



Southern District of Liberty State

LDCL RULEBOOK & INFORMATION

PART 1 - STRUCTURE

CHAPTER 1

Management Team

- (a) The Liberty District Court & Legislation ("LDCL") shall be led by a management team consisting of one director and two deputy directors.
- (b) Deputy directors can be appointed, suspended, or dismissed at any time as deemed necessary by the director.
- (c) The director may appoint an associate director, who shall answer to them only.
 - (1) Associate director can be appointed, suspended, or dismissed at any time as deemed necessary by the director.
 - (2) Associate director is not considered a member of the management team, but may be given authority to act as it as deemed necessary by the director.
- (d) Deputy directors with authorization from the director may appoint an associate deputy director each, who shall answer to the specific deputy director only.
 - (1) Associate deputy directors can be suspended, or dismissed at any time as deemed necessary by their specific deputy director.
 - (2) Associate deputy directors are not considered a member of the management team, but may be given authority to act as it as deemed necessary by the director.
- (e) The director shall be given supreme authority over all contents, assets, and employees of the LDCL.

§2. Divisions

- (a) The LDCL shall consist of three parts ("departments", "divisions"), these being
 - (1) Liberty District Court;
 - (2) Office of Records & Legislation; and

- (3) United States Marshals Service.
- (b) Each division of the LDCL shall be led by a deputy director or director of the LDCL.
- (c) Deputy directors shall be given full authority over all contents, assets, and employees of their division unless objected to by the director.
- (d) The director shall also oversee any divisions led by their deputy directors.

CHAPTER 2 - LIBERTY DISTRICT COURT

§3. Management

- (a) The Liberty District Court (“LDC”, “court”) shall hear and resolve disputes in civil and criminal cases.
- (b) The LDC shall be directed by a chief judge, who
 - (1) must hold the rank of deputy director in LDCL; and
 - (2) must be appointed by the director of LDCL.
- (c) The chief judge shall be responsible for maintaining the court, responsibilities, assets, employees, transparency, regulations or guidelines, and recruitment.
- (d) The chief judge shall be authorized to appoint assistants (“managers”, “LDC managers”) to help them with their responsibilities.
 - (1) These assistants should not be given a new rank, and everything they do shall be under the chief judge's authority.
 - (2) Such a manager must be an experienced member of the department.
- (e) The chief judge may handle any criminal and civil cases, and appeals.
 - (1) This does not include appeals against their own decision. The LDCL director shall handle those.
- (f) There can be only one chief judge at a time.
- (g) No employee within the Liberty District Court shall have the power to overrule, overturn, or influence the decisions of another unless said otherwise in this document.
- (h) No employee within the Liberty District Court shall unreasonably interrupt, or intervene with a case of another unless said otherwise in this document.
- (i) The chief judge may terminate employees of the LDC for immaturity, bias, disrespect, corruption, inactivity, failure to maintain responsibilities, failure to maintain proper standards, insufficient knowledge, violations of law, or any other reasonable justification within moral or real-life legal boundaries.

§4. Judge

- (a) Judges are public officials who decide legal disputes in court.
- (b) Judges may handle any criminal and civil cases.
- (c) There can be up to 10 judges at a time.

- (d) Judges can be split into up to two groups, where one of them will be restricted to experienced judges, these will be able to handle appeals against decisions of other judges.

CHAPTER 3 - OFFICE OF RECORDS & LEGISLATION

§5. Management

- (a) The Office of Records & Legislation (“ORL”, “office”) shall maintain the LDCL archives and database, forms and documentation used by the LDCL, as well as the district legislation. The office also handles bar certifications.
- (b) The ORL shall be directed by a district clerk, who
 - (1) must hold the rank of deputy director in LDCL; and
 - (2) must be appointed by the director of LDCL.
- (c) The district clerk shall be responsible for maintaining the office, its responsibilities, assets, employees, transparency, regulations or guidelines, and recruitment.
- (d) The district clerk shall be authorized to appoint a deputy (“deputy clerk”) to help them with their responsibilities, and replace them when not available.
 - (1) Such a deputy must be an experienced member of the department.
- (e) There can be only one district clerk at a time.
- (f) The district clerk may terminate employees of the ORL for immaturity, bias, disrespect, corruption, inactivity, failure to maintain responsibilities, failure to maintain proper standards, insufficient knowledge, violations of law, or any other reasonable justification within moral or real-life legal boundaries.

§6. Assistant Clerk

- (a) Assistant clerks are public officials who assist in maintaining the LDCL archives and database and or documentation.
- (b) There can be up to 10 assistant clerks at a time.
- (c) There must be the district clerk or their assistant or deputy present during all court sessions.

CHAPTER 4 - UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

§7. Management

- (g) The United States Marshals Service (“USMS”, “service”) shall protect the judicial process, including carrying out warrants, protecting LDCL officials, or maintaining the witness security program.
- (h) The USMS shall be directed by a marshal, who
 - (1) must hold the rank of deputy director in LDCL; and
 - (2) must be appointed by the director of LDCL.
- (i) The marshal shall be responsible for maintaining the service, its responsibilities, assets, employees, transparency, regulations or guidelines, and recruitment.

- (j) The marshal shall be authorized to appoint a deputy (“chief deputy marshal”) to help them with their responsibilities, and replace them when not available.
 - (1) Such a deputy must be an experienced member of the department.
- (k) There can be only one marshal at a time.
- (l) The marshal may terminate employees of the ORL for immaturity, bias, disrespect, corruption, inactivity, failure to maintain responsibilities, failure to maintain proper standards, insufficient knowledge, violations of law, or any other reasonable justification within moral or real-life legal boundaries.

§8. Deputy Marshal

- (d) Deputy marshals are members of the USMS. They can be split into further ranks for the purpose of the service organization.

PART 2 - PROCEDURES

It is to be noted that some of the procedures may not be as realistic as expected, and are heavily simplified for obvious reasons.

CHAPTER 1 - LIBERTY DISTRICT COURT

§9. Orders & Warrants

- (a) Any arrest warrant may be issued only
 - (1) in response to a criminal complaint signed by a district attorney or law enforcement agency representative; or
 - (2) in order to bring a disobedient defendant in a civil case before the court; and
 - (3) when the requirements in subsection (b) of this section are met.
- (b) An arrest warrant must be issued on the basis of:
 - (1) an indictment as per subsection (c) of this section if the punishment for the crime is more than one year or death; or
 - (2) information as per subsection (d) of this section in any other case.
- (c) An indictment can be issued only when 3 or more judges, clerks, or bar-certified attorneys reasonably approve that probable cause was established.
- (d) Information can be issued by 1 judge who reasonably approves that probable cause was established.
- (e) Any search & seizure warrant may be issued only in response to a search & seizure warrant application signed by a district attorney or law enforcement agency representative and on the basis of probable cause.
- (f) The contents of the complaint or application as per subsections (a)(1) and (e) may be written by someone else if legal assistance is necessary, but by signing the document, the person signing it holds full responsibility for the contents of the complaint or application.
- (g) A no-contact order may be issued by the court on the basis of charges against a person.

§10. Arrest

- (a) An arrest may be done only on the basis of probable cause or a warrant.
- (b) If a law enforcement officer witnesses a crime, or gets the offender to confess, probable cause is then fulfilled and the person can be arrested. In such a case, a warrant is not necessary, and if the suspect flees, the court advises officers to file a BOLO instead.
- (c) If a law enforcement agency conducts an investigation or achieves any type of clues (other than specified in subsection (b) of this section) after the crime has happened, they shall present it to the court that shall decide if probable cause has been reached. If so, an arrest warrant will be issued, and the person can then be arrested.
- (d) In the terms of jail time, one month means one day in real life. An arrested character shall not be reused during jail time. "Prison outbreaks" or similar events are not acceptable unless properly roleplayed during prisoner transports, etc.
- (e) The jail time shall be determined by the arresting officer. Jail time shall be the punishment for an applicable charge with the most severe punishment. *For example, if someone was to be arrested for fleeing & evading and attempted homicide, the time would be 15 years as that is the punishment for the more severe crime, attempted homicide. Jail times shall NOT stack.*
- (f) The court will not get involved in any imprisonment punishment or arrest unless specifically requested by a law enforcement agency or the defendant. Both should have full rights to do so at all times. The court is allowed to stack jail times by its specific procedures, and so the law enforcement agency may do such a request if pursuing higher punishment. The court is also allowed to reduce the sentence due to mitigating circumstances, false jail time determination, or other reasons, and so the defendant may do such a request if pursuing a shorter or less severe sentence.
 - (1) Such a request can be made in [#case-request](#) in the LDCL communication server.
- (g) If the court gets involved in an imprisonment punishment pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, the defendant may request a bail hearing, where a judge will state if the defendant may be released (and thus the character can be used in-game), and the conditions for that. Oftentimes, the default bail set by the [penal code/sentencing guide](#) will be used, but it may vary.

§11. Fines, Citations, and Infractions

- (a) A citation or fine may be issued by a law enforcement officer for an infraction or misdemeanor offense.
- (b) The court will not get involved in any citation release or fine issued by a peace officer unless specifically requested by the defendant, who should have full rights to do so at all times. The court is allowed to modify the charge on the basis of other circumstances, and so the defendant may do such a request if pursuing a lighter sentence.

- (1) Such a request can be made in [#case-request](#) in the LDCL communication server. A hearing shall be hosted within no longer than 7 days from the request.

§12. Documentation

- (a) Any decisions issued by the court shall be recorded in the court's archive through a clerk or through a way given by a clerk (e.g. filling out a form). An assistant clerk shall be assigned to each case.
- (b) The LDC shall not obstruct the ORL from doing their duties, and they shall require an ORL employee present in all cases handled by them.

§13.

- (a) The court shall be responsible for ensuring that a bailiff and protection services are present in a court session if necessary. These services would most likely be provided by the USMS.
- (b) The court shall be responsible for appointing a person to represent the United States in each criminal case. This person must be bar certified.

CHAPTER 2 - OFFICE OF RECORDS & LEGISLATION

§14. LDCL Database

- (a) The ORL is responsible for maintaining the LDCL Public Database ("database", "archive"). Title deeds and documentation of cases are to be recorded there.
- (b) The district clerk and LDCL director shall have access to the database at all times. Further access may be given by them.
- (c) Any documents other than forms and generally informative documents (e.g. instructions, acts, etc.) shared outside the database are to be attached with a certification signed by a clerk ensuring that the copy is official.

§15. Documented Information

- (a) The ORL must record any information that could influence the outcome of a case (including any exhibits, testimonies, warrants, complaints, or the outcome itself) under every criminal, civil, or traffic case handled by the LDC.
- (b) The ORL must record title deeds. The ORL holds the responsibility of verifying that there was indeed a change in property ownership resulting in the changes in title deeds.
 - (1) The ORL nor LDCL can sell a house. The ORL only records the ownership under the database.
 - (2) The Liberty Real Estate Agency owns all houses not currently owned by any other corporation or person.
- (c) Pursuant to section 16, bar certifications must also be logged.

\$16. Bar Certification

- (a) The ORL is responsible for bar certifications and may give them out or revoke them as deemed necessary.
Valid bar certifications are to be recorded in the database.
- (b) There shall be a bar examination or another method of achieving a bar certification maintained by the ORL.

\$17. Legislation

- (a) The ORL may put new legislation in effect within the Liberty State.
- (b) There shall be a group of 6 legally experienced or informed individuals with no criminal backstory who shall vote if the legislation shall be put in effect, or not ("legislative committee").
 - (1) They shall be appointed by the LDCL director, preferably upon a recommendation from the district clerk.
- (c) Anyone in the LDC, ORL, or legislative body, shall be able to propose legislation.
- (d) Anyone in the legislative body shall be able to vote on proposed legislation.
 - (1) if a simple majority agrees, the proposed legislation shall be passed;
 - (2) if the votes result in a tie, the district clerk shall make the final decision.
- (e) If the proposed legislation passed through the vote, it shall be implemented by the district clerk or can be vetoed by the LDCL director, or Main Server High Command.

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