

THE BASIC LEGAL CODE ACT (Version 1.0)

Written by: u/CharlesSpitz, u/TheChad_Esq

Section I – Purpose

This Act establishes the foundational laws governing conduct within the subreddit. It defines crimes, sets general standards of behavior, and authorizes the judges and moderators to maintain peace and order.

Section II – General Principles

1. All members are subject to these laws regardless of rank, party, or position.
2. No person may be convicted of an offense unless each element of such offense is proved beyond a reasonable doubt. In the absence of such proof, the innocence of the defendant is assumed. This Section does not require the disproof of an affirmative defense unless and until there is evidence supporting such defense or apply to any defense which the Code or another statute plainly requires the defendant to prove by a preponderance of evidence.
3. Ignorance of the law shall not be accepted as a defense.
4. Punishments shall be proportional to the severity of the offense.
5. A person may be convicted and sentenced under the law of this code if the person:
 - a. commits an offense in whole or in part within this subreddit; or
 - b. being outside the subreddit, causes, aids or abets another to commit a crime within the subreddit; or
 - c. being outside the subreddit, intentionally causes a result within the state prohibited by these statutes.
6. Whoever, with intent to commit a crime, does an act which is a substantial step toward, and more than preparation for, the commission of the crime is guilty of an attempt to commit that crime. Whoever attempts to commit a crime may be sentenced in the same manner as though the crime was completed.
7. It is a defense to a charge of attempt that the crime was not committed because the accused desisted voluntarily and in good faith and abandoned the intention to commit the crime.
8. When a prosecution is for a violation of the same provision of the statutes and is based upon the same facts as a former prosecution, it is barred by such former prosecution under the following circumstances:

- a. The former prosecution resulted in an acquittal. There is an acquittal if the prosecution resulted in a finding of not guilty or in a determination that there was insufficient evidence to warrant a conviction.
- b. The former prosecution was formally terminated by the State.
- c. The former prosecution resulted in a conviction. There is a conviction if the prosecution resulted in a conviction which has not been reversed or vacated or a plea of guilty accepted by the Court.

Section III – Definitions

1. Purposely. A person acts purposely with respect to a material element of an offense when:
 - a. if the element involves the nature of his conduct or a result thereof, it is his conscious object to engage in conduct of that nature or to cause such a result; and
 - b. if the element involves the attendant circumstances, he is aware of the existence of such circumstances or he believes or hopes that they exist.
2. Knowingly. A person acts knowingly with respect to a material element of an offense when:
 - a. if the element involves the nature of his conduct or the attendant circumstances, he is aware that his conduct is of that nature or that such circumstances exist; and
 - b. if the element involves a result of his conduct, he is aware that it is practically certain that his conduct will cause such a result.
3. Recklessly. A person acts recklessly with respect to a material element of an offense when he consciously disregards a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the material element exists or will result from his conduct. The risk must be of such a nature and degree that, considering the nature and purpose of the actor's conduct and the circumstances known to him, its disregard involves a gross deviation from the standard of conduct that a law-abiding person would observe in the actor's situation.
4. Negligently. A person acts negligently with respect to a material element of an offense when he should be aware of a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the material element exists or will result from his conduct. The risk must be of such a nature and degree that the actor's failure to perceive it, considering the nature and purpose of his conduct and the circumstances known to him, involves a gross deviation from the standard of care that a reasonable person would observe in the actor's situation.

5. "Statute" includes the Constitution and a local law or ordinance of a political subdivision of the State;
6. "Act" or "action" means a bodily movement whether voluntary or involuntary;
7. "Statement" means any representation, but includes a representation of opinion, belief or other state of mind only if the representation clearly relates to state of mind apart from or in addition to any facts which are the subject of the representation.
8. "President" shall mean the President of the Democracy of Reddit subreddit.

Section IV – Crimes Against the Person

1) Murder:

- a) A person is guilty of murder in the first degree and shall be sentenced to a sentence to be served in u/DOR_Prison if they purposefully or knowingly cause the death of a human being.
- b) Whoever does any of the following is guilty of murder in the second degree and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 21 days:
 - i) Intentional murder. Whoever recklessly causes the death of a human being is guilty of intentional murder in the second degree.
 - ii) Unintentional murders. Whoever causes the death of a human being, without intent to effect the death of any person, while committing or attempting to commit a felony offense is guilty of unintentional murder in the second degree.

2) Aggravated Assault:

- a) A person is guilty of aggravated assault and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 14 days if they:
 - i) attempt to cause serious bodily injury to another, or causes such injury purposely, knowingly or recklessly under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life; or
 - ii) attempts to cause or purposely or knowingly causes bodily injury to another with a deadly weapon.

3) Assault: A person is guilty of assault and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 7 days if they do any of the following:

- a) attempts to cause or purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury to another; or
- b) negligently causes bodily injury to another with a deadly weapon; or
- c) attempts by physical menace to put another in fear of imminent serious bodily injury.

- 4) Kidnapping / Unlawful Detainment.** A person is guilty of kidnapping and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 10 days if they purposefully or knowingly remove another a substantial distance from the vicinity where they are found without their consent, or if they purposefully or knowingly confine another for a substantial period in a place of isolation, with any of the following purposes:
- a) to hold for ransom or reward, or as a shield or hostage; or
 - b) to facilitate commission of any felony or flight thereafter; or
 - c) to inflict bodily injury on or to terrorize the victim or another; or
 - d) to interfere with the performance of any governmental or political function.

Section V – Crimes Against the State

1. Treason:

- a. A person within the subreddit is guilty of treason and shall be sentenced to exile from the subreddit from any official position within the government if they purposefully do any of the following:
 - i. levies war against this state
 - ii. adheres to the enemies of this state, giving them aid and comfort
 - iii. Attempts to unlawfully seize control of the elected government.
- b. A person holding an official position within the government who is found guilty of treason shall be removed from their position.

- 2. Mishandling Confidential Information.** A public officer or employee is guilty of espionage and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 14 days if they, without proper authorization or authority, purposefully, knowingly, or recklessly transmit or reveal confidential documents or conversations that provide serious safety threats to the nation and citizens as a whole refers to any classified or restricted information which, if disclosed, could endanger public safety, national security, or vital government operations.

Definition:

Such information includes but is not limited to:

- Details of national defense strategies, intelligence operations, or security protocols;
- Confidential data concerning infrastructure (e.g., power grids, communication systems, law enforcement plans);
- Identities of undercover officers or informants;
- Emergency response or counterterrorism procedures;

- Any information that could be used by hostile groups to harm citizens or undermine public order.

Examples:

- A police officer leaking the location of a planned security operation to unauthorized individuals;
- An employee releasing documents that reveal weaknesses in the nation's cyber defense system;
A government staff member sharing the travel schedule of high-ranking officials without clearance;
- Posting transcripts of confidential cabinet meetings discussing military or disaster response strategies.

3. Corruption / Abuse of Office. A public officer or employee is guilty of abuse of office and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 3 days if they request, receive or agree to receive, directly or indirectly, any such benefit, reward or consideration upon the understanding that it will influence the person's performance of the powers or duties as such an officer or employee.

4. Bribery

- a. A person is guilty of bribery and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 7 days if they offer, confer or agree to confer upon another, or solicit, accept or agree to accept from another:
 - i. any pecuniary benefit as consideration for the recipient's decision, opinion, recommendation, vote or other exercise of discretion as a public servant, party official or voter; or
 - ii. any benefit as consideration for the recipient's decision, vote, recommendation or other exercise of official discretion in a judicial or administrative proceeding; or
 - iii. any benefit as consideration for a violation of a known legal duty as public servant or party official.
- b. It is no defense to prosecution under this section that a person whom the actor sought to influence was not qualified to act in the desired way whether because they had not yet assumed office, or lacked jurisdiction, or for any other reason.
- c. A person holding an official position within the government who is found guilty of treason shall be removed from their position.

5. Perjury

- a. A person is guilty of perjury and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 3 days if, in any official proceeding, they make a false statement under oath or equivalent affirmation, or swear or affirm the truth of a statement previously made, when the statement is material and they do not believe it to be true.
 - b. Falsification is material, regardless of the admissibility of the statement under rules of evidence, if it could have affected the course or outcome of the proceeding. It is no defense that the declarant mistakenly believed the falsification to be immaterial. Whether a falsification is material in a given factual situation is a question of law.
 - c. No person shall be guilty of an offense under this Section if they retracted the falsification in the course of the proceeding in which it was made before it became manifest that the falsification was or would be exposed and before the falsification substantially affected the proceeding.
6. **False Report.** A person is guilty of false report and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 3 days if they do any of the following:
- a. reports to law enforcement authorities an offense or other incident within their concern knowing that it did not occur; or
 - b. pretends to furnish such authorities with information relating to an offense or incident when they know they have no information relating to such offense or incident.

Section VI – Crimes Against the Community

1. **Defamation:** A person is guilty of defamation and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 3 days if they purposefully, knowingly, or recklessly damages another's reputation by spreading false information.
2. **Harassment:** A person is guilty of harassment and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 3 days, if with purpose to harass another, they do any of the following:
 - a. insult, taunt or challenge another in a manner likely to provoke violent or disorderly response; or
 - b. make repeated communications anonymously or at extremely inconvenient hours, or in offensively coarse language; or
 - c. subjects another to an offensive touching; or
 - d. engage in any other course of alarming conduct serving no legitimate purpose of the actor.
3. **Terroristic Threats.** A person is guilty of terroristic threats and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 10 days if they threaten to commit any

crime of violence with purpose to terrorize another or to cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly, or otherwise to cause serious public inconvenience, or in reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror or inconvenience.

Section VII – Crimes Against Property

1. **Theft.** A person is guilty of theft and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 3 days if they purposefully or knowingly take, or exercise unlawful control over, movable property or created work of another with purpose to deprive them thereof.
2. **Destruction of Property.** A person is guilty of property destruction and shall be sentenced to imprisonment not to exceed 3 days if they purposefully, knowingly, or recklessly damage or delete public infrastructure, such as wiki pages or official records, without authorization.

Section VIII – Enforcement and Trial

1. **Judges** shall interpret and apply this Code.
2. **Defendants** have the right to present their defense before judgment is rendered.
3. **Punishments** shall be recorded publicly unless confidentiality is required. A request to keep a decision confidential must be approved by a moderator.

Section IX – Judicial Process

1. **Jurisdiction:**

All legal cases within the subreddit shall be handled by the **Judiciary**, consisting of the judges.

 - a. Judges preside over trials and issue verdicts.
 - b. In their absence, a substitute judge may be appointed temporarily.
2. **Filing of Charges:**
 - a. A criminal case is initiated by the Attorney General or their designee filing a criminal complaint with the court.
 - b. Reports must include the alleged offense, a brief description of events, supporting evidence, and an application of the applicable law to the events and evidence.
 - c.
3. **Investigation:**
 - a. Appointed investigators may collect evidence, witness statements, or logs relevant to the case.

- b. Investigations must remain impartial and confidential until formally concluded.
- 4. **Summoning the Accused:**
 - a. The accused shall be notified of the charges and granted an opportunity to defend themselves.
 - b. If the accused fails to respond within **48 hours**, the trial may proceed in absentia.
- 5. **Trial Procedure:**
 - a. Trials shall be held publicly unless confidentiality is necessary.
 - b. The format shall follow these steps:
 - i. Reading of charges
 - ii. Presentation of evidence (Prosecution)
 - iii. Defense statement and counter-evidence
 - iv. Witness testimonies, if necessary
 - v. Closing statements
 - vi. Verdict and sentencing by the presiding judge
 - c. Trials may be held via comments, pinned posts, or official threads.
- 6. **Verdicts and Sentencing:**
 - a. Verdicts shall be based on majority evidence and reason, not popularity.
 - b. Judges may issue punishments consistent with **Section VIII** of the Legal Code.
 - c. Sentences take effect immediately upon declaration unless appealed.

Section X – Appeals and Clemency

- 1. **Right to Appeal:**
 - a. Any convicted member may appeal their verdict within **three (3) days** of sentencing.
 - b. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the judges.
- 2. **Review of Appeal:**
 - a. Appeals shall be reviewed by the Chief Justice.
 - i. The reviewing body may uphold, reduce, or overturn the verdict.
- 3. **Clemency and Pardons:**
 - a. The President, at their discretion, may issue pardons or commutations.
 - b. All pardons must be publicly announced simultaneously with a written and detailed justification.

Section XI – Recordkeeping and Transparency

- 1. **Public Records:**

- a. All verdicts, appeals, and pardons shall be recorded in a permanent **Judicial Archive** (Google Document).
 - b. Sensitive cases may be redacted to protect privacy.
- 2. **Accountability:**
 - a. Judges, officers, and investigators are expected to act impartially.
 - b. Abuse of power or bias during a trial may result in disciplinary action or removal from office.

Section XII – Subreddit Detention Facility

1. Establishment & Purpose

The President shall create an official *Subreddit Detention Facility* (r/DOR_Prison) to hold users serving penalties imposed by moderators and/or judges. The purpose of the Subreddit Detention Facility is to enforce sentences, protect the community, and enable structured rehabilitation.

2. Administration

- 1. There shall be created the office of Warden of the Subreddit Detention Facility who will oversee the operations of the detention facility, hire and manage staff, and ensure order within the facility.
- 2. The President shall appoint the Warden and the Warden will serve a term of two months.
- 3. The Warden shall have the authority to hire deputy wardens.

3. Facility Types & Sentences

- 1. **Holding Cell:** Short-term (≤ 24 hours) for investigations or procedural holds.
- 2. **Short-Term Detention:** 1 day–2 days for extremely minor offenses, 2-4 for minor offenses, 3-5 for more serious offenses, 6-7 for serious but not severe offenses.
- 3. **Long-Term Detention / Exile:** 7-14 days–permanent for severe offenses (e.g. treason).

Judges set sentence type and duration at sentencing.

4. Conditions & Rights

Detainees retain basic rights:

1. Notice of charges and sentence;
2. Right to appeal (see Section X);
3. Access to a limited communication channel for appeals and emergency contact;
4. No harassment while detained; privacy respected except where logs are public record.

5. Privileges & Rehabilitation

Privileges (commenting, wiki edits, roleplay participation) may be restored incrementally for good behavior or completion of community service (e.g., wiki repairs). Rehabilitation terms set by Warden and Judges.

6. Security & Enforcement

Moderators enforce confinement. Abuse of enforcement powers is punishable under the Legal Code.

7. Transfers, Early Release, and Parole

1. Warden may recommend early release or parole; judges approve.
2. Emergency releases executed by judges or lead moderators.

8. Recordkeeping & Transparency

All detentions, sentences, releases, and appeals are logged in the Judicial Archive. Sensitive details may be redacted.

9. Oversight & Review

Facility operations and Warden conduct are subject to periodic review by judges/moderators. Complaints trigger an internal review within five (5) days.

10. Ratification

The facility comes into effect upon approval by the subreddit's governing body; existing informal detention practices are superseded.

Section XIII – Final Provisions

1. This Legal Code takes effect immediately upon ratification.
2. It may be amended or expanded through a majority vote of the subreddit's governing body.