### Seeking Justice with the Love of God

### Christian Legal Society Membership

Fellowship Service Advocacy Resources

# What is the Christian Legal Society?

The Christian Legal Society (CLS) is a membership organization of Christian legal professionals, law students, and other individuals dedicated to serving Jesus Christ through the practice of law, the defense of religious freedom, and the provision of legal aid to the poor and needy.



**Since 1961,** CLS members have proclaimed the Word of God and practiced Christian principles through four primary ministries:

### **Attorney Ministries**

CLS attorney chapters throughout the country provide legal professionals with a wide range of opportunities. These include Christian fellowship and spiritual development, discipleship, law student mentoring, contributions to *The Christian Lawyer* magazine, legal referrals, and volunteer legal service on behalf of the poor and needy.

### **Law Student Ministries**

CLS helps students in law schools across the country integrate their Christian faith with the study and eventual practice of law. Our Law Student Ministries include Bible studies, one-on-one mentoring, student-focused conferences, and faith-based curriculum services to law schools.

### **Legal Aid Ministries**

Since 2000, thousands of CLS members have donated hundreds of thousands of legal service hours to helping the disadvantaged untangle legal issues, seek Christian guidance for personal problems, and understand their rights under the law.

### Center for Law and Religious Freedom (CLRF)

As the country's oldest Christian advocacy ministry for religious liberty, CLRF has initiated lawsuits, argued cases, filed amicus briefs, and worked with Congress to defend our Constitution's First Amendment protection of religious freedom.

Working collaboratively with thousands of lay people, CLS runs programs in hundreds of cities throughout the United States. We receive no government funds and are entirely supported by membership dues, foundations, partner organizations, and individual donations.

## FELLOWSHIP

### **HIS** PRINCIPLES

CLS members are dedicated to seeking justice with the love of God by following His principles:

### Helping members faithfully serve Jesus in their professions, relationships, communities, and churches through:

Prayer, fellowship, evangelism, and discipleship. Participation in local chapters of attorneys, paralegals, law students, and others. Attendance at conferences and CLE courses.

## nfluencing the legal profession and the law in accordance with His teachings through:

Advocacy in the courts. Advocacy in the legislature. Advocacy through written resources.

### Serving others as He would serve them by:

Providing legal aid to the poor and needy. Mentoring legal professionals and law students. Providing resources to churches and other ministries.











## ADVOCACY



To help guide, encourage, and support each journey, we offer a wide range of member benefits.



### **Member Benefits**

As legal professionals, we are called to be officers of the court and advocates for our clients. As Christians, we are called to serve God in all we think, say, and do. Remaining faithful to both callings can be challenging.

CLS members understand – and live – the struggle to love and serve God through the legal profession. To help guide, encourage, and support each journey, we offer a wide range of member benefits.

### **Christian Fellowship with Legal Professionals**

- Attorney Chapters: CLS Chapters around the country include judges, attorneys, paralegals, and friends of the legal profession. Each chapter provides a community for serving the profession and the public in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ.
- Law Student Mentoring: Members have the opportunity to help law students strengthen their commitment to Christ, resolve personal issues and questions of faith, and gain a sense of belonging within a community of Christian legal professionals.
- Law Student Fellowships: CLS law student members have access to Christian student fellowships on law school campuses across the country for personal support, networking opportunities, Bible study discussions, and help with First Amendment issues affecting their own lives and studies.

### Legal Advocacy in the Courts and Legislatures

The CLS Center for Law and Religious Freedom offers our members ongoing opportunities to contribute to First Amendment advocacy efforts in state and federal courts, state legislatures, and the U.S. Congress.

## BENEFITS

### Member Benefits CONTINUED

### Legal Aid Services for the Needy

CLS members can choose to volunteer their time at one of many locally run legal aid clinics around the country. Volunteers receive free training and other resources to help them guide disadvantaged citizens in overcoming personal and legal obstacles, such as housing problems, racial discrimination, and denial of Social Security benefits.

### Job, Networking, Educational, and Spiritual Resources

- Job Referrals through our web site's membersonly job bank.
- Advisor Referrals for personal problems, professional direction, ethical issues, and other private matters that could undermine a member's well-being.
- CLS Member Directory for networking, client referrals, and fellowship.
- Publications and Podcasts focused on Christian legal issues, recent court cases and legislation, spiritual guidance, and other faith and law resources. Regular publications include The Christian Lawyer and The Journal of Christian Legal Thought.
- Conferences access to preferred rates for our annual conferences, where speakers, panel discussions, and imaginative workshops focus on the union of spiritual formation with professional development. From time to time, CLS attorney chapters also sponsor regional workshops on integrating faith and learning – and for networking and socializing outside of work.

• Discount Programs - for a range of practical services.

**SERVICE** 

*CLS members can choose to volunteer their time at one of many locally run legal aid clinics around the country.* 



### Join CLS Today

You can join the Christian Legal Society in one of three ways:

- Complete the enclosed membership application and mail it with your first dues installment in the envelope provided.
- Visit our web site (www.clsnet.org) and click "Become a Member" on the home page to apply online or download the PDF of our membership application.
- Call us toll-free at 855-CLS-9800 (855-257-9800).

All CLS staff, members, board directors, and advisory council members are committed to our statement of faith and acknowledge this commitment in writing, as follows:

### The CLS Statement of Faith

Trusting in Jesus Christ as my Savior, I believe in:

One God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

The Deity of our Lord, Jesus Christ, God's only Son, conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary; His vicarious death for our sins through which we receive eternal life; His bodily resurrection and personal return.

The presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the work of regeneration.

The Bible as the inspired Word of God.

## DEDICATION



### Becoming a Member

CLS is a member organization comprised of attorneys, judges, paralegals, law students, and non-lawyers from many different economic brackets. We've tried to structure our rates to accommodate everyone who would like to become a member.

### Join at your own rate.

Nothing is more important to us than building an active community of Christians involved in the legal profession. As a result, we offer significant membership discounts, including a join-at-your-own-rate option. If for any reason the recommended dues don't work for you at this time, simply fill in the amount you'd like to pay on the Membership Application.

We would also like you to know that if you have to choose between giving to CLS and giving to your local church, parish, or other local community of believers, we ask that the latter come first.

Please turn this panel over for membership dues. »

CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY V 855.CLS.9800 | F 855.CLS.9801 WWW.CLSNET.ORG

### Recommended CLS Membership Dues

Please review our membership categories and corresponding dues recommendations before completing the application. After your first year as a CLS member, we will renew your membership on your anniversary date, and your dues will correspond to the applicable category below.

#### STANDARD MEMBERSHIPS

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	MONTHLY DUES*
Aspiring: Law student or first-year practicing lawyer less than one year since bar admission	\$2
<b>Special:</b> First-time member** or retired legal professional	\$5
<b>Upcoming:</b> Practicing lawyer two to five years since bar admission	\$10
Veteran: Practicing lawyer six or more years since bar admission	\$30
Colleague: Paralegal or other non-lawyer	Take 50% off the applicable rate above based on the number of years you've been working in your profession.
<b>Professional:</b> Solo practitioner, academic, legal aid attorney, government attorney, or judge	Optional: Take 20% off the applicable rate above based on the number of years you've been working in your profession.

### SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIPS

CLS membership dues meet only about 15 percent of our actual costs. To strengthen our core ministries and help us reach others, we invite you to become a Sustaining Member. Simply select one of the categories below and enclose your initial dues payment. Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	MONTHLY DUES*
Silver Member	. \$50 or more
Gold Member	.\$200 or more
Platinum Member	.\$500 or more
Diamond Member	.\$1,000 or more

\*Automatic monthly withdrawals from your bank or credit card account help CLS reduce costs and stabilize cash flows for ministry support. Alternatively, we can automatically withdraw a year's worth of monthly payments in advance each year.

\*\*First-time members (other than law students) pay only \$5 monthly their first year. After that, dues correspond to the above categories, or members can choose to renew at their own rate.

#### **Member Information**

Name				
Address				
City				
State ZIP				
Phone				
Fax				
Email				
Law Firm or Place of Business				

How did you learn about CLS?

### If applicable:

Law School \_

Graduation Year \_

Please tell us where your CLS chapter is located. If you haven't joined one, we'll recommend the nearest chapter if there's one in your state.

Your Chapter Affiliation

#### **CLS Statement of Faith**

To become a CLS member, all applicants must sign this Statement of Faith.

Trusting in Jesus Christ as my Savior, I believe in:

One God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

The Deity of our Lord, Jesus Christ, God's only Son, conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary; His vicarious death for our sins through which we receive eternal life; His bodily resurrection and personal return.

The presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the work of regeneration.

The Bible as the inspired Word of God.

Signature \_

### **CLS** Membership Application

#### Membership Category

Please fill in the membership category that applies to you:

based on my me	of \$ embership category. t my own rate of \$		per . month
	to the Christian Leg	,	
Credit card:	MasterCard American Express		
Card Number _			

#### **Authorization for Future Payments**

To reduce costs, CLS will automatically withdraw future dues from your bank or credit card account. Please check the boxes below according to your preference. If nothing is checked, CLS will withdraw monthly dues from the account corresponding to your enclosed payment, as authorized by your signature below.

#### In the future, I would like to pay:

- Monthly via automatic withdrawals
- Yearly, in advance (12 times the monthly amount)

#### Please withdraw my future dues from:

- The bank account corresponding to my enclosed check.
- The credit card account listed above.

#### Signature .



\*Under IRS guidelines the estimated value of the benefits received is not substantial; therefore the full amount of your payment is a deductible contribution. If this changes, CLS will issue a receipt detailing any non-deductible portion of dues.



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