

# **SIGMA PHI EPSILON FRATERNITY STATEMENT ON CHAPTER & INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY**

This statement embodies the values and expectations of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity for all fraternity entities and membership categories, including alumni and volunteers.

## **Respect & Care for Self & Others**

The Fraternity will operate in such a manner as to exhibit respect, care, and concern. The Fraternity abhors any form of sexually abusive behavior collectively or by an individual, be it physical, mental, or emotional in nature. Neither a Sigma Phi Epsilon Chapter nor any member thereof should encourage, support, or participate in any action which in any manner demeans, belittles, or damages another person.

## **Alcohol & Drugs**

1. The possession and/or use of alcoholic beverages while participating in any fraternity event, or in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, will be consistent with all campus, city, county, state laws, and all the policies of the Fraternity. Every chapter event must ensure that no alcohol can be consumed by minors.
2. The direct or indirect purchase of alcoholic beverages by the chapter using chapter funds or by any member on behalf of the chapter or through any type of fund is **against** Sigma Phi Epsilon's risk management policies. The purchase and/or use of a bulk quantity of alcoholic beverages (i.e., kegs or case(s) of beer/wine) is prohibited.
3. There will be no possession, use, and/or sale of illegal drugs or controlled substances at any chapter facility, fraternity event, or any event which would be associated with the Fraternity.
4. No chapter should associate the Fraternity's name with any event sponsored by an alcohol distributor, charitable organization, or tavern (tavern defined as an establishment generating more than half of annual gross sales from alcohol) where alcohol is given away, sold, or otherwise provided to those present.
5. No chapter should co-sponsor or co-finance a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups, or organizations.
6. There should never be any alcohol available during membership recruitment activities.
7. Open parties, meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members, are not in the best interest of the chapter or the Fraternity and should not occur.
8. No brother or new member should condone, tolerate, encourage, or participate in the abuse of alcohol (i.e., drinking games are not allowed).
9. There should never be any alcohol available during any membership education program/event.

Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in disciplinary action including revocation of the chapter's charter. Additionally, failure to follow these guidelines could jeopardize a chapter's (or individual member's) general liability insurance coverage.

## **Member Development**

The principles of Sigma Phi Epsilon and those of a chapter and its members are based on high ethical and moral behavior, and the expression of respect and care for self and others.

Therefore, hazing has no place in Sigma Phi Epsilon. Hazing is a criminal act in most states. Hazing activities are defined as:

"Any action taken or situation created, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; late work sessions which interfere with scholastic activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with fraternal law or ritual, the regulations and policies of the educational institution or applicable local, state, or federal law."

## **Fire, Health & Safety**

To better ensure the safety of its members and guests, each chapter should strive to meet the following expectations:

1. Comply with all local fire and health codes.
2. Post emergency numbers for fire, police, and ambulance beside all common phones. Also post evacuation routes from chapter facilities in the common areas and on the back of each sleeping room door.
3. Comply with engineering recommendations as reported by the insurance company.
4. Keep a neat and orderly house. Good housekeeping is essential.
5. The possession and/or use of firearms or explosive devices of any kind within the confines and premises of the chapter house is expressly forbidden.

## **Education**

Each student member, as part of his regular fraternity education experience, shall be educated about, and reminded of, his responsibilities as a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon and the Fraternity's risk management policy.