

Prepared and Maintained by The Judicial Council



JUDICIAL COUNCIL *of* NOTRE DAME

2024–2025

CANNONS OF CONDUCT OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 21, 2024—Ratified

OCTOBER 1, 2024—Last Amended

Cannon I

A Judicial Council Officer shall work to uphold the integrity and independence of the Judicial Council.

1. An Officer shall maintain and observe high standards of conduct in order to preserve the integrity and independence of the Judicial Council in its entirety.

Cannon II

A Judicial Council Officer shall avoid impropriety and the mere appearance of impropriety in all activities.

1. An Officer shall respect and comply with the Constitution and act at

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all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary.

2. An Officer shall not allow family, social, political, financial, or other relationships to influence official conduct or judgment. An Officer shall neither knowingly lend the prestige of their office to advance the private interests of the Officer or others nor knowingly convey or permit others to convey the impression that they are in a special position to influence the Officer.
3. An Officer shall not hold membership in any organization that practices invidious discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin.

Cannon III

A Judicial Council Officer shall perform the duties of office fairly, impartially, and diligently.

1. An Officer shall not allow family, social, political, financial, or other relationships to influence official conduct or judgment. An Officer shall neither knowingly lend the prestige of their office to advance the private interests of the Officer or others nor knowingly convey or permit others to convey the impression that they are in a special position to influence the Officer.
2. An Officer shall not be swayed by political interests, public clamor, or fear of criticism.
3. A Judicial Council Officer shall participate in matters assigned, unless recused, and shall maintain order and decorum in proceedings of the Judicial Council.
4. An Officer shall be patient, dignified, respectful, and courteous to all individuals with whom the Officer deals in an official capacity.
4. An Officer shall not engage in behavior that is harassing, abusive, prejudiced, or biased.
5. An Officer shall not retaliate against those who report misconduct.
6. An Officer shall not knowingly make public comment on the merits

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of a matter pending or impending in the Judicial Council; except for certain scholarly, informational, or educational purposes.

7. An Officer shall not direct Judicial Council personnel to engage in conduct on the Officer's behalf or as the Officer's representative when that conduct would contravene the Canons if undertaken by the Officer. An Officer shall take appropriate action upon receipt of reliable information indicating the likelihood of misconduct by a member of the Judicial Council. An Officer shall require similar conduct and restraint as described above by those subject to the Officer's leadership.
8. A Judicial Council Officer is presumed impartial and has an obligation to sit unless recused. Nonetheless, an Officer shall recuse himself or herself in a proceeding in which the Officer's impartiality might reasonably be questioned; that is, where an unbiased and reasonable person who is aware of all relevant circumstances would doubt that the Officer could fairly discharge his or her duties.

Cannon IV

A Judicial Council Officer may engage in extrajudicial activities consistent with the obligations of the judicial office.

1. A Judicial Council Officer may engage in extrajudicial activities consistent with the obligations of the judicial office.
2. A Judicial Council Officer may engage in extrajudicial activities. However, a Justice shall not participate in extrajudicial activities that detract from the dignity of the Officer's office, interfere with the performance of the Officer's official duties, reflect adversely on the Officer's impartiality, lead to frequent recusal, or violate the limitations set forth below.
3. A Judicial Council Officer may accept appointment to a Student Union committee or commission only if it is one that concerns the Constitution or any bylaws and statutes enacted thereunder, the judicial system, the administration of justice, or if the appointment of an Officer is explicitly authorized by the Constitution or other enactment.

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4. A Judicial Council Officer should not, in any event, accept such an appointment if the Officer's Student Union duties would tend to undermine public confidence in the integrity, impartiality, or independence of the judiciary.
5. A Judicial Council Officer may not accept an appointment in a branch of government led by a publicly elected office, or offices.

Cannon V

A Judicial Council Officer shall refrain from political activity within the Student Union and remain impartial regarding issues not related to the Judicial Council or the responsibility to uphold and protect the Constitution.

1. In their capacity on the Judicial Council, an Officer shall not provide public opinions on issues of substance that exist beyond the confines of the Judicial Council.
2. In their capacity on the Judicial Council, an Officer shall remain impartial on all political issues.
3. A Judicial Council Officer shall offer impartial and equal assistance and guidance to all students, regardless of creed or cause.

Cannon VI

A Judicial Council Officer shall refrain from any partiality or appearance of partiality in all Student Union Elections.

1. Beyond their capacity on the Judicial Council, an Officer shall refrain from involvement, or any act that would indicate involvement, in any Student Union Election.
2. An Officer shall refrain from any act of partiality, preference, favouritism, or bias in all Student Union elections.
3. An Officer shall refrain from any activity that may suggest the mere appearance of partiality, preference, favouritism, or bias in any

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Student Union election.

4. A Judicial Council officer shall seek to uphold a balanced playing field among all candidates, and shall not knowingly take any action that may benefit or appear to benefit one candidate over any other.
5. A Judicial Council Officer shall offer impartial and equal assistance and guidance to all students, regardless of creed or cause.