departments, education providers and individual practitioners;
- communication with the law school, including the Head of School, all lecturers and administration staff;
- communication with the wider University of Southern Queensland community; and
- communication with members, including but not limited to, email, QPay, usqls.org.au, social media posts, private groups and in person.

Any breach of communication will be addressed to the Executive Council and appropriate action will be taken. This may result in removal from the executive council.



Uphold the System of Government

The Law Society is committed to upholding the rule of law and expects our Executive Council, Officers and Members to do the same. They are obliged to comply with all State and Commonwealth laws and, if traveling abroad or live overseas, to observe the customs and laws of the host country.

The Executive Council and Officers will not use their position to benefit personally or financially from their position.

The Executive Council have been placed in a position of trust by the Members and will therefore act with integrity, impartiality and honesty while carrying out the duties of their office. The Executive Council will act in good faith and uphold their fiduciary duties to the Law Society.

USQ Law Society Officers have been placed in a position of trust by the Executive and will therefore act with integrity, impartiality and honesty while carrying out the duties of their office.

<u>Members</u>

The USQ Law Society also has expectations for its members.

Breach of Code

If this Code of Conduct is violated, the Executive Council reserves the right to revoke a member's membership without refund.

Violation of this Code of Conduct may also exclude a member from running for election of an Executive Council position.

The Executive Council Member will be notified where it has been established that they have been in breach of this policy. They will have an opportunity to show cause as to why they should not be removed from office for the policy breach.

The decision to remove an Executive Council member from their position is by a majority vote of the executive.

Solicitation

Members will not use their membership with the Law Society and access to social media groups affiliated with the Law Society to promote or advertise personal business, political parties or



CODE OF CONDUCT

beliefs, religious organisations or beliefs without the express permission of the Executive Council.

If you have concerns that a member or one of the Executive Council has violated or infringed this Code of Conduct, contact <u>usqlawsociety@gmail.com</u>.