

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (BUS 6305.01)**  
**FIRST ASSIGNMENT**  
**VERMONT LAW & GRADUATE SCHOOL – FALL 2025**

**Prof. Benjamin C. Varadi**  
[bvaradi@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:bvaradi@vermontlaw.edu)

For our first class, please:

1. Read **Chapter One (pp. 1-27)** in Schmidt and Madison, *NONPROFIT LAW: THE LIFE CYCLE OF A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION* (Aspen Publishing, 3d. ed. 2021).
  - a. In candor, this course is being offered in a new format this semester. Predicting pacing is a little tricky until we've gotten to know each other a bit more. I think we'll get through *Big Mama Rag*—and please do read these materials in their entirety—but we are going to be feeling things out a bit at the start.
  - b. In approaching this and all readings, appreciate that your assignments will largely reflect practical work and thinking relative to the roles of nonprofit lawyers and leaders. You will not be tested on statistics or philosophy, save as it might inform your work as changemakers and advocates.
2. Over the course of our class, you will be asked to take primary responsibility for a hypothetical non-profit charitable organization of your choosing and design. Your decision will be formalized later, but for Monday, **consider what kind of non-profit you might like to start and run** over the course of the semester. We will discuss these ideas.