



BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the Dean of Students

April 2, 2021

Chapter President  
Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity

Regarding Case Number: 2020289301

Dear Chapter President:

Thank you for meeting with me today on behalf of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity at Bowling Green State University. In summary, our office received information indicating that the organization reportedly engaged in conduct that violates the Code of Student Conduct during an off-campus event that occurred at 318 N. Main Street in Bowling Green on March 4, 2021. You and I discussed these allegations during a meeting on March 24, 2021, as well during our meeting today.

Based upon the information you provided, as well as information gathered during the investigation process, I have determined that there is sufficient justification to charge the organization with violating six (6) of the following sections of the Code of Student Conduct:

**6.B.1.a. - Offenses Against Persons- Harm to Others**

These behaviors include but are not limited to any conduct or communication that are intended to threaten, harass or injure a person(s): Endangering, threatening, intimidating or attempting to cause physical harm to another person, causing reasonable apprehension of such harm or engaging in conduct or communications that a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of intent to cause harm.

This charge is warranted based upon information that members of the organization provided individual bottles of alcohol to new members and encouraged the new members to consume the entirety of the contents of the bottle. One new member died following this event, and other new members were severely intoxicated to the point of vomiting.

**6.B.2.a. - Offenses Against Persons - Hazing**

When done intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly, for the purpose of initiating, admitting, or affiliating an individual into or with a band, athletic team, club, or recognized student organization, or for the purpose of continuing or enhancing an individual's membership or status in an a band, athletic team, club, or recognized student organization, the Code prohibits causing, coercing, or forcing an individual to do any of the following:

Consume any food, liquid, drug, or other substance.

This charge is warranted based upon information that members of the organization provided individual bottles of alcohol to the new members and then encouraged the new members to consume the entirety of the contents of the bottle.

#### **6.B.2.d. - Offenses Against Persons - Hazing**

When done intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly, for the purpose of initiating, admitting, or affiliating an individual into or with a band, athletic team, club, or recognized student organization, or for the purpose of continuing or enhancing an individual's membership or status in an a band, athletic team, club, or recognized student organization, the Code prohibits causing, coercing, or forcing an individual to do any of the following:

Any activity which has the potential to be frightening, degrading, or unduly deceptive, including deception designed to convince the individual of impending pain, injury, or non-initiation including, but not limited to, promoting servitude, berating or verbally harassing individuals, throwing items at or on individuals, forcing individuals to carry items, forcing individuals to yell when entering or departing a physical structure or in the presence of designated individuals, forcing individuals to use designated entrances or exits, requiring individuals to run personal errands, intentionally creating labor or clean-up work, and requiring individuals to wear scant clothing or to be nude.

This charge is warranted based upon information that members of the organization had the new members wear blindfolds and led them into a basement area while being yelled at and pushed in an effort to disorient them.

#### **6.B.2.f. - Offenses Against Persons - Hazing**

When done intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly, for the purpose of initiating, admitting, or affiliating an individual into or with a band, athletic team, club, or recognized student organization, or for the purpose of continuing or enhancing an individual's membership or status in an a band, athletic team, club, or recognized student organization, the Code prohibits causing, coercing, or forcing an individual to do any of the following:

Any activity which endangers or has the potential to endanger the academic performance of the individual, such as not allowing adequate time for or interfering with academic commitments.

This charge is warranted based upon information that the new members were instructed multiple times prior to the event on March 4 that they would need to inform faculty members of their likely absence from classes on March 5.

#### **6.B.2.h. - Offenses Against Persons - Hazing**

When done intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly, for the purpose of initiating, admitting, or affiliating an individual into or with a band, athletic team, club, or recognized student organization, or for the purpose of continuing or enhancing an individual's membership or status in an a band, athletic team, club, or recognized student organization, the Code prohibits causing, coercing, or forcing an individual to do any of the following:

Any violation of federal, state, or local law or rule or University policy.

This charge is warranted based upon the totality of the information collected coupled with the fact that hazing and underage possession/consumption of alcohol are against university policy and state law.

#### **6.D.2.d. - Offenses Disrupting Order or Disregarding Health and Safety - Organization Alcohol**

Failure of a recognized student organization to take all necessary steps to ensure that no person under the

legal drinking age possesses alcoholic beverages at functions it sponsors or within any property or transportation it owns, operates, and/or rents.

This charge is warranted based upon information that alcohol was provided to new members of the organization, and only one new member was of legal age to possess/consume alcohol.

All six (6) charges for violating the Code of Student Conduct arise from an event hosted by the organization at 318 N. Main Street in Bowling Green on March 4, 2021.

You now need to decide how to resolve the above charges for violating the Code of Student Conduct by completing and returning the attached Case Resolution Record to me within two (2) business days.

A follow-up meeting has been scheduled for **April 6, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.** with Chris Bullins, Dean of Students, and myself. Please bring your completed Case Resolution Record to this meeting. These are very serious allegations. If you accept responsibility on behalf of the organization, we will discuss sanctions. If you request a formal hearing before the University Conduct Committee on behalf of the organization, Dean Bullins will discuss the hearing preparation checklist and provide a hearing overview for you.

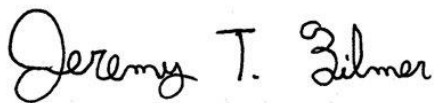
If you do not attend the meeting on April 6, a decision will be made without the benefit of your input as to the final resolution of these charges for violating the Code of Student Conduct.

If you request a formal hearing before the University Conduct Committee, a hearing date and time has been reserved for **April 13, 2021, at 8:30 a.m.** Any materials you want to include in the hearing packet for the members of the University Conduct Committee must be submitted no later than **April 9, 2021, at noon** to Dean Bullins.

Please refer to the Code of Student Conduct for a full explanation of your rights and responsibilities within the student conduct process.

You may contact me in advance of our meeting on April 6, 2021, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeremy T. Zilmer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeremy Zilmer  
Associate Dean of Students

CC: Pi Kappa Alpha National Fraternity