

The **Constitution** of



**The Sierra Leone Association
of Journalists (SLAJ)**

Preamble

WHEREAS at an annual general meeting of the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists (SLAJ) held in Bo in the Southern Region of the Republic of Sierra Leone from the 9th to 11th November, 2001 it was resolved that a revised SLAJ Constitution be adopted and ratified on Saturday 21st July, 1996.

AND WHEREAS the National Executive of SLAJ, in accordance with its mandate has proposed to the General Meeting in Bo for adoption and ratification of a draft revised constitution:

AND WHEREAS the general Meeting of SLAJ held in Bo as aforesaid having considered the said revised draft constitution without amendments to the same,

AND WHEREAS the review and amendment to the SLAJ 2001 Constitution, which was ratified and adopted by journalists in a Conference assembled in Bo in the Southern Region of the Republic of Sierra Leone from the 9th to 11th November, 2001, had begun at the SLAJ Annual General Meeting in Bo in 2012 and the Biennial Conference in Freetown in 2013,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we the journalists of Sierra Leone registered as members of SLAJ in an Annual General Meeting in Makeni in the Northern Region of the Republic of Sierra Leone from the 5th to 9th June, 2014, DO HEREBY ADOPT and RATIFY this revised constitution of SLAJ the provision of which are as follows:

ARTICLE 1: NAME

There shall be established a professional association of journalists to be known as **The Sierra Leone Association of Journalists** (hereafter referred to as **SLAJ**).

ARTICLE 2: DATE OF INAUGURATION

SLAJ shall be deemed to have been formally inaugurated on the **5th day of JUNE 1971**.

ARTICLE 3: HEADQUARTERS

The headquarters of SLAJ shall be situated in Freetown, capital city of the Republic of Sierra Leone.

ARTICLE 4: OBJECTIVES

The objects for which SLAJ is formed are as follows:

- a) To strive to provide opportunities for all journalists and those associated with the fourth estate throughout Sierra Leone.
- b) To provide members a forum for the development of closer fellowship conducive to the welfare of the profession.
- c) To strive to provide facilities for intellectual, cultural and social activities.
- d) To uphold the ideals of journalism, work for exemplary standards of professional practice, as well as preserve and enhance the dignity and prestige of the Fourth estate.
- e) To defend the freedom of the media, free expression and safeguard the freedom of journalists in the pursuit of their profession.
- f) To assist in the growth of the press as a powerful force for the betterment of the nation through the dissemination of accurate and objective information, fair comment and a constant quest for improved standards and techniques of journalism.
- g) To establish branches of SLAJ in other parts of the Country and promote friendly relations and co-operation with media organizations, national and international, as well as other institutions of relevance to the Fourth Estate.
- h) To strive to provide facilities either alone or in conjunction with any other national/international for the education and training of journalists by:
 - (i) Organizing training courses / seminars in journalism.
 - (ii) Seeking representation in institutions and official and non official bodies responsible for the formulations of training policies or concerned with the welfare and advancement of the profession.
- i) To work with the independent media commission to improve the standards of journalism in Sierra Leone and in the enforcement of the code of practice for Journalists in Sierra Leone.
- j) To strive to promote good journalism through self-regulation.
- k) To undertake fund-raising projects for the realization of the foregoing objectives.

ARTICLE 5: MEMBERSHIP

Membership of SLAJ shall fall into five categories namely: Foundation, Full, Associate, Life and Honorary.

a) Foundation members

All members who attended the inaugural meeting of SLAJ held at the Conference Room of the then Ministry of information and Broadcasting on the 5th June 1971 and whose names were recorded in the minutes of that meeting shall be foundation members of SLAJ.

b) Full Members

Full membership shall be acquired on the basis of a formal application sponsored by two full members of SLAJ who are fully paid up and shall be subject to the approval of the credentials committee of SLAJ.

Persons with professional qualifications employed as Reporters, Editors, Public Relations Officers and photo freelance journalists who have been actively engaged in the profession for a period not less than six months shall apply for membership.

Persons with non-professional academic qualifications practicing the profession for at least **four** years shall apply for full membership.

Persons with neither professional nor academic qualifications shall only be admitted as Associate Members until such time when they would have acquired the relevant qualifications or practiced the profession for at least five years before they can apply as full members.

For the purpose of this section, professional qualification shall mean that acquired in the fields of journalism, communication and information studies of at least one year duration.

c) Associate Members

1. Persons engaged in any of the above establishments recognized for membership as in Article 5 (b) who have practiced for up to 3 months but less than six months until the requirements in Article 5(b) are fulfilled.
2. Professional Journalists not normally resident in Sierra Leone and who are members of the Journalist Association in their Country of residence shall apply for Associate Membership.
3. Such associate members shall attend and speak at meetings but shall not vote or be voted for.
4. All associate members shall enjoy all facilities of the Press Centre as professional colleagues and take part in social activities of the association which are purely in nature and to which they may be invited.

d) Life Members

1. Persons who have retired from active practice on account of age or disability and have contributed greatly to the association.
2. Such persons are conferred this honour on the recommendation of the National Executive and approval of the general members. Such life members shall enjoy all such facilities as full members but shall not vote. They shall not pay levies or dues.

e) Honorary Members

1. Honorary membership shall be conferred by the executive subject to the approval of the general meeting on members of the public in recognition of long and distinguished service to the profession.

ARTICLE 6: PATRONS

Eminent citizens who may be a source of inspiration to SLAJ or substantial assistance to it may be invited by the Executive to be patrons of SLAJ, especially during SLAJ organized functions.

ARTICLE 7: ADMISSIONS

1. Person eligible to become full or associate members of SLAJ under Article 5 may be admitted subject to the following conditions:
 - a) That they apply in writing and complete an application form prescribed for the purpose, furnishing full professional details for record purposes. The completed application form for each applicant shall be countersigned by the applicant's employer except in the case of free-lance journalists who shall provide documentary evidence of their work as freelance journalists. In all cases each application shall be sponsored or witnessed by two full members of the association.
 - b) The applicant shall state his qualification, nature of job, period already served as a journalist, whether he / she is applying for full or associate membership, the organization or institution for which he /she works and an undertaking to abide by and conform to the provisions of the constitution, code of ethics any rules and regulations made by the association.
 - c) Registration and subscription fees for all categories of members shall be paid in advance. Such fees shall be prescribed from time to time by the Executive.
 - d) Applicants for full membership shall have their admission under consideration for not more than 6 months in order to become a full member.
2. The application of any journalist for membership shall be refused or revoked any time by the Executive through the membership credentials Committee if it shall found that the information supplied on the application form was not correct or that the applicant was not properly qualified at the time of his / her application.
3. No person shall be refused or deprived of membership of SLAJ on the grounds of sex, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, political persuasion, colour or ethnic origin.
4. No application for full members shall be delayed for more than 6 months.

ARTICLE 8: FUNDS AND BUDGETS

1. Subject to the provision in Article 7 (1) (c) of this constitution each full member and associate member shall pay a monthly subscription fee prescribed by the executive.
 - a) The executive shall revise from time to time all fees and levies stipulated in this constitution and under any rules and regulations made there under subject to the approval of an Annual General Meeting
 - b) Honorary and life members shall be exempt from fees or levies.
 - c) The membership of any person whose contributions are more than one year in arrears shall lapse. The name of such a defaulting member shall be struck off the roll of members after giving him 30 days notice. To be readmitted thereafter, he/ she pay a penalty as prescribed by the executive on the recommendation of the house, in addition to payment of all arrears.
2. The funds of SLAJ shall be its property and nothing in these Articles shall prejudice the right of the National Executive to institute proceedings to recover any money or other property belonging or due to SLAJ.
3. All property or records acquired for and in the name of SLAJ in whatever form or nature shall belong to SLAJ.
4. SLAJ shall have as its main sources of funds membership registration fees and subscription levies and proceeds from various activities which SLAJ may from time to time organize on own behalf or in conjunction with others.
5. It shall be proper for SLAJ to accept donations so long as in the opinion of the National Executive, acceptance of such donations shall not compromise its independence.
6. The Executive Committee shall prepare an annual budget and seek its approval from a General Meeting at least three months after taking up office.
7. The Financial Secretary shall prepare a monthly statement for the attention of the Executive.

ARTICLE 9: MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS

1. Full members shall have the right to vote and be voted for any office in SLAJ.
2. Only paid up members are allowed to participate in Annual General Meeting and Triennial Conference.

Annual Meeting & Triennial Conference

ARTICLE 10: ANNUAL MEETING AND TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

1. There shall be an Annual General Meeting and Triennial Conference of SLAJ.
2. The Annual General Meeting shall among other things receive a written report of the National executive on its activities and finances with full disclosure of sources of funds and their disbursement during the preceding year.
3. Members may propose and pass resolutions during an Annual General and Ordinary General Meeting subject to the limitation contained in Article 9 of this constitution.
4. In addition to the Annual General Meeting and Ordinary General Meeting, there shall be held a Triennial Conference to be held not later than three years after the election of the National Executive.
5. The Triennial Conference shall have a theme for discussion and presentation of papers.
6. The National Executive shall decide on the form and programme for the Triennial Conference.
7. The National executive shall be elected during the Triennial Conference.
8. Without prejudice to the fore-going provisions under this Article, the National Executive may convene a General Meeting whenever in the opinion of the National Executive it is necessary and expedient to do so or at the request of one-third of the full members expressed in writing with ten clear days notice in each case.
9. Notice of a general meeting shall be communicated to members by radio, public announcement or which ever means the National Executive may deem appropriate and effective in the circumstance.
10. All matters except as provided for in Article 17 and 18 hereafter shall be decided at a general meeting by a simple majority of all full and life members present and voting on the basis of one-man, one-vote and in the event of a tie the chairperson shall exercise a casting vote.
11. The quorum for a general meeting shall be 20 registered members.
12. Wherever reference is made in this constitution to a general meeting the Triennial Conference shall be deemed to be a general meeting and shall constitute the Annual General Meeting for the year in which it is held.
13. Only members who are fully paid up before an Annual General Meeting or Triennial Conference can vote and be voted for.

The National & Regional Executives

ARTICLE 11: THE NATIONAL & REGIONAL EXECUTIVES

1. There shall be a National Executive of SLAJ, which shall be elected during the Triennial Conference.
2. **To be eligible for election on the National/Regional Executive, a candidate must be a paid-up full member of SLAJ and must have been a full member for at least three consecutive years preceding the election.**
3. The composition of the Executive Committee shall be determined from time to time at the Triennial conference.
4. The Executive with powers to coopt shall be elected by the General Meeting at the Triennial Conference every three years to control and supervise the various activities of the Association in terms of resolution passed and policies laid down by the General Meeting from time to time.
5. Individual Executive members failing to perform their duties or otherwise incapacitated shall be removed from office by a resolution and a vote of no confidence by a simple majority at an extra-ordinary general meeting.
6. In the event of a vacancy arising in the offices of President and Secretary-General, due to either resignation, ill health or death, before the expiry of the term of office, the Vice President, and the Assistant Secretary-General shall act in the respective offices for the remainder of the term and in any other case, a protem officer shall be elected by an extra-ordinary general meeting to perform the functions of the office where the vacancy has arisen.
7. Where the vacancy, which has arisen in the office of the President, is more than a six-month period, a bye-election shall be conducted at a date to be determined at an extra-ordinary general meeting.
8. The National Executive may be removed from office as a body on a vote of no confidence before it had run its full three year term and in any case, such a vote shall be passed by at least two-thirds majority of all registered, paid-up full members of SLAJ at an extra-ordinary general meeting, which shall have the spirit of an Annual General Meeting or a Triennial Conference.
9. **No one shall hold the offices of President of SLAJ for more than two terms of three years each.**
10. The Executive shall consist of the following officers: **a) President b) Vice President c) Secretary General d) Assistant Secretary General e) Financial Secretary f) Organizing Secretary g) Public Affairs Secretary h) Ex-officio (one)**

The President

a) The PRESIDENT

(i) The **President** shall be the Chief Executive of the Association and shall preside over all Executive and General Meetings of the Association.

(ii) The President shall instruct, upon the advice of the Executive, the Secretary General to convene both Executive and General Meetings.

Key duties and responsibilities:

1. To provide leadership to the profession and the membership.
2. To represent the Association, and the profession, in a variety of fora.
3. To support the Association and its policies internally and externally;
4. To exercise the governing authority of the Association when advised to do so by the Executive.
5. Plan and chair general meetings, including agenda preparation in consultation with the Secretary General.
6. To enforce adherence to the Association's *Constitution* and By-laws and assure the integrity of the Association.
7. To initiate and lead the Association's process of annual performance review of the executive in consultation with the vice-president/president elect.
8. Determine the dates, times, locations and agenda of all General and other meetings in accordance with the constitution; chair/facilitate meetings, cast the deciding vote, if needed, on motions brought to the floor.
9. Appoint appropriate committee chairs and approve committee members.
10. Serve as a member, ex-officio, of all committees.
11. Monitor committee and association activity.
12. Prepare or approve the cover letters which accompany most association mailings.
13. Write the "President's Message" for the newsletters.
14. Represent the Association and elsewhere, as needed, or designate a member to do so if he/she cannot.

16. Submit a report and a budget to the Association at the Annual/Triennial /General Meeting.
17. Presides over all meetings, ensuring all activities and programs are carried out in an appropriate manner.
18. Oversees all committees and other positions to ensure that they are fulfilling their responsibilities, providing advice and ideas as needed.
19. Acts as official coordinator and communication authority between the executive members to formulate and plan activities.
20. Shall be the Principal signatory to the Association's Bank account.

The Vice President

b) The VICE PRESIDENT

- (i) The **Vice President** shall be the principal adviser to the President.
- (ii) The Vice President assumes the responsibilities of the President whenever he /she is absent.

Duties of Vice-President:

1. Serve a three-year term eligible for re-election for one further three year term only.
2. Attend all Meetings; participate in Executive decisions.
3. Chair any Training Committee.
4. Maintain contact with ad hoc committees.

The Secretary General

c) The SECRETARY GENERAL

- (i) The **Secretary General** is responsible for all correspondences to be addressed to the Secretariat and shall initiate such on the advice of the president or in his /her absence the Vice President.
- (ii) The Secretary General convenes both Executive and General Meetings on the instruction of the President or anyone acting in that capacity.
- (iii) The Secretary General shall record and report on all meetings.

Duties of the Secretary General:

1. Serve a three-year term eligible for re-election for one further three-year term only.
2. Attend all General and Meetings; participate in Executive decisions.
3. Take minutes at all meetings (and, if needed, Executive meetings); type up minutes.
4. Take minutes of the General Meetings; type up minutes for inclusion in the Annual General Meeting.
5. Update, order, and maintain supplies of letterhead and envelopes; distribute to committees as needed.
6. Notify all members of regular and special meetings; make cancellation and confirmation calls as necessary, send cards and letters as requested by the Executive.
7. Maintain the mailing lists (all members, institutional members, associate members, voting members).
8. Receive requests for amendments to the Constitution and By-laws and prepare and distribute properly proposed amendments for consideration by the membership. Prepare ballots for amendment votes and oversee the voting.
9. Miscellaneous: perform secretarial support functions (type agendas, order supplies, maintain records, etc.) as requested by the president.
10. Coordinate and prepare the Annual General Meeting booklet.
11. Maintain contact with ad hoc committees.

The Assistant Secretary General

d) The ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL

- (i) The **Assistant Secretary General** shall work with the Secretary General as his Deputy and shall assume the Secretary General's duties in the absence of him/her.

The Financial Secretary

e) The FINANCIAL SECRETARY

- (i) Financial **Secretary** shall record all revenue and expenditure of Association finances.
- (ii) He/She shall together with the President and/or Secretary General be signatories to the SLAJ account(s).
- (iii) He/She shall present all financial statements to both executive and general meetings.
- (iv) He/She shall present annual financial statements to the Auditors for audit purposes.
- (v) He/She shall keep all financial records of the Association.
- (vi) He/She collects and deposits all dues and levies in to the Association's account.
- (vii) He/She shall provide all financial records on member's, applicants and other transactions.

The Organizing Secretary

f) The ORGANIZING SECRETARY

- (i) The **Organizing Secretary** He / she shall be in charge of organizing all social activities especially those relating to fundraising. He/She is expected to develop an annual plan of events for the approval of the Executive.
- (ii) He/She shall work directly with the President or his representative and or with the Secretary General for the planning and organizing of all events the association shall / may undertake.

The Public Affairs Secretary

g) The PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECRETARY

(i) **Public Affairs Secretary** – He/she be responsible for all publicity campaign on behalf of the association. He / she shall work directly with the Secretary General under the supervision of the President in that exercise.

(ii) He/she shall be the Editor of the association’s publications and communications.

The Financial Secretary

h) The EX-OFFICIO

This position shall be held by the immediate past President who is expected to play an advisory role in the administration of the Association.

Non-Executive Officials

Non-Executive Officials-

Auditors

(i) There shall be two auditors of SLAJ who shall not be members of the executive and whose functions shall be to audit all accounts of the association.

(ii) They shall verify the annual financial statement of revenue and expenditure. They shall be elected at a Triennial conference where possible.

Administrative Officer/ Executive Secretary

i) He/she shall be a paid employee appointed by the Executive Committee.

ii) He/she shall be responsible for the day-to-day running of the SLAJ Secretariat under the supervision of the Secretary General and accountable to the Executive Committee.

iii) The Conditions of Services for all paid employees of SLAJ shall be developed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 12: ELECTIONS

1. There shall be a Chief Electoral Commissioner to be assisted by four electoral commissioners who shall not be members of the national or any regional branch executive.
2. The Chief, Electoral Commissioner and the four electoral commissioners shall be elected during the Annual General Meeting of SLAJ.
3. The Chief Electoral Commissioner and the four electoral commissioners shall be responsible for the conduct of elections to the National Executive during the Triennial Conference. They can also organize by-election(s) where necessary.
4. The Chief Electoral Commissioner and the four electoral commissioners shall not be eligible to contest for any office in the National executive.
5. Life members of SLAJ shall be eligible for elections to the office of Chief Electoral Commissioner and electoral Commissioners.
6. Nomination for elections to the National Executive shall be made on prescribed nomination forms to be designed by the chief electoral commissioner requesting such information as are required for the purpose under the provisions of this constitution.
7. Nominations for elections to the National Executive of SLAJ shall close at least 30 days to the start of the Triennial conference, the date which shall be fixed during the preceding Annual General Meeting.
8. Registration of new members to SLAJ shall cease at least 90 days to the start of the Triennial Conference
9. The Chief Electoral Commissioner in consultation with his / her four assistant commissioners shall make rules for the conduct of elections to the National Executive which rules shall be established to all members of SLAJ at least a month to the start of the Triennial Conference.
10. Such rules for the conduct of elections to the National Executive shall be binding on members of SLAJ and prospective candidates as if made in and under this constitution and failure to observe them shall, render any defaulting member or prospective candidate for elections for which nominations are sought null and void.

ARTICLE 13 : BANK ACCOUNT

1. SLAJ shall maintain one or more accounts with a bank or banks in and / out of Sierra Leone.
2. The banks and the particular branch or branches at which the account or accounts is / are maintained, and the type or types of accounts shall be determined exclusively by the National Executive
3. The signatories to a bank account maintained by SLAJ shall be the President or person acting in that capacity and the Secretary General or person acting in that capacity. The Financial Secretary and /or another signatory must sign, as a third party, for all withdrawals.
4. The National Executive shall approve of all withdrawals from any of SLAJ's bank account.
5. Any such bank account shall be maintained in the name of "the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists".

ARTICLE 14: CREDENTIALS & DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEES

1. There shall be an Electoral Credentials Committee comprising the Secretary General, the Chief Electoral Commissioner and one Electoral Commissioner which shall examine the eligibility of each nominator and candidate for election to any office in the National Executive.
2. There shall be a Membership Credentials Committee which shall have as its Chairman, the Vice President, with the Secretary General, a **representative** from the Electoral Commission and a floor member as members for the purposes of examination of applications and admissions into the Association.
3. There shall also be a Disciplinary Committee of SLAJ whose function shall be to adjudicate upon matters of indiscipline and professional misconduct of individual members of SLAJ. The Disciplinary Committee of SLAJ shall comprise three members. Two of such members can be drawn from within or without SLAJ.
4. All categories of membership except associate members are eligible for appointment to the Disciplinary Committee.
5. The Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee may be elected to the Executive with the approval of the house.
6. As and when necessary, the Disciplinary Committee shall be responsible for the drawing up of a comprehensive code of conduct for the journalists on the advice of the Executive and approval of the house and once drawn up, such a code of conduct shall have the force like any other regulation made in or under this constitution.
7. The Disciplinary Committee shall prescribe sanctions in the code of conduct ranging from fines, suspension of membership of SLAJ, expulsion from SLAJ, apology and amends, to recommendation to journalists' employer(s) for appropriate disciplinary action and in the case of a media institution, the Independent Media Commission or the appropriate disciplinary body.
8. To assist the Disciplinary Committee in its work, there shall be a Media Ombudsman appointed by SLAJ from within or without SLAJ whose function shall be to investigate complaint of unethical behavior or breach of the code of conduct as may be alleged by any member of the Public against any journalists, whether a member of SLAJ or not, and any independent media institution. The functions of the Disciplinary Committee of SLAJ have nothing to do with that of any similar body set up by government.

9. Where any member of the general public makes a complaint, it shall in the first instance be referred to the Media Ombudsman who shall conduct a preliminary investigation to determine whether there is any merit in the complaint, he/she shall then refer the matter with a report for his /her findings (Stating the facts) to the executive of SLAJ for submission to the Disciplinary Committee for deliberation, investigation and disciplinary advice. In such cases, the committee shall hear both plaintiff and accused.

10. It shall be the function of the Public Affairs Secretary of SLAJ to ensure that complaints from the general public are investigated speedily and in any case the Disciplinary Committee shall set up no later than 30 days after a complaint has submitted to it for redress.

ARTICLE 16: AFFILIATIONS

1. SLAJ shall affiliate with other organizations of journalists subject to the approval of a general meeting

2. Sub-professional group within SLAJ may congregate themselves into special interest sections, provided they are at least 10 in number and receive written approval from the executive.

3. Article 15 (3) (4) also apply to such groups.

4. Special interest groups within SLAJ must submit quarterly reports of their activities to the National Secretariat.

ARTICLE 17: AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution shall not be altered or amended after it has been adopted and ratified except by two thirds majority of full members on the roll at a general meeting specifically called for the purpose or as provided for in Article 10.

ARTICLE 18: DISSOLUTION

SLAJ shall only be dissolved by a two-third majority of the full members on the roll at the general meeting specially called for the purpose. No voting by proxy shall be permitted.

ARTICLE 19: TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

All actions and decisions taken by a legally constituted Interim Executive shall have effect notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this or any other constitution of.

In this constitution, references to the masculine, if the feminine gender is not mentioned, shall include the feminine and vice versa.

ARTICLE 20: INTERPRETATION

SLAJ – CODE OF CONDUCT

1. It is the primary duty of journalists to adhere to the truth, to report and interpret the news with scrupulous honesty.
2. It shall be a professional misconduct if during the course of his/her duty, a journalist corruptly demands and receives monetary or material reward for publishing, broadcasting or suppressing his news or views.
3. It is against the ethics of the profession to divulge information received in confidence no matter what the consequences for refusing to do so.
4. Every journalist must regard defamation, black mail, sedition, libel and false and groundless accusations as grave professional offences.
5. A journalist is bound to rectify willing(ly) any news, which after further investigation may subsequently be found not to be authentic or accurate.
6. The profession demands good appearance at all occasions. Therefore, a journalist must always be properly and decently dressed.
7. It shall be professional misconduct for a journalist to behave or do anything that would bring discredit to herself/himself, his/her association, media or his/her profession.
8. A journalist is first and foremost a citizen of his Country. His /her loyalty therefore must at all times be to his Country and not to any other Country.
9. It is unethical for a journalist to deprive indirectly or directly a professional colleague of his means of livelihood by unscrupulous method(s) or to seek promotion at the expense of another journalist.
10. It shall be professional misconduct for journalists to plagiarize.
11. It shall be improper for journalists to ridicule or treat a fellow journalist with contempt, be he/she a superior or subordinate professional colleague.
12. No bonafide journalist should fraternize with fakes. Anyone who knows anyone to be fake and does not expose him/her, compromises his/her duty as a decent journalist and a good citizen and is guilty of professional misconduct.

Interpretation

13. In reporting or obtaining news or pictures, reporters or press photographers should do nothing that will cause pain or humiliation to innocent (especially children, the aged) bereaved or otherwise distressed persons. Subterfuge must not be used in obtaining information.
14. A journalist should fully realize his personal responsibility for everything he/she publishes in his/her paper, radio, television station or sent to a news agency. He should not distort, falsify information or documents or misrepresent facts.
15. The Disciplinary Committee shall be responsible for interpreting the code and recommending appropriate punishment for defaulting members to the Executive.

ARTICLE 21: ELDERS OR ADVISORY COUNCIL OF SLAJ

1. There shall be an established Elders or Advisory Council of SLAJ.
2. The composition and duties of the council shall be determined by the general membership.

Sierra Leone Association of Journalists

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