Constitution of the Military Law Society, Chicago-Kent College of Law

20 September 2010

Section 1 – Name. The name of this organization shall be the Military Law Society.

Section 2 – Mission Statement. The purpose of the Military Law Society is twofold. First, the Military Law Society is dedicated to supporting American Troops deployed overseas and coordinating charitable and domestic service opportunities for students at Chicago-Kent College of Law. Second, the Military Law Society encourages students who are considering a legal career in the military, develops networking opportunities and builds relationships with professionals working in military law, and hosts learning events to educate the Chicago-Kent College of Law community about the different career paths available in military law.

Section 3 – Membership. Membership is open to all members of the Chicago-Kent College of Law community as well as those students at other law schools throughout the Chicago area who reach out to the Executive Board and agree to maintain a membership in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the Military Law Society, the constitution and bylaws of the Student Bar Association of Chicago-Kent College of Law, and those regulations put forth by the administration of the Chicago-Kent College of Law regarding membership within student organizations.

§3.1 Termination of Membership. (a) A member may resign from the Military Law Society at any time effective upon receipt of the member’s written resignation by the President or, in the absence of the President, the First Vice President. (b) A member who, by a final order or judgment, (1) is convicted of a felony, or (2) is expelled or suspended for any period of time from Chicago-Kent College of law, or the law school to which the student is regularly matriculated, ceases to be a member of the Military Law Society.

§3.2 Faculty Mentor. There shall at all times be a duly appointed faculty mentor to advance, assist, and oversee the Military Law Society. If at any time a faculty mentor ceases to be such for any reason whatever, a substitute faculty mentor shall be chosen by majority vote among active officers within fourteen (14) days.

Section 4. – Organization Meetings. The annual meeting of the Military Law Society shall be held once during each year, during the fall semester, at the Downtown Campus of Chicago-Kent College of Law, 565 West Adams Street, Chicago, Illinois 60661, at a time and date as to be prescribed by the Executive Board. In addition to the annual meeting, the Executive Board of the Military Law Society may hold such meetings including special meetings, events, fundraisers, and guest speaking events, as deemed necessary.

Section 5 – Leadership. The leadership of the Military Law Society shall be an Executive Board made of the following members, elected to serve for one-year terms. The Officers of the Executive Board are ex-officio members of the Organization. They have all duties normally incident to their respective offices.
§5.1 President. The President shall preside at meetings of the Officers and is the principal spokesperson of the Military Law Society and shall execute those tasks necessary to the daily operations of the organization. Unless otherwise provided, the President shall oversee all activity of the Military Law Society.

§5.2 First Vice President. The First Vice President shall perform such duties as the President may assign and, except as otherwise provided, the duties of the President when the President is disabled from performing the duties of that office or absent from any meeting of the Officers. The First Vice President is responsible for coordinating with and assisting the officers of the Executive Board with assigned tasks and duties.

§5.3 Vice President of Service Events. The Vice President of Service Events shall perform such duties as the President or First Vice President may assign; coordinate the activities of the organization dedicated to supporting the Armed Forces of the United States; and pursue domestic service opportunities for the organization and its membership.

§5.4 Vice President of Career Events. The Vice President of Career Events shall perform such duties as the President or First Vice President may assign; coordinate the activities of the organization dedicated to exploring and explaining legal careers in the military.

§5.5 Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes and records of the Organization; keep an updated roster of active members; receive and keep as the property of the Organization all papers, addresses, and reports to the Organization; when appropriate, provide notice to the executive board, faculty mentor, membership of the Organization, and Chicago-Kent College of Law community at-large of upcoming meetings, special events, elections and other activities.

§5.6 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall supervise the safekeeping of the funds and investments of the Organization; shall report periodically on the financial condition of the Organization to the Student Bar Association and Chicago-Kent College of Law as required by the policies of those institutions; and shall keep the officers of the Executive Board apprised of the Organization’s financial outlook and any budgetary requirements set forth by the Student Bar Association and/or the Chicago-Kent College of Law.

Section 6 – Elections. An anonymous election of Executive Board officers shall take place annually at the end of each spring semester, before the start of final exam period at Chicago-Kent College of Law.

§6.1 Procedures. Elections for positions on the Executive Board shall be conducted by the active President under procedures established in writing in consultation with the Faculty Mentor and distributed through an official email to the full membership of the Organization. Should the active President be seeking a
position on the Executive Board, the election will be otherwise conducted by the First Vice President or, if necessary, a person of responsibility as designated by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

§6.2 Alternative Procedures. (a) Should any positions remain unfilled during the normal election at the end of the spring semester, those positions shall remain empty until the Fall Organization Meeting, at which point a contingent election will be held under those same procedures as described above. (b) Should a position be vacated during an academic year, that position may be filled in a contingent election as outlined above at the discretion of the full executive board, or remain empty until the next regularly scheduled election.

Section 7 – Representation of the Organization. The President or a person designated by the President shall express the policy of the Organization as determined by the Officers. No other member or associate of the Organization may represent the Organization or a section or committee before a legislative body, court, or governmental agency, unless specifically authorized by the Officers.

§7.1 Personal Views of Members. A member who, when making a public utterance, permits himself or herself to be identified as having an official connection with the Organization shall, if the policy of the Organization on the subject matter of the utterance has been determined by the Officers, fairly state that policy and, if expressing a view at variance with it, clearly identify the variance as the member’s personal views only. If there has not been, or the member has no knowledge of, any such policy determination, the member shall nevertheless identify the utterance as personal views.

Section 8 – Amendments. This Constitution may be amended by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board.