PREAMBLE

We, the College Democrats of the District of Columbia, do hereby dedicate ourselves to organizing college students in our state in order to encourage and develop the participation of young Americans in the political process and the Democratic Party. We strive to better our country and to promote the principles of equality, opportunity, social justice, and freedom within a just and strong society. As college students, we dedicate ourselves to representing the interests of students and youth within the political process.

We recognize our unique place in the nation. As students in the District of Columbia, we are made up of lifelong residents as well as citizens of other states. As students in the nation’s capital, we have equal obligations both to our state and to our nation. As Democrats, we aim to promote the principles of our party. We call for full participation without regard to sex, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, handicap, socioeconomic status, age, gender identity, or sexual orientation. For these ends and upon these principles, we, as Democratic college students, do hereby associate ourselves and adopt this Constitution as the District of Columbia College Democrats.

ARTICLE I
Name, Membership, Organization, and Purpose

Section 1. The name of the organization is the District of Columbia College Democrats, herein referred to as the Federation.

Section 2. The Federation shall consist of students at institutions in the District of Columbia who are registered as Democrats or who wish to identify as College Democrats.

Section 3. The Federation shall be the official chartered chapter of the College Democrats of America in the District of Columbia, and campus chapters shall be the fundamental unit of the Federation.

Section 4. It shall be the purpose of the Federation to:
   a. support Democratic candidates for local, state, and federal office;
   b. conduct programs of voter registration, education and political engagement;
   c. promote the goals and mission of the Democratic Party;
   d. increase Party participation in electoral politics through engagement, training and education; and
   e. act as a liaison between campus chapters and the College Democrats of America.

Section 5. Neither the Federation nor any of its chapters or affiliates shall discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, creed, disability status, veteran status, marital status, age, parental status, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, gender expression, or gender identity. The Federation and its affiliate chapters shall not engage in or tolerate hazing, bullying, or victimization of any degree.

ARTICLE II
State Convention

Section 1. The State Convention shall be the highest authority of the Federation, subject to the provisions of this Constitution.
Section 2. The State Convention shall elect the Federation’s President, Vice President, National Councilman, and National Councilwoman, receive reports from officers, adopt a strategic plan for the following year, and act upon other such matters as it deems appropriate.

Section 3. Each campus chapter shall be entitled to send six (6) voting delegates to the State Convention, including:
   a. The President of the chapter
   b. The Vice President of the chapter
   c. The Secretary of the chapter
   d. The Treasurer of the chapter
   e. A delegate of a different gender identity than the Secretary of the chapter
   f. A delegate of a different gender identity than the Treasurer of the chapter
   g. Notwithstanding these provisions, all officers of the Federation shall also be delegates.

ARTICLE III
State Committee

Section 1. The State Committee shall have responsibility for the Federation between State Conventions, subject to the provisions of this Constitution, including:
   a. organizing the State Convention;
   b. overseeing and implementing statewide programs;
   c. filling vacancies among the officers of the Federation;
   d. electing officers of the State Committee, including a Secretary and a Treasurer;
   e. preparing a strategic plan to propose to the State Convention;
   f. proposing, merging, and amending proposals to amend the Constitution and Bylaws; and
   g. managing the records and the finances of the Federation.

Section 2. The State Committee shall be composed of the President, Vice President, National Councilman, and National Councilwoman of the Federation, and the President and Vice President of each campus chapter or their designees.

Section 3. The State Committee shall meet at least once a month, except during June, July, and August unless a meeting is called in those months. Meetings shall be called by the President, by a majority of the officers of the Federation, or by request of one-half of campus chapters.

Article IV
Amendment

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) of the State Convention.

Section 2. The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the State Committee with previous notice or by a majority vote of the State Convention with a recommendation of the Charter and Bylaws Committee.

Section 3. Each campus chapter shall conduct itself in accordance with a charter and bylaws consistent with this Constitution and the Bylaws of the Federation.
District of Columbia College Democrats
Bylaws

ARTICLE I
Membership

Section 1. The District of Columbia College Democrats, herein the “Federation,” shall consist of the following chapters:
   a. American University
   b. The Catholic University of America
   c. The George Washington University
   d. Georgetown University
   e. Howard University

ARTICLE II
State Convention

Section 1. The Federation shall assemble in State Convention in the spring academic semester of every year on the campus of a campus chapter. The State Committee shall decide on the date, place, and schedule of the State Convention and issue a call to convention to all campus chapters at least thirty (30) days before the convention.

Section 2. The State Convention shall adopt rules governing the conduct of its business at the beginning of each convention. The State Committee shall propose rules for the State Convention, and until the adoption of rules, the proposed rules shall govern the convention.

Section 3. The President of each campus chapter shall submit a list of their chapter’s delegates at least seven (7) days before the convention. The State Committee shall assign each delegate to one committee.

Section 4. The State Convention shall receive the following reports:
   a. From the President, a report detailing the successes and shortcomings of the Federation in attaining the strategic plan set by the previous State Convention, and proposing the strategic plan prepared by the Strategic Planning Committee.
   b. From the Vice President, a report detailing the proposed amendments to the Charter and Bylaws.
   c. From the Secretary, a report detailing the state of the membership of the Federation and each of its chapters.
   d. From the Treasurer, a report detailing the finances of the Federation and each of its chapters.

Section 5. The State Convention shall adopt a strategic plan detailing the goals for the Federation for the following year. Each delegate shall have one vote.

Section 6. The State Convention shall consider all proposed amendments to the Charter and Bylaws, as reported by the Charter and Bylaws Committee. Each delegate shall have one vote.

Section 7. The State Convention shall elect a President, Vice President, National Councilman, and National Councilwoman of the Federation. Candidates shall be nominated from the floor and may speak on their candidacy for two (2) minutes. A majority vote shall be necessary for election. Each delegate shall have one vote. Voting shall be by roll call.
Section 8. Quorum for the State Convention shall consist of one-fourth of delegates representing a majority of chapters.

ARTICLE III
State Committee

Section 1. The State Committee shall consist of the officers of the Federation and the President and Vice President of each chapter or their designees. Its guiding purpose shall be to see to the implementation of the strategic plan.

Section 2. The President shall chair the State Committee.

Section 3. The State Committee shall meet the every month at the call of the President, a majority of the officers, or half of campus chapters. Members representing a majority of chapters shall constitute a quorum. The Secretary shall issue notice of the date, time, and place of regular meetings no less than a week prior to the meeting.

Section 4. The State Committee shall elect, by majority vote, officers of the State Committee, including a Secretary and a Treasurer.

Section 5. The State Committee shall fill vacancies in officer positions as they arise. In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the Vice President shall become President.

Section 6. The State Committee may remove an officer by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) with previous notice.

ARTICLE IV
Officers

Section 1. The officers of each chapter shall consist, at least, of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Vice President shall be of a different gender identity than the President unless this provision is waived by the State Committee. No qualifications shall be required to hold office but to be a member of the chapter.

Section 2. The officers of the Federation shall be a President, Vice President, National Councilman, and National Councilwoman. The officers of the State Committee shall be at least a Secretary and a Treasurer. The President and the Vice President shall be of different gender identities unless this provision is waived by the State Committee. The National Councilman and National Councilwoman shall be of different gender identities. No qualifications shall be required to hold office but to be a Democrat and to attend a college in the District of Columbia.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the President to:
   a. make certain that the business of the State Committee is conducted according to these bylaws, to the bylaws of the College Democrats of America, to the bylaws of the Democratic National Committee, and to any applicable local, state, or federal law;
   b. preside at all meetings of the State Committee;
   c. represent the Federation on the National Council of the College Democrats of America;
   d. represent the Federation on the District of Columbia Democratic State Committee;
   e. with the Treasurer, file regular reports with government agencies;
   f. be responsible for chartering the Federation annually;
   g. serve as the owner of the Federation for banking purposes;
h. sign checks; and,
i. raise $500 for the Federation over the course of their term.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to:
  a. assume the President’s duties in their absence;
  b. become President in the event of a vacancy;
  c. represent the Federation on the National Council of the College Democrats of America;
  d. represent the Federation on the District of Columbia Democratic State Committee; and,
  e. raise $500 for the Federation over the course of their term.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of the National Councilman and the National Councilwoman to:
  a. represent the Federation on the National Council of the College Democrats of America;
  b. serve as alternates for the president and vice president on the District of Columbia Democratic State Committee; and,
  c. raise $500 for the Federation over the course of their term.

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to:
  a. prepare a record of the meetings of the State Committee;
  b. serve as custodian of the following records:
     a. FEC filings;
     b. articles of incorporation;
     c. the Charter, Constitution and Bylaws;
     d. minutes and records of all bodies of the Federation for the past three (3) years;
     e. all communications to members within the past three (3) years, including the financial statements furnished for the past three (3) years;
     f. the names and addresses of all current officers of the Federation, officers of the State Committee, and officers of campus chapters; and
     g. the most recent reports to all government agencies;
  c. maintain the correspondence of the State Committee and a record thereof;
  d. certify meeting quorums; and,
  e. serve as assistant treasurer and assume the Treasurer’s duties in their absence.

Section 7. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to:
  a. sign and file all Federation reports and statements;
  b. deposit receipts in the Federation’s designated bank within 10 days of receipt;
  c. monitor contributions, ensuring they comply with legal limits and prohibitions;
  d. keep records of receipts and disbursements for three (3) years from the filing date of the report to which they relate;
  e. maintain the funds of the State Committee in a financial institution in a prudent manner;
  f. keep an account thereof and report regularly thereon to the State Committee;
  g. with the President, file regular reports with government agencies;
  h. be responsible for chartering the Federation annually; and
  i. sign checks.

Section 8. Officers shall serve until the election of their successors or until removal, resignation, incapacitation, or vacancy.

Section 9. Within one (1) week of election, officers shall turn over all property of the Federation to their successors, including but not limited to checkbooks, funds, checks and monies received from outside donors
or sources, cancelled checks, deposit slips, financial institution statements, spreadsheets, audit reports, and organizational documents.

**ARTICLE IV**
**Parliamentary Authority**

Section 1. The rules contained in the DNC Charter and Bylaws, the CDA Constitution and Bylaws, and the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Federation to the extent of their applicability.

Section 2. The State Committee shall resolve, by majority vote, disputes of rule interpretation.

**ARTICLE VI**
**Amendments**

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the State Committee with previous notice or by a majority vote of the State Convention.