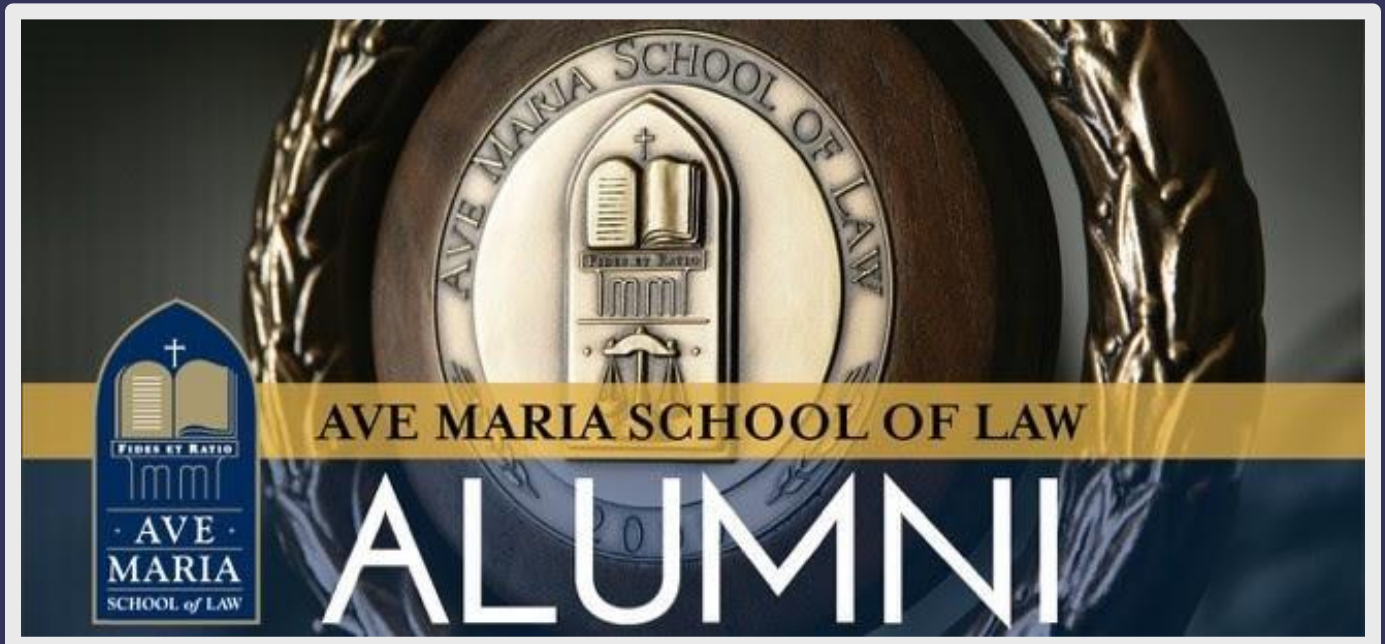


AVE MARIA SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Proposal to Establish Regional Chapters



Intent

To foster unity and community and to build the Ave Maria School of Law Alumni Network by establishing regional chapters in the areas of the country with the highest alumni concentrations, or highest interest.

In recent years, several alumni have stated their frustration that Ave Maria School of Law has become too Florida-centered. We are a national law school with a Catholic identity, which cannot be forgotten or diminished. Given the school's isolated location at the southern edge of Florida, and the lack of a variety of alumni events to encourage travel to Naples, there are currently limited opportunities for alumni to interact and network through official functions and communications.

The Alumni Association has made a strong effort in recent months to collect contact information for many alumni throughout the country. This proposal represents an excellent opportunity to utilize that information for our intended purpose: connecting alumni to each other and promoting the continued relationship between the school and our extended Ave Family. Further, the regional chapters may provide the benefit of supplying representation at local job fairs and school recruiting events, providing networking opportunities for future students, current students and recent graduates.

Proposed Rules for Membership

- 1) Any alumni member who is interested in establishing a regional AMSL Alumni chapter shall contact the Alumni Coordinator regarding that idea.
 - a) The Alumni Coordinator will advise if another alum is already working to organizer a chapter in the proposed area and help to bring interested parties together, or help the interested party determine if there are enough alumni in the geographic area for a formalized chapter.
 - b) If there is a promise of success, the Alumni Association will provide the interested part with a roster of names and contact information for the alumni within the potential chapter region.
 - c) A "regional chapter" may be identified by city, state or region, depending on the location, interest and typed of activities planned Chapter leadership will dictate the rules for membership and geographic scope.
 - i) If, however, sufficient interest is presented to create another regional chapter in an overlapping geographic area, The AMSL Alumni Association leadership will help address the situation to ensure the mutual benefit of the parties involved and the AMSL Alumni Association as a whole.

- 2) If the interested party determines that there is enough interest to set up a chapter, an application shall be submitted to the AMSL Alumni Association Board of Directors for approval. The application should provide the following:
 - a) The names of at least 10 members of the AMSL Alumni Association who are interested in joining the proposed Chapter;
 - b) A draft set of bylaws of the proposed Chapter;
 - c) The Chapter officers, if they have been selected.
- 3) The AMSL Alumni Association will provide one complimentary mailing to all alumni in the potential chapter area, if requested
- 4) If certified by the AMSL Alumni Board, the new organization becomes an official chapter of the AMSL Alumni Association, but is an entity separate and distinct from the Association. The Chapter is free to hold its own meetings, have its own events and conduct business without AMSLAA Board oversight.
 - a) Members of the Chapter are required to be in members in good standing of the Alumni Association, as defined by the Alumni Association Bylaws.
 - b) Chapter status continues unless the Chapter requests decertification or until the Boar, acting only for cause and after a hearing, suspends or decertifies the Chapter by affirmative vote of three-quarters (3/4) of the entire Alumni Association Board of Directors.
- 5) Each Chapter is required to maintain an accurate roll of its membership in order to determine chapter representation on the Board (if applicable). Each Chapter will be required to submit a list of members to the Alumni Coordinator annually. Chapter representation on the Board will be addressed in more detail later in this document.
- 6) The Alumni Association point of contact for communications related to this proposal will be the Alumni Coordinator, until such time that the Alumni Board of Directors deems necessary to establish the specific position of “Chapter Support Coordinator” (CSC). The CSC is not required to be a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Initial AMSL Commitment

Due to the potentially long lead-time to develop this effort, the Alumni Association should actively assist to initiate the most obvious locations for potential chapters.

In furtherance of that effort, the Strategic Planning Committee, the Communications Committee and the AMSL Alumni Coordinator will collectively identify the (5) national areas with the highest alumni concentration. Once identified, those committees will reach out to alumni in those areas to seek volunteers to establish and to run chapters in those respective areas. The Alumni Association will also help complete the requisite steps for initiation for each of these groups. If there is an unofficial regional chapter, or alumni group that has already been established, that group leadership will be asked if they would like to formally be recognized under this program but will be under no obligation to join.

Potential Initial Chapter Sites	Estimated Alumni
Florida	366
Michigan	178

Virginia / DC / Maryland	75
New York / Pennsylvania	59
Texas	55
California	49

Benefits

In order to encourage regional chapters to be formed, the Alumni Association must provide benefit and incentive to do so, but allow the autonomy for those Chapters to be run as they see fit. Therefore, the Alumni Association will offer limited key resources to assist in Chapter formation and sustainment.

1. Each approved chapter is authorized to collect dues in order to finance its events and operations. These dues are collected and maintained by, and at the discretion of, each individual Chapter. The Alumni Board of Directors may, however, inquire as to the finances of the individual chapters for the purpose of exploring joint alumni events and opportunities.
2. Each approved chapter is authorized to have its own website and to utilize the Ave Maria School of Law name and logo in their name, advertising and promotional material.
3. Each approved chapter will be officially recognized and listed at www.avemarialaw.edu/alumni. Information posted will include, but may not be limited to, the name of the chapter, board membership, contact information and a link to their website (if applicable).
4. Each approved chapter will also be given a standing offer to publish any stories, calendar of events, or promotional material in the Ave Maria School of Law Alumni newsletter.

Board Membership

In order to provide an opportunity to maximize Alumni representation within the AMSL Alumni Association, the largest regional chapters may be invited to have representation on the AMSL Alumni Board of Directors. The Chapter representative to the Board would have no voting authority and would not be counted in determining quorum. The representative should be an officer of the Chapter, if practical.

Given their location and importance to the law school alumni network, the Chapters located in Southwest Florida and Ann Arbor, Michigan (or regionals chapters encompassing those areas respectively) will be automatically invited to provide a representative to the Alumni Board.

Any other chapter, encompassing a membership of twenty-five (25) or more may also have eligibility for representation on the Board. This opportunity may be offered by the Alumni Board of Directors or requested by the Chapter. In order to determine eligibility, the Chapter being considered may be required to demonstrate active involvement and participation by its membership. This would

entail, at a minimum, a cover letter to be provided to the Alumni Board detailing information such as the following:

- 1) Describing events the Chapter held to promote AMSL and its mission;
- 2) Describing any networking programs for business or employment;
- 3) Describing any outreach efforts to enrolled AMSL students or to recruit potential future AMSL students;
- 4) Highlighting any other topics or factors that may be important to the Board in making a decision.

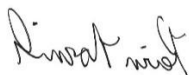
Chapter representation to the Board shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors. As stated previously, representation by a Chapter can only be rescinded through formal request of the sitting Chapter president or three-quarters (3/4) vote of the Board, if good cause to do so is presented.

Ratification

This proposal is deemed approved and ratified by the Alumni Association upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Alumni Board of Directors. Upon approval by the Board, the pertinent sections of this proposal will be consolidated and published to the Alumni Association membership as the official "Rules for Chapter Startup." This will be done via all appropriate means of communication, no later than the next regular meeting of the Board.

The AMSL Alumni Board of Directors will recognize the formation of a Bylaw Committee to recommend any necessary changes to the Alumni Association Bylaws to ensure consistency with the stated rules and objectives of this proposal.

The Ave Maria School of Law Alumni Association hereby approves this proposal.



Kevin Normile
President, AMSL Alumni Association

06/03/2021

Date