



THE  
FRATERNITY LAWS

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SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON  
FRATERNITY

2017

# MISSION STATEMENT OF THE SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON FRATERNITY

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The mission of Sigma Alpha Epsilon is advancing the highest standards of friendship, scholarship and service for our members throughout life.

## PRINCIPLES

1. To develop in our members the skills which will facilitate their making deep and meaningful friendships throughout their lives.
2. To provide our undergraduate members with a physical and organizational environment conducive to their pursuit of academic excellence.
3. To help our members better understand and experience diversity and change and to enhance their respect for individuality and personal integrity.
4. To foster personal development of our members including leadership, scholarship, citizenship, social and moral responsibility.
5. To develop in our members a sense of duty for individual and group involvement in social interactions, service and community outreach.
6. To provide our members with guidance, support and standards based upon the ideals embodied in our Ritual.
7. To develop, maintain, and enforce standards and expectations for the conduct of our members within and outside of the Fraternity.
8. To provide our members with life-long fraternal experiences that are productive, rewarding and enjoyable.

# THE FRATERNITY LAWS OF THE SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON FRATERNITY

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Revised in accordance with the action of the  
161st Anniversary Convention in Boston, Massachusetts

## 2015-2017 COMMITTEE ON FRATERNITY LAWS

### **Chairman**

Austin J. Evans (Wisconsin-Madison '05)

### **Members**

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Steven A. Schneider (New Mexico '68)  
Richard Shanahan (Fort Hays State '02)  
Timothy P. K. Sirota (UC-San Diego '14)  
Gregory J. Williams (UC-Irvine '16)

## ORGANIZATION OF THE LAWS

Organized by title and then section as follows:

### **Title #: Description**

- I.
  - A.
    - 1.
      - a.
        - (1)

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# THE FRATERNITY LAWS

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We, the members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, in order to form a firmer brotherhood; promote the intellectual, moral, and spiritual welfare of our members; and raise the educational standards of our chapters, do ordain and adopt through our Fraternity Convention the following Fraternity Laws:

## **Title I: Organization of the Fraternity — Symbols**

1. **Name.** The name of this association is Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity (the “FRATERNITY”).
2. **Realm.** The global reach of the Fraternity and its membership is the Fraternity’s REALM.
3. **Creed.** The creed of the Fraternity is “The True Gentleman.”

*The True Gentleman is the man whose conduct proceeds from good will and an acute sense of propriety, and whose self-control is equal to all emergencies; who does not make the poor man conscious of his poverty, the obscure man of his obscurity, or any man of his inferiority or de-formity; who is himself humbled if necessity compels him to humble an-other; who does not flatter wealth, cringe before power, or boast of his own possessions or achievements; who speaks with frankness but always with sincerity and sympathy; whose deed follows his word; who thinks of the rights and feelings of others, rather than his own; and who ap-pears well in any company, a man with whom honor is sacred and virtue safe.*

*-John Walter Wayland*

4. **Colors.** The colors of the Fraternity are royal purple and old gold.
5. **Flower.** The flower of the Fraternity is the violet.
6. **Founders Day.** The ninth of March is known throughout the Realm as FOUNDERS DAY, and that day, or another day which is more suitable and practical, will be observed in commemoration of the first meeting of the Fraternity on March 9, 1856.
7. **Shrines & Sites.** The Supreme Council, with approval of the Fraternity Convention, may select and designate certain sites, buildings, graves, or other items as shrines and sites as may be necessary to perpetuate the traditions, history, and memorials of the Fraternity.

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## Title I: Organization of the Fraternity — Governing Principles

- 8. Governing Bodies.** The government of the Fraternity is vested in the following FRATERNITY BODIES, ranked in the order named:
- A. Fraternity Convention
  - B. Supreme Council
  - C. Province Conventions
  - D. Province Councils
  - E. Chapters Collegiate
  - F. Alumni Associations
- 9. Other Groups.** The Fraternity recognizes the following other groups:
- A. The Board of Trustees of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Foundation
  - B. The Board of Directors of SAE Financial and Housing Corporation
  - C. The House Corporation or other entity holding title to a chapter house
  - D. The Council of Province Archons
  - E. The Chapter Alumnus
  - F. The Chapter Quiescent
  - G. The Chapter Eternal
- 10. Fraternity Laws & Ritual.**
- A. Amendment & Repeal.** The Fraternity Laws and Ritual may only be amended or repealed in the following manners:
- 1. By the Fraternity Convention
    - a. A two-thirds vote of the Fraternity Convention may amend or repeal the Fraternity Laws or Ritual. Such vote may be taken at a session of the Fraternity Convention or by a direct vote.
    - b. Any member in good standing with the Fraternity may propose an amendment or repeal to the Fraternity Laws or Ritual by giving notice to the Eminent Supreme Recorder by the 15th day of December that immediately precedes a regular session of the Fraternity Convention. The Eminent Supreme Recorder must publish such notice in the issue of *The Phi Alpha* for that session of the Fraternity Convention.
  - 2. By the Supreme Council
    - a. As part of representing the Fraternity Convention in the interval between its sessions, and only upon a finding that doing so is deemed time-sensitive and necessary to preserve and protect the Fraternity, the Supreme Council may amend or repeal the Fraternity Law — but not the Ritual — by two-thirds majority vote between sessions of the Fraternity Convention.
    - b. Any such amendment or repeal must be ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of the Fraternity Convention at its next session.

- c. Failure of the Fraternity Convention to ratify such amendment or repeal at its next session will render such amendment or repeal null and void.

**B. Suspension.** Any provision of the Fraternity Laws may be suspended by unanimous consent of the Fraternity Convention.

## 11. Realm-Wide Governance.

### A. Decision-Making.

1. **Official Action.** Unless a higher voting majority is required and except as otherwise provided for in these Fraternity Laws, a majority vote at any meeting of any regularly constituted body of the Fraternity at which a quorum of its members in good standing is present is the act of such body, and only those members of such body who are present, in good standing with the Fraternity and, if applicable, credentialed, may vote or be counted in determining the voting majority of such body.
2. **Direct Vote.** If authorized by these Fraternity Laws, a specified officer may solicit a DIRECT VOTE of a Fraternity Body to resolve such measures as may benefit from resolution before the Fraternity body's next meeting or session.
  - a. **Solicitation.** Such direct vote may be submitted by electronic ballot to each member of the Fraternity body eligible to vote as of the date the officer solicited the direct vote at the latest address of record at the Fraternity Service Center.
  - b. **Effect of Non-Response.** If any member fails to vote within ten days after the date the direct vote is solicited, an affirmative vote will be implied, and the ballot must make clear this stipulation.

### B. Officers.

1. **Terms.** Unless specified otherwise by these Fraternity laws, the full term of office for any Fraternity, province, or alumni association officer will begin either upon the adjournment of the meeting of the Fraternity body that elected him to office or immediately upon his appointment, continuing until his successor's term begins. Any officer will continue in office on an expired term until his successor is duly elected or appointed and qualified.
2. **Qualifications.** Unless specified otherwise by these Fraternity Laws, only a member in good standing with the Fraternity is eligible to hold any Fraternity, province, Chapter Collegiate, or alumni association office.
3. **Removal.** The Supreme Council may remove from office any Fraternity, province, Chapter Collegiate, or alumni association officer, any chapter adviser, faculty adviser, or alumni adviser, for neglect of duty or other offense against the laws, dignity, or interest of the Fraternity. Due notice of such intended action must be given to the officer concerned and to all members of the Supreme Council, and the officer must be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard.

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**C. Chapters Collegiate & Colonies.** The term Chapter Collegiate includes the term *colony*. All members of a colony will have a status similar to that of Fraternity Members, and both colonies and colony members are bound by the duties required by these Fraternity Laws for Chapters Collegiate and Fraternity members, respectively, except for the following:

1. Colonies are not members of the Fraternity Convention or their Province Convention and do not have the right to representation in these Fraternity bodies.
2. Colony members may not be considered Fraternity members and may not enjoy the privileges of Fraternity membership, including the use of the Ritual, until their due initiation into the Fraternity.

**12. Fraternal Duties.** Chapters Collegiate and Fraternity members have the duties to honor the Fraternity's secrets and to refrain from the commission of a flagrant offense.

**A. Secrecy.** The Ritual and unwritten forms of the Fraternity, the names of members voting against candidates for membership, and the reasons therefor must be secret.

**B. Flagrant Offense.** The Fraternity declares any of the following acts or omissions to be a FLAGRANT OFFENSE:

1. Hazing, as defined by the laws of the land, by a collegiate host institution, or by the Fraternity
2. Sexual assault or verbal harassment on any individual, whether physical, mental, or emotional
3. Failure to comply with any applicable law, rule, or regulation of a government, a collegiate host institution, or the Fraternity with respect to the possession, sale, use, or consumption of alcohol or other drugs
4. Violation of the oath taken at initiation by revealing any secrets or private matters of the Fraternity
5. Affiliation with a chapter auxiliary collegiate women's group, commonly referred to as Little Sisters, which the Fraternity expressly prohibits
6. Any act or omission which places any individual at risk of serious bodily harm or which brings the Fraternity into extreme disrepute

## **Title II: Fraternity Membership — Rights & Responsibilities**

**13. Fraternity Membership.**

**A. The Fraternity's Chapters.** A Fraternity member is a member of one of the following chapters:

1. A Chapter Collegiate
2. The Chapter Alumnus
3. The Chapter Quiescent
4. The Chapter Eternal

**B. Actions Affecting Membership.**

1. **Effect upon Initiation.** Immediately upon his initiation, a brother becomes a member of the Chapter Collegiate that initiated him.
2. **Effect upon Graduation.** Any member of a Chapter Collegiate who graduates or has graduated from a collegiate host institution with an undergraduate degree will immediately become a member of the CHAPTER ALUMNUS.
3. **Effect upon Studying Abroad.** Any member of a Chapter Collegiate who temporarily separates from his collegiate host institution to study abroad will remain a member of his Chapter Collegiate.
4. **Effect upon Transfer, Withdrawal or Re-Enrollment.** Except as provided for regarding studying abroad, any member of a Chapter Collegiate who separates from his collegiate host institution, either by withdrawal or by transfer to another collegiate host institution, will immediately become a member of the Chapter Alumnus until such time as he affiliates with another Chapter Collegiate at another collegiate host institution, as provided for in this Title, thus immediately becoming a member of that Chapter Collegiate.
5. **Effect upon Suspension.** Any Fraternity member who is duly suspended will immediately become a member of the CHAPTER QUIESCENT.
6. **Effect upon Inactivity.** Any member of a Chapter Collegiate who is granted inactive membership status, as provided for in this Title, will immediately become a member of the Chapter Quiescent until such time as he graduates or separates from his collegiate host institution, thus immediately becoming a member of the Chapter Alumnus.
7. **Effect upon Failure to Make Alumnus Gift.** Any member of the Chapter Alumnus who is delinquent in accounts will immediately become a member of the Chapter Quiescent.
8. **Effect upon Expulsion or Resignation.** Any Fraternity member who is duly expelled or who resigns his membership, as provided for in this Title, ceases to become a Fraternity member or any of the Fraternity's chapters.
9. **Effect upon Reinstatement.** Any person whose membership in the Fraternity is reinstated, as provided for in this Title, from his suspension, expulsion, or resignation will immediately become a member of the appropriate chapter that he would be a member of had his suspension, expulsion, or resignation never taken place.
10. **Effect upon Passing.** Any Fraternity member who passes away will immediately become a member of the CHAPTER ETERNAL.

**14. Membership Status.**

**A. Membership Standing.**

1. **Good Standing.** A Fraternity member is in good standing with the Fraternity unless any of the following apply:

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- a. He is under probation.
  - b. He is a member of the Chapter Quiescent.
  - c. He is delinquent in accounts.
  - d. He is delinquent in scholarship.
  - e. A formal accusation exists against him.
2. **Alumnus Good Standing.** Good standing in the Fraternity for a member of the Chapter Alumnus requires a gift of ten dollars or more in a fiscal year or aggregate gifts totaling one hundred dollars either to the Fraternity or to the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Foundation.
- B. Inactive Membership.** An active member may become an inactive member at his own request and upon good cause shown if each of the following apply:
1. He is a member in good standing of the Chapter Collegiate.
  2. He has been a member of the Chapter Collegiate for at least two years.
  3. He is not delinquent in accounts.
  4. His Chapter Collegiate has approved his inactive membership by a three-fourths vote.
  5. His Eminent Archon and his Province Archon have established that the Chapter Collegiate has made every attempt that will allow the member to retain active membership.
  6. He has obtained the written approval of his Province Archon.
- C. Resignation of Membership.**
1. **Qualifications.** Any member of the Fraternity may resign his membership in the Fraternity as follows:
    - a. He must declare, in writing, his intent and specific rationale to the Eminent Supreme Recorder.
    - b. He must accompany his declaration with his membership badge, certificate of membership, and membership card.
    - c. He must not be delinquent in accounts.
  2. **Required Vote.** A two-thirds vote of the Supreme Council may accept any member's resignation.
  3. **Effect.** The resigned member will lose all connection with the Fraternity, including the rights and privileges of membership, but will not be released from the pledge of secrecy given at the time of his initiation. He will also forfeit the right to receive *The Record*.
  4. **Reinstatement.** Any resigned member may petition the Supreme Council for reinstatement of his resigned membership. A two-thirds vote of the Supreme Council will reinstate the resigned member.

## 15. Eligibility for Membership.

- A. Qualifications.** Except as otherwise provided for in these Fraternity Laws, a candidate is eligible for membership in the Fraternity if each of the following apply:
1. He is a male student of either of the following:
    - a. A collegiate host institution that is the domicile of an active Chapter Collegiate.

- b. A consortium of such collegiate host institutions approved by the Supreme Council.
    2. He is of sound moral character.
    3. He is of creditable intellectual attainments.
    4. He is socially acceptable throughout the Fraternity.
  - B. Special Non-Student Initiation.** A Chapter Collegiate may, by a three-fourths vote, initiate a non-student otherwise eligible for membership upon the recommendation of its Province Archon and approval by the Supreme Council.
  - C. Special Initiation.** No person who is or has been a member of another college social fraternity is eligible for membership in the Fraternity, except that a Chapter Collegiate may, by a three-quarters vote, initiate a person otherwise eligible for membership upon the recommendations of its Province Archon and the Eminent Supreme Recorder and the unanimous approval by the Supreme Council, subject to any requirements, rules, or restrictions the Supreme Council may deem necessary in each individual situation, provided that each of the following apply:
    1. He cannot have attempted to become a member of the Fraternity in any manner other than that prescribed in these Fraternity Laws.
    2. He must have, in writing, resigned his membership in the other college social fraternity.
    3. He must not have ever been expelled from the college social fraternity of which he was a member, and that fact must be confirmed in writing.
  - D. Void Initiation.** No Chapter Collegiate has the authority to initiate any person ineligible for membership under these Fraternity Laws, and the attempted initiation of any such person is null and void.
- 16. Election.** Election of members of the Chapter Collegiate is the sole prerogative of the individual Chapters Collegiate, provided that no Chapter Collegiate may discriminate on a potential new member due to his race, his color, his religion, his sexual orientation, his national origin, his age, or his physical ability, and that no Chapter Collegiate's requirements for election may fall below a majority vote of the Chapter Collegiate's members who are eligible to vote.
- 17. Initiation.**
- A. Pledge Programs Prohibited.** Pledge programs in any form are prohibited by the Fraternity, no matter the duration or content of the program.
    1. **Voluntary Participation.** Under no circumstances may a newly elected member participate in a pledge program, even if he agrees to do so voluntarily.
    2. **Pledges.** No newly elected member may be referred to as a *pledge*.
  - B. Requirements for Initiation.** No member may be initiated if any of the following apply:
    1. He would be considered delinquent in scholarship.

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2. He owes any sum to any Fraternity body.
- C. Initiation Activities.** Any preinitiation or initiation activities must be entirely consistent with the purpose and ideals of the Fraternity as expressed in the Ritual of the Fraternity and these Fraternity Laws, and every possible provision must be made to assure dignity and serious demeanor in the Initiation Ceremony, and the following time limitations apply to any initiation:
1. Any pre-initiation activity and informal initiatory work not included in the Ritual of the Fraternity must be concluded at least eighteen hours before the Initiation Ceremony.
  2. Any newly elected Fraternity member must be fully initiated into the Fraternity no later than ninety-six hours after he accepts an invitation to join the Fraternity, unless his invitation is rescinded prior to initiation or unless the Eminent Supreme Recorder, for good cause shown, extends this time requirement.
- 18. Insignia of Membership.** Upon payment of the initiation fee, each newly initiated member will receive membership insignia from the Fraternity Service Center, including a membership badge, a certificate of membership, a membership card, and a Fraternity manual, *The Phoenix*.
- A. Loan.** The Fraternity will loan a membership badge to each newly initiated member. The membership badge will remain the property of the Fraternity and may only be worn by members in good standing.
- B. Recall.** For due cause communicated in writing, the membership badge or the certificate of membership may be recalled by the Fraternity.
- C. Badge Design.** The use of the membership badge or its design upon any article of jewelry is forbidden, except by authorization of the Supreme Council.
- 19. Member Education.** The preferred course of member education is the TRUE GENTLEMAN EXPERIENCE, a program approved by the Eminent Supreme Recorder or his designee. The True Gentleman Experience must be in writing, must be distributed to all members of the Chapters Collegiate, and must be properly implemented during the course of education.
- 20. Fees & Dues.** Members are responsible for such fees and dues as these Fraternity Laws authorize and require.

## Title II: Fraternity Membership — Discipline

### 21. Offenses.

- A. Offenses Cognizable by the Fraternity.** The Fraternity declares any of the following acts or omissions to be an OFFENSE:
1. Commission of a flagrant offense
  2. Violation of these Fraternity Laws or the by-laws and lawful orders of any Fraternity body or officer

3. Violation of the oath taken at the time of initiation
4. Conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline, or unbecoming a gentleman
5. Being delinquent in accounts
6. Being delinquent in scholarship
7. Failure to maintain the standards of Fraternity membership, as prescribed by the True Gentleman Experience

**B. Delinquent in Accounts Defined.** A member is DELINQUENT IN ACCOUNTS if any of the following apply:

1. At any time, he is more than thirty days delinquent in monies owed to any Fraternity body without a written payment plan.
2. Upon leaving the Chapter Collegiate, he owes any sum at all.

**C. Delinquent in Scholarship Defined.** A member is DELINQUENT IN SCHOLARSHIP if any of the following apply:

1. He has been placed upon academic probation by the academic authorities of any collegiate host institution.
2. He ranks below the minimum grade standing for the previous term as required by the by-laws of his Chapter Collegiate.
3. He is not maintaining a cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, or some other equivalent evaluation which the Supreme Council determines; provided, however, the chapter adviser or the Province Archon may waive the grade-point requirement for a member with a documented learning disability.

**22. Jurisdiction.** Each Fraternity member is under the jurisdiction of the Chapter Collegiate of which he is, or was last, a member, such Chapter Collegiate's Province Council, and of the Supreme Council.

**23. Summary Actions.**

**A. For a Flagrant Offense.** Whenever a Fraternity member commits a flagrant offense, the Supreme Council or his Province Council may summarily expel, suspend, fine, reprimand, or place on probation that member or some combination of these.

**B. For an Offense.** Whenever a member commits an offense, the Province Archon or, with the consent of the Province Archon, either the chapter adviser or chapter advisory board may summarily suspend, reprimand, or place on probation that member or some combination of these.

**C. Appeal.** Any summary action taken against a member may be appealed in accordance with this Title.

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## 24. Disciplinary Procedures.

### A. Initiating a Disciplinary Matter.

1. **By Preferment of Charges.** Any Fraternity member or any Fraternity Body, having reasonable cause to believe that any Fraternity member has committed an offense, may prefer charges against him as follows:
  - a. Such charges must be in writing.
  - b. Such charges must be signed by the complainant.
  - c. Such charges must specify the alleged offense.
  - d. Such charges must be submitted by the complainant either to the Chapter Collegiate holding jurisdiction over the accused or to the Supreme Council.
2. **By Notice to a Chapter Collegiate.** A Province Archon, house corporation president, alumni association president, or chapter advisory board may give written notification to a Chapter Collegiate under its jurisdiction or affiliation of conduct of a member or members of the Chapter Collegiate which constitutes an offense.

### B. Trial Authority.

The following Fraternity bodies may act as a TRIAL AUTHORITY, having authority to try a Fraternity member for an offense.

1. The Supreme Council; provided, however, that the Supreme Council may, upon issuance of a formal accusation, delegate its authority to a SPECIAL COMMISSION consisting of a chairman and no more than four additional members, each of whom are members in good standing of the Fraternity.
2. A Chapter Collegiate or a duly imposed alumni commission, provided it holds jurisdiction over the accused.
3. A Province Council, if, within thirty days after written notification to one of its Chapters Collegiate by its Province Archon, house corporation president, alumni association president, or chapter advisory board of conduct of a member or members of the Chapter Collegiate which constitutes an offense, the Chapter Collegiate fails to eliminate any such offense.

### C. Preliminary Procedures.

The trial authority must make a preliminary investigation of the charges submitted to it.

1. **Resolution by Standards Board.** If the matter is under the jurisdiction of a Chapter Collegiate, and if the Chapter Collegiate's by-laws provide for the authority of a standards board, such standards board may resolve the matter before trial by mutual agreement with the accused by imposing upon the accused a probation, a fine, a reprimand, or some combination of these.
2. **Formal Accusation.** If the matter is not duly resolved before trial, and if the charges appear to be well-founded, the trial authority must issue a FORMAL ACCUSATION in writing.

- a. The formal accusation must specify the alleged offense, must substantively state the essential facts constituting the offense, and must specify the time and place for trial of the matter.
  - b. The trial authority must cause notice of the formal accusation and trial to be given to the accused either in person at least ten days before the trial or by certified mail at his latest address of record at the Fraternity Service Center, with notice complete upon mailing, at least twenty days before the trial.
- 25. Trial.** The trial hearing must be conducted at the specified time and place in the formal accusation.
- A. Due Process.** In all cases, the accused must be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard and may appear personally or by a representative, including by attorney, who must be a member in good standing of the Fraternity.
  - B. Findings.** Thereafter the trial authority will determine the guilt or innocence of the accused. A majority vote of the members present and in good standing, provided there is a quorum present, is required to find the accused guilty.
  - C. Sentence.** A separate vote is required to impose any penalty as permitted by this Title.
  - D. Special Trial Considerations.**
    1. **By the Supreme Council.** The Eminent Supreme Archon or any other member of the Supreme Council designated by the Eminent Supreme Archon will act as presiding officer, and the Eminent Supreme Archon will appoint a clerk and a prosecutor, who will act on behalf of the Fraternity.
    2. **By a Special Commission.**
      - a. The chairman of the special commission will act as presiding officer and will appoint a clerk and prosecutor, who will act on behalf of the Fraternity.
      - b. The special commission may not find an accused guilty or impose upon him any penalty, but will rather report the evidence with its findings and its opinion to the Supreme Council, which will then act with the same force and effect as if it had conducted the trial.
    3. **By a Chapter Collegiate.**
      - a. The trial must take place during a special meeting of the Chapter Collegiate, thus requiring a two-thirds majority of its members in good standing to be present to constitute a quorum.
      - b. For trials by a Chapter Collegiate, the Eminent Archon will act as presiding officer (or, if the Eminent Archon is among the accused, the Eminent Treasurer will act in his place), and the Eminent Deputy Archon will act on behalf of the Fraternity (or, if the Eminent Deputy Archon is among the accused, the Eminent Warden will act in his place).
    4. **By an Alumni Commission.** The chairman of the alumni commission

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will act as presiding officer and will appoint a clerk and a prosecutor, who will act on behalf of the Fraternity.

5. **By a Province Council.** The Province Archon or any other member of the Province Council designated by the Province Archon will act as presiding officer and will appoint a clerk and a prosecutor, who will act on behalf of the Fraternity.
  - E. **Failure to Appear.** If, after being duly notified of a formal accusation against him, the accused fails to appear for the trial hearing, he may not thereby be deemed guilty of the offense charged, but the trial authority may either postpone the trial or proceed notwithstanding his absence.
  - F. **Postponement.** Upon due cause shown, a trial authority may postpone a trial hearing to such time as it sees fit.
26. **Penalties.** If the accused is found guilty, the trial authority must immediately impose upon him one or more penalties among expulsion, suspension, probation, a fine, or a reprimand. If the accused pleads guilty, the trial authority must immediately impose upon him one or more penalties among expulsion, suspension, probation, a fine, a reprimand, removal from any Fraternity-related position(s) held, whether or not formally recognized by these Fraternity Laws, or suspension from holding any Fraternity-related position(s), whether or not formally recognized by these Fraternity Laws, for a designated term.
- A. **Required Vote.** A two-thirds vote of the trial authority is necessary to impose a penalty of suspension or expulsion, and a majority vote of the trial authority is necessary to impose probation, a fine, a reprimand, or for the removal from a position or suspension from holding a position related to the Fraternity.
  - B. **Expulsion.** Each of the following will apply to any expelled member:
    1. He will lose all connection with the Fraternity and all the rights and privileges of membership, but will not be released from the pledge of secrecy given at the time of his initiation.
    2. He must surrender the badge, certificate of membership, and membership card previously issued to him to the Eminent Supreme Recorder, by and through the Eminent Archon of the Chapter Collegiate who expelled him, if applicable.
    3. He will forfeit his right to receive *The Record*.
    4. He must be treated as any other imposter should he claim any connection with the Fraternity or ask any hospitality from any Chapter Collegiate or member.
  - C. **Suspension.** Each of the following will apply to any suspended member:
    1. He will temporarily lose all rights and privileges of membership.
    2. He must surrender the badge loaned to him at the time of initiation to the Eminent Archon if he is a member of the Chapter Collegiate, or to the Eminent Supreme Recorder or his designee if he is a member of the Chapter Alumnus or the Chapter Quiescent, who will hold it during the period of suspension.

3. He may not display the certificate of membership during the period of suspension, attend any collegiate or alumni meeting or social affair given under the auspices of the Fraternity, or enter any chapter house for any purpose.

**D. Notice.** When a Chapter Collegiate expels or suspends a member, the Eminent Correspondent must at once, in a form prescribed by the Eminent Supreme Recorder, notify the Eminent Supreme Recorder, his Province Archon, and any other interested parties.

**E. Reinstatement.**

1. **Required Vote.** Any member who has been expelled or suspended may be reinstated by any of the following:
  - a. A two-thirds vote of the Chapter Collegiate which imposed such penalty
  - b. A four-fifths vote of the Supreme Council
  - c. The Fraternity Convention
2. **Reinitiation.** Any member reinstated to the Fraternity must, as a requirement of reinstatement, participate in an Initiation Ceremony of the Chapter Collegiate under procedures recommended by the Permanent Committee on the Ritual and adopted by the Supreme Council.

**27. Appeals.**

**A. Jurisdiction.** The following decisions are subject to appeal to the specified Fraternity bodies:

1. Any adverse action taken by a Chapter Collegiate or by a Province Archon under his own authority or with his consent may be appealed to the chapter's or the Province Archon's Province Council.
2. Any adverse action, including on appeal, taken by a Province Council may be appealed to the Supreme Council.
3. Any adverse action, including on appeal, taken by the Supreme Council, may be appealed to the Fraternity Convention to comprise a final appeal by the accused, with such appeal to be heard by the Council of Province Archons sitting as a court composed of all the Province Archons present at the next regular session of the Fraternity Convention.

**B. Appellate Procedure.**

1. **Method.** Any appeal must be in writing and must substantively state the basis for the appeal.
2. **Notice.** Notice of the appeal must be given both to the Fraternity Body or officer whose decision is being appealed and, for appeals to a Province Council, to the respective Province Recorder, or, for appeals to the Supreme Council or the Fraternity Convention, to the Eminent Supreme Recorder.
3. **Timeline.** Any appeal must be made within thirty days of the accused's notice of the action being appealed.

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4. **Transmission of Record.** If an appeal is duly taken, the body whose decision is being appealed must, within seven days, transmit to the appellate body a complete record of the matter.
  5. **Parties.** The parties to an appeal will be the accused and the following representative of the Fraternity or his designee:
    - a. The Eminent Archon, for any matter originally tried by his Chapter Collegiate
    - b. The Province Archon, for any matter originally tried by his Province Council or for any summary action taken by his Province Council or himself, either under his own authority or with his consent
    - c. The Eminent Supreme Archon, for any matter originally tried by the Supreme Council or a special commission or for any summary action taken by the Supreme Council
  6. **Hearing.** An appellate body may make rules governing the hearing of appeals before it, provided, however, that equal time must be given to the accused and to the representative of the Fraternity.
  7. **Decision.**
    - a. A Province Council must give the accused notice of its decision on appeal within thirty days of the appeal hearing.
    - b. The Supreme Council must give the accused notice of its decision within six months of the appeal hearing.
    - c. The Council of Province Archons must, before the adjournment of the regular session of the Fraternity Convention, report its findings to the Fraternity Convention for final action.
  8. **Judgment.** The judgment on appeal will be one of the following:
    - a. To affirm the conviction and the penalty
    - b. To affirm the conviction but reduce the penalty
    - c. To reverse the conviction and acquit the appellant
- C. Membership Status During Appeal & After Reversal.** During the pendency of an appeal, the accused will be temporarily suspended from the rights, privileges, and immunities of the Fraternity; however, a judgment to reverse the conviction and acquit the accused restores the member to his original rights, but, if the penalty was expulsion or suspension, such reversal does not render him or his Chapter Collegiate liable for any obligation that would have accrued during the period between the imposition of the penalty against him and its reversal.
- D. Failure to Appear.** If the appellant fails to appear at the hearing of his appeal, his appeal must be dismissed, and no subsequent appeal may be entertained.

### Title III: The Fraternity Convention

- 28. The Fraternity Convention.** The supreme authority of the Fraternity is vested in the FRATERNITY CONVENTION.
- A. Membership.** The Fraternity Convention consists of each of the following:
1. Past Eminent Supreme Archons who have served for a full term of office
  2. The Fraternity officers
  3. Each Province, represented by its Province Archon or, in the absence of such Province Archon, the Province Deputy Archon or another Province officer designated by the Province Archon
  4. Each Chapter Collegiate, represented by one delegate
  5. Each alumni association, represented by one delegate
- B. Qualifications.** Each member of the Fraternity Convention must be credentialed to vote by the Fraternity Convention during any session.
1. **Chapter Collegiate Delegate.** Each Chapter Collegiate is entitled to one delegate and one alternate delegate to any session of the Fraternity Convention, provided that such Chapter Collegiate is current in its dues and reports to its province and the Fraternity Service Center.
  2. **Alumni Association Delegate.** Each alumni association having ten or more members in good standing in the Chapter Alumnus is entitled to one delegate to any session of the Fraternity Convention, provided that such delegate is a member in good standing of such alumni association and provided that such alumni association is current in its dues and reports to the Fraternity Service Center.
  3. **Single Vote.** No individual is entitled to have more than one vote on any matter before the Fraternity Convention, including on any direct vote.
  4. **Collegiate Majority.** If delegates from the Chapters Collegiate do not comprise a majority of the delegates credentialed at a session of the Fraternity Convention, then the alternate delegate from each eligible Chapter Collegiate must also be credentialed as a delegate of that session of the Fraternity Convention.
- C. Regular Sessions.** The Fraternity Convention must meet biennially at such time and place as the Supreme Council selects.
- D. Special Sessions.** Special sessions of the Fraternity Convention may be called by the Eminent Supreme Archon with the advice and consent of the Supreme Council. No other business than that specified in the call may be transacted at such session.
- E. Quorum.** One-fourth of the members of the Fraternity Convention constitutes a quorum, provided that delegates are present from at least one-fourth of the Chapters Collegiate in good standing.
- F. Rules of Order.** The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* will govern the Fraternity Convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these

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Fraternity Laws and any special rules of order the Fraternity Convention may adopt.

**G. Direct Vote.** The Eminent Supreme Archon, with the advice and consent of the Supreme Council, may solicit a direct vote of the Fraternity Convention. For the purposes of this section, the delegate to the Fraternity Convention for a Chapter Collegiate is its Eminent Archon and for an alumni association is its president.

**29. Finances.**

**A. Mileage Allowance.** Without regard to the status of a Chapter Collegiate, each member of the convention — except any delegate from an alumni association — will receive a mileage allowance from the Fraternity at an amount per mile set by the Supreme Council.

**B. Penalty for Non-Representation.** Any Chapter Collegiate not represented at a session of the Fraternity Convention by a delegate must pay a fine of one thousand five-hundred dollars with payment due within ninety days after the adjournment of the session of the Fraternity Convention. Any fine imposed under this section is subject to appeal to the Supreme Council within ninety days after the adjournment of the session of the Fraternity Convention.

**30. Committees.** The Fraternity Convention will have the following committees in addition to any committee it may, by resolution, establish to carry out such duties as the Fraternity Convention or the Supreme Council may charge:

**A. The Permanent Committee on Extension.**

- 1. Membership.** Within sixty days following the adjournment of each regular session of the Fraternity Convention, the Eminent Supreme Archon, with the advice and consent of the Supreme Council, must appoint a Permanent Committee on Extension, consisting of a chairman and not less than two and no more than six additional members, who will serve until their successors are duly appointed, in addition to one member of the Supreme Council and the Eminent Supreme Recorder, who will serve as recording secretary of the committee.
- 2. Duties.** The Permanent Committee on Extension will cause the development, amendment, and implementation of a plan for deliberate and orderly growth of the Fraternity through the addition of new or revitalization of previously chartered Chapters Collegiate, soliciting input from throughout the Realm.
- 3. Duties of the Eminent Supreme Recorder.** The Eminent Supreme Recorder will perform such duties as may be directed by the committee and will have primary responsibility for devising and implementing the committee's extension plan.

**B. The Permanent Committee on Fraternity Laws.**

1. **Membership.** Within sixty days following the adjournment of each regular session of the Fraternity Convention, the Eminent Supreme Archon, with the advice and consent of the Supreme Council, must appoint a Permanent Committee on Fraternity Laws consisting of one chairman, one Province Archon, one alumni association member, one Supreme Council member, one member of a Chapter Collegiate and any other members that the Supreme Council may direct, who will serve until their successors are duly appointed.
2. **Duties.** The Permanent Committee on Fraternity Laws will embody in the Fraternity Laws, with the advice and consent of the Supreme Council, each amendment adopted by the Fraternity Convention and will consider and report to the Fraternity Convention each amendment or repeal proposed to these Fraternity Laws with its recommendations thereon.

**C. The Permanent Committee on the Ritual.**

1. **Membership.** Within sixty days following the adjournment of each regular session of the Fraternity Convention, the Eminent Supreme Archon, with the advice and consent of the Supreme Council, must appoint a Permanent Committee on the Ritual, consisting of a chairman and as many members as the Supreme Council may direct, who will serve until their successors are duly appointed.
2. **Duties.** The Permanent Committee on the Ritual will promote the consistent and proper use of every aspect of the Ritual at all appropriate times and will act to perpetuate the history and traditions of the Ritual.

**D. Committee Operations.**

1. **General Responsibilities of Chairmen.** The chairman of each committee is responsible for convening its meetings, setting its agenda, presiding over its meetings, and advising the Supreme Council on its work.
2. **Compensation & Expenses.** The members of committees will serve without compensation, but must be reimbursed for all expenses necessarily incurred in performance of their duties on the presentation of an itemized account approved by the Eminent Supreme Recorder.

**Title IV: The Supreme Council**

**31. Fraternity Officers.** The Fraternity's officers are each of the following:

- A. The Honorary Eminent Supreme Archon
- B. The Eminent Supreme Archon (who may also be referred to as the "Fraternity President" and the "Chairman of the Board")
- C. The Eminent Supreme Deputy Archon (who may also be referred to as the "Fraternity Vice-President")
- D. The Eminent Supreme Warden
- E. The Eminent Supreme Herald

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- F. The Eminent Supreme Chronicler
- G. The Eminent Supreme Recorder (who may also be referred to as the “Chief Executive Officer” and the “Fraternity Executive Director”)
- 32. The Supreme Council.** The SUPREME COUNCIL will represent the Fraternity Convention in all capacities in the interval between its sessions, will perform the duties required by these Fraternity Laws, will enforce the orders of the Fraternity Convention, and, as the Fraternity’s board of directors, will manage the affairs of the Fraternity.
- A. Membership.** The Supreme Council consists of the following Fraternity officers, none of whom may be a voting member of the Board of Trustees or the Advisory Council of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Foundation or of the Board of Directors of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Financial and Housing Corporation:
1. The Eminent Supreme Archon
  2. The Eminent Supreme Deputy Archon
  3. The Eminent Supreme Warden
  4. The Eminent Supreme Herald
  5. The Eminent Supreme Chronicler
- B. Election.** The Fraternity Convention will elect each Fraternity officer at each regular session of the Fraternity Convention. The Honorary Eminent Supreme Archon may only be elected upon the nomination of the Past Eminent Supreme Archons, and the Eminent Supreme Recorder may only be elected upon the nomination of the Supreme Council.
- C. Vacancies.** Vacancies occurring between regular sessions of the Fraternity Conventions must be filled by the Supreme Council.
- 33. Duties.** Each officer must perform the duties required of him by these Fraternity Laws and any other duties assigned to him by the Supreme Council or the Eminent Supreme Archon.
- A. Honorary Eminent Supreme Archon.** The Honorary Eminent Supreme Archon is the honorary head of the Fraternity and has no duties, except as may be designated by the Supreme Council.
- B. Eminent Supreme Archon.** The Eminent Supreme Archon is the President and Chairman of the Board of the Fraternity, and he will preside over all sessions of the Fraternity Convention and all meetings of the Supreme Council; interpret, construe, and enforce these Fraternity Laws and the orders of the Fraternity Convention or the Supreme Council, issuing such orders as may be necessary; whenever he deems it necessary, inspect and examine, or cause to be inspected and examined, all of the books, records, securities, and investments of the funds of the Fraternity or any Fraternity body; and perform any other duties assigned to him by the Fraternity Convention.
- C. Eminent Supreme Deputy Archon.** The Eminent Supreme Deputy Archon will assist the Eminent Supreme Archon and will act as the Eminent Supreme Archon in case of his absence or disability.

- D. Eminent Supreme Warden.** The Eminent Supreme Warden will act as the Eminent Supreme Archon in case of the absence or disability of the Eminent Supreme Archon and the Eminent Supreme Deputy Archon and exercise particular supervision over the finances of the Fraternity.
  - E. Eminent Supreme Herald.** The Eminent Supreme Herald will act as the Eminent Supreme Archon in case of the absence or disability of the Eminent Supreme Archon, the Eminent Supreme Deputy Archon, and the Eminent Supreme Warden.
  - F. Eminent Supreme Chronicler.** The Eminent Supreme Chronicler will act as the Eminent Supreme Archon in case of the absence or disability of the Eminent Supreme Archon, the Eminent Supreme Deputy Archon, the Eminent Supreme Warden, and the Eminent Supreme Herald.
- 34. Finances.** The members of the Supreme Council will serve without compensation, but must be reimbursed for all expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties on the presentation of an itemized account approved by the Eminent Supreme Recorder or the Eminent Supreme Warden.
- 35. Committees.** The Supreme Council may establish, dissolve, charge, and discharge such committees of itself as it sees fit.
- A. Appointment & Terms.** Each committee will consist of one chairman and as many members as the Supreme Council may direct, who will be appointed by the Eminent Supreme Archon, with the advice and consent of the Supreme Council, to serve at the pleasure of the Supreme Council.
  - B. General Responsibilities of Chairmen.** The chairman of each committee is responsible for convening its meetings, setting its agenda, presiding over its meetings, and advising the Supreme Council on its work.
  - C. Compensation & Expenses.** The members of committees will serve without compensation, but must be reimbursed for all expenses necessarily incurred in performance of their duties on the presentation of an itemized account approved by the Eminent Supreme Recorder.
- 36. Bylaws.** The Supreme Council may adopt, amend, or repeal by-laws to assist it in carrying out its duties, not inconsistent with these Fraternity Laws or orders of the Fraternity Convention.

#### **Title V: The Office of the Eminent Supreme Recorder**

- 37. Eminent Supreme Recorder.** The Eminent Supreme Recorder, under the direction of the Supreme Council, may delegate any of his duties to such other employees or Fraternity members, with such staff to be known as the FRATERNITY SERVICE CENTER.

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- A. Authority.** The Eminent Supreme Recorder is the chief executive officer of the Fraternity and its operating units and serves as the Fraternity's custodian of records, editorial supervisor of the Fraternity's publications, financial custodian, and general administrator. He must, under the direction of the Supreme Council, supervise the administration of the general business of the Fraternity and be responsible for any duties prescribed by these Fraternity Laws and any other duties assigned to him by the Supreme Council. He will have the authority to issue any such orders as may be necessary to fulfill his duties.
  - B. Inspection.** The Eminent Supreme Recorder must inspect each Chapter Collegiate and colony at least once each academic year, with such inspection to include the records, books, papers, accounts, and other documents of the Chapter Collegiate; scholarship and general standing of the Chapter Collegiate at its collegiate host institution; sanitary conditions, fire escapes and insurance risks of the chapter house or other premises occupied by the Chapter Collegiate; and the condition and use of the Ritual and associated paraphernalia.
  - C. Salary.** The Eminent Supreme Recorder and his staff may receive compensation for their services as determined by the Supreme Council.

### **38. Finances.**

- A. Audits.** The accounts of the Fraternity and any other entities associated with the Fraternity must be audited at least annually by a certified public accountant, which must make its report to the Eminent Supreme Recorder, who, in turn, must make such reports available to all Fraternity members.
- B. Bonds.** Each Fraternity officer or employee of the Fraternity charged with the collection or custody of any monies or funds belonging to the Fraternity must give a surety company bond for the faithful performance of the duties of his or her office. Bonds must be in such amounts as may be directed by the Fraternity Convention or the Supreme Council, must be approved by the Eminent Supreme Archon, and must be paid from the general funds of the Fraternity.

## **Title VI: Provinces — Conventions & Councils**

- 39. Province.** There are geographical districts, known as PROVINCES, embracing such territory, Chapters Collegiate, and alumni associations as the Fraternity Convention determines.

**40. Province Convention.** The government of each province is vested in a PROVINCE CONVENTION.

**A. Membership.** A Province Convention consists of each of the following:

1. The Past Province Archons of the Province who reside in the province and who have served for a full term of office, or who, having been elected to fill a vacancy, have served to the end of the term
2. The Province officers
3. Each Chapter Collegiate in the province, represented by its Eminent Archon, or, in his absence, its Eminent Deputy Archon, and two additional delegates
4. Each alumni association in the province, represented by one delegate
5. Any present member of the Supreme Council, any Past Eminent Supreme Archon or any Past Eminent Supreme Recorder residing in the province
6. The chapter adviser from each Chapter Collegiate in the Province, provided he is a member in good standing of the Fraternity

**B. Qualifications.**

1. **Chapter Collegiate Delegates.** Each Chapter Collegiate is entitled to two delegates and two alternates to any session of the Province Convention, provided that such Chapter Collegiate is current in its dues and reports to the Province and the Fraternity Service Center.
2. **Alumni Association Delegate.** Each alumni association having ten or more members in good standing in the Chapter Alumnus is entitled to one delegate to any regular or special session of the Province Convention, provided that such delegate is a member in good standing of such alumni association and provided that such alumni association is current in its dues and reports to the Fraternity Service Center.
3. **Single Vote.** No individual is entitled to have more than one vote on any matter before the Province Convention, including on any direct vote.

**C. Regular Sessions.** The Province Convention must meet biennially at such time and place as its Province Council selects in the calendar years alternating with those of the regular sessions of the Fraternity Convention.

**D. Special Sessions.** Special sessions of the Province Convention may be called by the Province Archon, with the advice and consent of the Province Council. No other business than that specified in the call may be transacted at such session.

**E. Quorum.** Delegates from at least one-half of the Chapters Collegiate in the province, regardless of the Chapter Collegiate's standing, constitute a quorum.

**F. Floor Privilege.** Any member in good standing with the Fraternity is entitled to the floor of the Province Convention.

**G. Direct Vote.** The Province Archon may solicit a direct vote of the Province Convention. For the purposes of this section, the additional delegates of the Province Convention for a Chapter Collegiate are the Chapter Collegiate's Eminent Deputy Archon and its Eminent Recorder, and the delegate for an alumni association is its president.

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**41. Province Council.** The PROVINCE COUNCIL will represent the Province Convention in all capacities in the interval between its sessions, will perform the duties required by these Fraternity Laws, will enforce the orders of the Fraternity Convention and the Province Convention, and will manage the affairs of the province.

**A. Membership.** The province officers, who constitute the Province Council, are each of the following:

1. The Province Archon
2. One or more Province Deputy Archons, as the Province Convention determines
3. The Province Recorder
4. The Province Treasurer; provided, however, that the offices of Recorder and Treasurer may be combined
5. One or more Province Alumni Secretaries, as the Province Convention determines
6. Other Province officers, as the Province Convention determines

**B. Qualifications.** Only a member in good standing of a Chapter Collegiate located in the province or a member of the Chapter Alumnus who resides either within the province or within a reasonable commuting distance, is eligible to hold a province office.

**C. Election.** The Province Convention will elect each province officer at each regular session of the Province Convention.

**D. Vacancies.** Vacancies occurring between regular sessions of the Province Convention must be filled by the Province Council or, if a vacancy exists for sixty days, by the Eminent Supreme Archon with the advice and consent of the Eminent Archons of the Chapters Collegiate in the province.

**E. Declaring an Office Vacant.**

1. **Declaration.** Any Province office may be declared vacant by any of the following:
  - a. A petition of two-thirds of the Chapters Collegiate in the Province
  - b. A two-thirds vote of the Province Council
2. **Due Process.** Due notice of such intended action must be given to the officer concerned, to all members of the Province Council, and to all Chapters Collegiate within the province, and the officer must be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard.

**42. Duties.** Each officer must perform the duties required of him by these Fraternity Laws and any other duties assigned to him by the Province Council or the Province Archon.

**A. Province Archon.** The Province Archon will preside over all sessions of the Province Convention and all meetings of the Province Council; enforce these Fraternity Laws and the orders of the Fraternity Convention, the Supreme Council or the Eminent Supreme Archon within his Province, issuing such orders as may be necessary; visit or caused to be visited each Chapter Col-

legiate and alumni associations in his province at least annually, submitting a full report of such visitation to the Eminent Supreme Recorder in a format prescribed by the Eminent Supreme Recorder, with all expenses for such visits to be paid from the province's funds; and perform any other duties assigned to him by the Fraternity Convention, the Supreme Council, or the Province Convention.

- B. Province Deputy Archon.** The Province Deputy Archon will assist the Province Archon and act as the Province Archon in case of his absence or disability. For any province with more than one Province Deputy Archon, the Province Convention must specify at least one Province Deputy Archon to act as Province Archon.
  - C. Province Recorder.** The Province Recorder will keep a record of the proceedings of the Province Convention and Province Council meetings.
  - D. Province Treasurer.** The Province Treasurer will handle the funds of the province, make any necessary disbursements, and give corporate security bond to be handled by the Fraternity Service Center of not less than one thousand dollars for the faithful performance of his duties for which the Province will pay the premium.
  - E. Province Alumni Secretary.** The Province Alumni Secretary will assist and foster the growth of the alumni associations and alumni engagement in the province.
- 43. Finances.** A Province Convention may provide for such dues and assessments as it deems proper. The Province Convention may make provision to pay the expenses of its province officers.
- 44. By-Laws.** A Province Convention may adopt, amend, or repeal by-laws for the government of the province, not inconsistent with these Fraternity Laws or orders of the Fraternity Convention, and a Province Council may adopt, amend, or repeal by-laws to assist it in carrying out its duties, not inconsistent with these Fraternity Laws, orders of the Fraternity Convention or its Province Convention's by-laws.

#### **Title VI: Provinces – Council of Province Archons**

- 45. Council of Province Archons.** The COUNCIL OF PROVINCE ARCHONS is to act in an advisory capacity to the Supreme Council, to be a source of best practices for provinces, and to act as an appellate body as permitted by these Fraternity Laws.
- A. Membership.** The Council of Province Archons consists of each Province Archon.
  - B. Officers.** The officers of the Council of Province Archons are the following:
    - 1. The Chairman
    - 2. The Deputy Chairman
    - 3. The Secretary

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- C. **Election.** The Council of Province Archons will elect its officers at its regular meeting.
  - D. **Regular Meeting.** The Council of Province Archons must meet concurrently with each regular session of the Fraternity Convention and upon such regular meeting schedule as it may adopt.
  - E. **Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Council of Province Archons may be called by the chairman, by the Eminent Supreme Archon, or at the request of a majority of the Province Archons.
  - F. **Meetings with the Supreme Council.** The Supreme Council must meet with the Council of Province Archons at least twice per biennium, to include once during the Supreme Council meeting held immediately preceding each regular session of the Fraternity Convention and a subsequent meeting at a time and place agreed upon by the chairman and the Supreme Council.
  - G. **Vacancies.** Vacancies of officers occurring between regular meetings of the Council of Province Archons must be filled by the Council of Province Archons, or, in case of the vacancy of both the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman, by the Eminent Supreme Archon on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Council of Province Archons.
46. **Duties of Officers.** Each officer must perform the duties required of him by these Fraternity Laws and any other duties assigned to him by the Council of Province Archons or the Chairman.
- A. **Chairman.** The Chairman will preside at all meetings of the Council of Province Archons.
  - B. **Deputy Chairman.** The Deputy Chairman will assist the Chairman and will act as the Chairman in case of his absence or disability.
  - C. **Secretary.** The Secretary will keep a record of the proceedings of the Council of Province Archons.
47. **Finances.** Province Archons or their designees must be reimbursed for all traveling expenses to its meeting with the Supreme Council outside of a regular session of the Fraternity Convention on the presentation of an itemized account approved by the Eminent Supreme Recorder.
48. **By-Laws.** The Council of Province Archons may adopt, amend, or repeal by-laws to assist it in carrying out its duties, not inconsistent with these Fraternity Laws or orders of the Fraternity Convention.

## **Title VII: Chapters Collegiate – Charter**

49. **Charter.** No Chapter Collegiate may be organized or reorganized except by virtue of a charter granted by the Fraternity Convention.

- 50. Relation of Chapter to the Fraternity.** In all respects, the Chapter Collegiate exists as an independent entity from the Fraternity.
- A. No Authority to Act.** No Chapter Collegiate has any authority to act for or bind the Fraternity, and none of the Chapters Collegiate is a subsidiary of the Fraternity.
  - B. Conditions of Charter.** Each Chapter Collegiate, in accepting its charter, agrees to comply with the duties and responsibilities incumbent upon Chapters Collegiate as provided in these Fraternity Laws, including the payment of membership fees and annual dues, the submission of reports, and permitting inspection.
  - C. Limitations on External Authorities.** It is the express policy of the Fraternity that all decisions to colonize, to charter, or to suspend or to revoke the charter of a Chapter Collegiate will be made by the Supreme Council, the Fraternity Convention, or both, independent of and not in reliance upon similar decisions, policies and regulations of a collegiate host institution or other similarly situated external authority.
- 51. Procedure for Granting Charter.** Whenever the Permanent Committee on Extension deems extension to a collegiate host institution to be propitious, the Supreme Council may approve the formation of a Colony for eventual chartering as a Chapter Collegiate.
- A. Petition.** Whenever a colony determines, in consultation with the Province Archon and the Eminent Supreme Recorder, that it has met all conditions required to be chartered as a Chapter Collegiate, it may submit a petition for charter, signed by at least twenty-five persons eligible for Fraternity membership, with the Eminent Supreme Recorder, accompanied by a charter fee of three thousand dollars, subject to refund if no charter is granted.
  - B. Investigation.** Before a petition may be considered by the Fraternity Convention, a team appointed by the Eminent Supreme Archon consisting of one member of a Chapter Collegiate and two members of the Chapter Alumnus, none of whom may have been previously associated with the colony, must investigate the colony, with at least one member visiting in person. A report and recommendation must be submitted to the Fraternity Convention, by and through the Eminent Supreme Archon.
  - C. Granting Charter.** A two-thirds vote of the Fraternity Convention will authorize the Supreme Council to sign and issue a charter and to install the group to which it is issued as a Chapter Collegiate of the Fraternity.
  - D. Signing Charter.** Each charter must be signed by all members of the Supreme Council. A Chapter Collegiate disbanded may be reorganized under its original name, and if a Chapter Collegiate is so reorganized, the old charter, if it exists, must be returned to the Chapter Collegiate.
  - E. Equipment.** If a charter is granted, all necessary Ritual regalia must be furnished to the chartered group without further payment other than the charter fee.

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- F. Installation & Initiation.** Each colony member eligible for Fraternity membership, including alumni members and alumni of a local society being chartered as a Chapter Collegiate, are eligible for prompt initiation upon the colony's installation as a Chapter Collegiate, subject to reporting requirements the Eminent Supreme Recorder may prescribe.

### **Title VII: Chapters Collegiate – Operations**

- 52. The Chapter Collegiate.** The essence of the Fraternity is carried out by each CHAPTER COLLEGIATE chartered by the Fraternity Convention.
- A. Membership.** The Chapter Collegiate consists of those Fraternity members as these Fraternity Laws provide.
- B. Officers.** In addition to any other officers as may be required for the proper administration of the Chapter Collegiate, the required officers of the Chapter Collegiate are:
1. The Eminent Archon
  2. The Eminent Deputy Archon
  3. The Eminent Recorder
  4. The Eminent Treasurer
  5. The Eminent Correspondent
  6. The Eminent Chronicler
  7. The Eminent Warden
  8. The Eminent Herald
  9. The Eminent Chaplain
  10. The Member Educator
  11. The Chapter Alumni Chairman
  12. The Chapter Health & Safety Officer
  13. The Chapter Recruitment Chairman
  14. The Chapter Scholarship Chairman
- C. Qualification.** Any member in good standing of a Chapter Collegiate is eligible to hold office in the Chapter Collegiate.
- D. Election.** The Chapter Collegiate will elect its officers, and those officers' terms will begin at a time it determines, provided that the term of office for the Eminent Treasurer must be one year, unless the Supreme Council shortens such term upon the recommendation of the Province Archon, and the terms of office for all other officers do not exceed one year.
- E. Vacancies.** Vacancies occurring during the officer's regular term must be filled by the Chapter Collegiate.
- F. Declaring an Office Vacant.** A Chapter Collegiate may, by a two-thirds vote, declare any office vacant when the interests of the Chapter Collegiate demand. Notice of such intended action must be given to all members of the Chapter Collegiate, and the officer must be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard.
- G. Regular Meetings.** Regular meetings of each Chapter Collegiate must be held weekly during the academic term.

- H. Special Meetings.** Special meetings may be called at any time by the Eminent Archon and must be called by him on the written request of five or more members in good standing of the Chapter Collegiate. Due notice must be given to all members of the Chapter Collegiate.
  - I. Quorum.** At any regular meeting of a Chapter Collegiate, a majority of the members in good standing of the Chapter Collegiate will constitute a quorum. At any special meeting of a Chapter Collegiate, a two-thirds majority of the members in good standing of the Chapter Collegiate will constitute a quorum.
  - J. Report on Activities.** Each Chapter Collegiate must, on April 1 of each year, render to the Fraternity Service Center, on a form prescribed by the Eminent Supreme Recorder, a report of its current officers and activities for the preceding year.
  - K. Financial Reporting.** If required by applicable law, each Chapter Collegiate must prepare or have prepared the appropriate IRS Form 990, as required by IRS regulations at the close of the Chapter Collegiate's fiscal year, and a copy of this form must be sent to the Fraternity Service Center.
- 53. Duties.** Each officer must perform the duties required of him by the Ritual, these Fraternity Laws and any other duties as his office may require or as may be imposed on him by lawful authority, including the Fraternity Convention, the Supreme Council by and through the Fraternity Service Center, the by-laws of his Chapter Collegiate, or his Eminent Archon.
- A. Eminent Archon.** The Eminent Archon will preside at all meetings of the Chapter Collegiate, appoint officers and committees not otherwise provided, enforce the laws and lawful orders of the Fraternity Convention and the Chapter Collegiate, supervise and direct the officers of the Chapter Collegiate, guard and promote the Ritual, and provide any necessary report to the Fraternity Service Center.
  - B. Eminent Deputy Archon.** The Eminent Deputy Archon will perform the duties of the Eminent Archon in his absence, assist the Eminent Archon in his duties and be responsible for the discipline of the members of the Chapter Collegiate.
  - C. Eminent Recorder.** The Eminent Recorder will keep the records of the Chapter Collegiate and provide any necessary notice to the members of the Chapter Collegiate.
  - D. Eminent Treasurer.** The Eminent Treasurer will keep the books of the Chapter Collegiate, take custody of the funds of the Chapter Collegiate and account therefor, give bond as required by these Fraternity Laws, submit all necessary payments to the Fraternity Service Center and other creditors, and provide any necessary report to the Fraternity Service Center.
  - E. Eminent Correspondent.** The Eminent Correspondent will conduct the correspondence of the Chapter Collegiate and provide any necessary report to the Fraternity Service Center.

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- F. Eminent Chronicler.** The Eminent Chronicler will keep the history of the Chapter Collegiate.
- G. Eminent Warden.** The Eminent Warden will assist the Chapter Collegiate in keeping good order and promoting the health and safety of the membership of the Chapter Collegiate, assisting such officers or acting on his own accord as may be necessary.
- H. Eminent Herald.** The Eminent Herald will promote the proper use of the Ritual.
- I. Eminent Chaplain.** The Eminent Chaplain will promote the spiritual well-being of the members of the Chapter Collegiate.
- J. Chapter Member Educator.** The Chapter Member Educator will facilitate the membership development of the Chapter Collegiate and implement The True Gentleman Experience within the Chapter Collegiate.
- K. Chapter Alumni Chairman.** The Chapter Alumni Chairman will promote and coordinate the alumni program of the Chapter Collegiate.
- L. Chapter Health & Safety Officer.** The Chapter Health & Safety Officer will have authority over all events of the Chapter Collegiate pertaining to the health and safety of its members, oversee the responsibilities of the Chapter Collegiate's social activities or Social Chairman, promote the health and safety of the Chapter Collegiate and minimize any risk to the Chapter Collegiate or its members.
- M. Chapter Recruitment Chairman.** The Chapter Recruitment Chairman will promote and coordinate the Chapter Collegiate's recruitment program in accordance with the Chapter Collegiate's specific needs.
- N. Chapter Scholarship Chairman.** The Chapter Scholarship Chairman will promote the academic development of the members of the Chapter Collegiate and advise the Eminent Archon on any member of the Chapter Collegiate who is or who may become delinquent in scholarship.
- 54. Finances.** It is the policy of the Fraternity that a prompt and faithful observance and enforcement of financial obligation is a test of a member's right to retain his membership and of a Chapter Collegiate's right to retain its charter.
- A. Dues & Fees.** Each member and each Chapter Collegiate is responsible for the following dues and fees:
- 1. Initiation Fee.** Each newly elected Fraternity member is subject to an INITIATION FEE of three hundred and ten dollars, payable no later than ten days after initiation and payable by his Chapter Collegiate, except that the Supreme Council may reduce this fee for non-student initiates, initiates of whom are alumni of a recently chartered local society, or for initiates who are or were members of another college social fraternity.
  - 2. Annual Fraternity Dues.** Each member of a Chapter Collegiate is subject to annual Fraternity dues of one hundred and five dollars, payable on the first day of February and payable by his Chapter Collegiate.

3. **Health & Safety Allocation Model.** Each Chapter Collegiate is subject to such fees and fines as may be incorporated into a health & safety allocation model as the Supreme Council may implement.
4. **Bonds.** Each Chapter Collegiate is subject to payment for the premium of any corporate security bond of not less than ten-thousand dollars.
5. **Province Dues.** Every Chapter Collegiate is subject to province dues in accordance with the by-laws of its Province Convention.
6. **Chapter Dues.** Each member of a Chapter Collegiate is subject to local chapter dues in accordance with the by-laws of his Chapter Collegiate.

**B. Delinquent in Accounts.**

1. **Chapters Collegiate.** Each Chapter Collegiate delinquent for one month or more with respect to any sum due the Fraternity will be fined one-and-one-half percent of the amount due, with a minimum amount of twenty-five dollars, for each month of such delinquency.
  2. **Fraternity Members.** If at any time a member becomes delinquent in accounts, the Eminent Treasurer must notify that member in writing. If the member remains delinquent in accounts after fourteen days of written notification, the Eminent Treasurer must prefer charges against him under the provisions of Title II.
55. **Chapter Ritual.** Each Chapter Collegiate must follow the prescribed course of performance for all Ritual ceremonies to include use of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies for all meetings of the Chapter Collegiate, the Ceremony for Installation of Officers, the Initiation Ceremony no later than ninety-six hours after a newly elected member accepts an invitation to join the Chapter Collegiate, and the Graduation Ceremony.
56. **By-Laws.** A Chapter Collegiate may adopt, amend, or repeal by-laws to assist it in carrying out its duties, not be inconsistent with the these Fraternity Laws or orders of the Fraternity Convention.
57. **Chapter Adviser.** Each Chapter Collegiate must have at least one CHAPTER ADVISER who will counsel the chapter in the administration of its affairs and who will represent the Supreme Council and the Province Archon in perpetuating the Fraternity's standards, policies, and traditions.
- A. **Qualification.** Such adviser must reside near the Chapter Collegiate, but need not be a Fraternity member.
  - B. **Election.** The Chapter Collegiate will elect the chapter adviser annually, with the approval of the Province Archon.
  - C. **Duties.** The chapter adviser must visit the Chapter Collegiate at least twice each month and will report to the Eminent Supreme Recorder and the Province Archon any conditions that may need special attention.

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**58. Chapter Advisory Board.** If the Province Archon or Eminent Supreme Recorder determines, in consultation with the Chapter Collegiate and its chapter adviser, that a Chapter Collegiate would benefit from the institution of an advisory board, either the Province Archon or the Eminent Supreme Recorder may require the Chapter Collegiate to have a CHAPTER ADVISORY BOARD, which will advise and counsel the Chapter Collegiate in the administration of its affairs and represent the Supreme Council and the Province Archon in perpetuating the Fraternity's standards, policies, and traditions.

**A. Membership.** The chapter advisory board will consist of each of the following:

1. The chapter adviser of the Chapter Collegiate
2. The president of a chapter alumni association or his designee with respect to the Chapter Collegiate and the president of any area alumni association or his designee located in the area of the college or university at which the Chapter Collegiate is situated.
3. Any faculty adviser(s) of the Chapter Collegiate
4. Additional members as the Province Archon may deem appropriate

**B. Qualification.**

1. Any faculty adviser(s) need not be a Fraternity member.
2. The additional members must be members in good standing with the Chapter Alumnus.

**C. Officers.** The chapter advisory board will elect a president.

**D. Election.**

1. Any faculty adviser(s) will be selected by the Chapter Collegiate.
2. The additional members will be appointed by the Province Archon for a term of two academic years.

**E. Duties.** The president must submit reports to the Province Archon and the Eminent Supreme Recorder when requested by either of them or as deemed appropriate by the chapter advisory board.

**F. Regular Meetings.** The chapter advisory board must meet monthly during the academic term.

**G. Special Meetings.** Special meetings may be called by the president or by any two members of the board.

## **Title VII: Chapters Collegiate – Discipline**

**59. Grounds for Discipline.** Any Chapter Collegiate may face discipline under this Title for any of the following reasons:

- A. Creating a culture that encourages, permits or acquiesces to the commission of a flagrant offense by its members.
- B. Failure to send its reports and dues to the Fraternity Service Center.
- C. Offense against the institutional rules of the collegiate host institution of the Chapter Collegiate on matters of behavior.
- D. Permitting a total indebtedness exceeding an average of one hundred dollars

per active member, where such indebtedness is outstanding for more than three months.

- E. Election of an ineligible person for membership in the Fraternity.
- F. Flagrant violation of these Fraternity Laws.
- G. Bringing the Fraternity into extreme disrepute.
- H. Interfering with the proper functioning of the letter and spirit of these Fraternity Laws.

**60. Investigation & Cease-and-Desist Orders.** Whenever an accusation exists against a Chapter Collegiate, the Eminent Supreme Recorder must investigate the charges, and he or the Supreme Council may place the Chapter Collegiate under a cease-and-desist order.

- A. Effect.** During the duration of the cease-and-desist order, the Chapter Collegiate must cease and desist any and all chapter operations, excluding only those expressly permitted by the Eminent Supreme Recorder or the Supreme Council.
- B. Duration.** The order will remain in place until such time as the Supreme Council or the Eminent Supreme Recorder completes his investigation of the accusation or determines that the reason for the violation is remedied.

**61. Chapter Sanctions.** Any Chapter Collegiate is subject to any of the following sanctions or any combination thereof:

- A. Surrender.** A Chapter Collegiate, upon four week's notice to its membership and the Fraternity Service Center, may voluntarily surrender its charter unless five or more members in good standing, including members of the Chapter Alumnus initiated by the Chapter Collegiate, demand its continuance.

**B. Suspension & Revocation.**

- 1. **By the Fraternity Convention.** A charter may, for due cause, be suspended or revoked by the Fraternity Convention by a two-thirds vote, provided the Chapter Collegiate had been notified in writing of the charges and given a reasonable opportunity to be heard.
- 2. **By the Supreme Council.** A charter may, for due cause, be suspended by the Eminent Supreme Archon, with the consent of four-fifths of the Supreme Council, provided the Chapter Collegiate had been notified in writing of the charges and given a reasonable opportunity to be heard and subject to a full report to the next Fraternity Convention for its approval.

**C. Effect.**

- 1. **Surrender of Equipment.** Upon the surrender, suspension, or revocation of a charter, the property of the Chapter Collegiate, including the Fraternity paraphernalia, Ritual books, and books of record, must be surrendered to the Eminent Supreme Recorder and kept by him subject to the orders of the Supreme Council.
- 2. **Affected Members.** Upon the suspension of a charter, all current mem-

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bers of the Chapter Collegiate will be considered suspended members until further notification by a Fraternity officer, and the charter will remain suspended until final action by the Fraternity Convention.

**D. Further Chapter Discipline.**

1. **Alumni Commission.** The Supreme Council may, by a four-fifths vote, place the full authority of a charter in the hands of an alumni commission.
  - a. **Effect.** The alumni commission will govern as the Chapter Collegiate without a suspension of the charter until the Supreme Council finds that the due cause is remedied.
  - b. **Duration.** Upon such transfer of the authority of a charter, all current members of the Chapter Collegiate will be considered suspended members until further notification by a Fraternity officer or a member of the alumni commission.
2. **Alumni Board.** A Chapter Collegiate may, by a two-thirds vote and with the consent of the Supreme Council, place joint authority of the charter in the hands of an alumni board.
  - a. **Effect.** The alumni board and the Chapter Collegiate will jointly govern the Chapter Collegiate without a suspension of the charter until the alumni board and the Chapter Collegiate, with approval by its Province Archon, determines that the due cause is remedied.
  - b. **Duration.** While under the joint authority of an alumni board, the decisions of the alumni board and the Chapter Collegiate must be mutually ratified.
3. **Probation.** The Supreme Council or a Province Council may place on probation any Chapter Collegiate under its jurisdiction which is determined to be deficient in the minimum standards of the Fraternity or which is placed on probation by the collegiate host institution where it is domiciled. A probation imposed by a Province Council may be appealed to the Supreme Council within thirty days after notice of such action, who may overturn the Province Council's decision by a four-fifths vote.
4. **Chapter Membership Review.** The Supreme Council may authorize a membership review of any Chapter Collegiate to be conducted by members of the Chapter Alumnus appointed by the Supreme Council.
  - a. **Effect.** During such review, any member of the Chapter Collegiate may be summarily expelled, suspended, placed on probation, fined, reprimanded, or any combination thereof.
  - b. **Appeal.** Any adverse action of the membership review may be appealed to the Supreme Council within thirty days after notice of such action.

### **Title VIII: Alumni Associations**

- 62. Alumni Associations.** No ALUMNI ASSOCIATION may be organized except by virtue of a charter granted by the Supreme Council; such an association may be either an area alumni association or a chapter collegiate alumni association.
- A. Membership.** Members of an area alumni association must be members of the Chapter Alumnus who reside in the same city or locale, and members of a chapter collegiate alumni association may or may not be members of the Chapter Alumnus initiated by the same Chapter Collegiate.
- B. Qualification.** A petition for a charter must be signed by at least ten eligible members of the Chapter Alumnus and must be accompanied with an application fee of twenty-five dollars and initial annual dues of one hundred dollars. No charter for an alumni association may be granted within a period of ninety days immediately preceding any regular session of the Fraternity Convention.
- C. Officers.** Each alumni association will elect a president and such other officers as the alumni associations deem necessary.
- D. Report on Activities.** Each alumni association must, on April 1 of each year, render to the Fraternity Service Center on a form prescribed by the Eminent Supreme Recorder a report of its current officers and activities for the preceding year.
- E. Financial Reporting.** If required by applicable law, each alumni association must prepare or have prepared the appropriate IRS Form 990 as required by IRS regulations at the close of the alumni association's fiscal year, and a copy of this form must be sent to the Fraternity Service Center.
- 63. Duties.** The president of an alumni association will perform or cause to be performed all duties required by these Fraternity Laws and any other duties assigned to him by the Fraternity Convention or the alumni association.
- 64. Finances.** Each alumni association is subject to annual dues of one hundred dollars, payable to the Fraternity on or before January 15.
- 65. By-Laws.** An alumni association may adopt, amend, or repeal by-laws to assist it in carrying out its duties, not inconsistent with these Fraternity Laws or orders of the Fraternity Convention.

### **Title IX: House Corporations**

- 66. House Corporation.** A Chapter Collegiate or other Fraternity members may organize a corporation or other business entity to be known as a HOUSE CORPORATION for the purpose of acquiring or holding title to real property domiciling a Chapter Collegiate, known as a CHAPTER HOUSE.

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- 67. House Corporations Subject to these Fraternity Laws.** Each of the following house corporations are subject to the requirements of these Fraternity Laws:
- A. Any house corporation declaring its tax-exempt status by and through the Fraternity's group tax-exempt status
  - B. Any house corporation holding insurance coverage through the Fraternity's or SAE Financial and Housing Corporation's insurance policies
  - C. Any house corporation that has accepted consideration from a Chapter Collegiate or its members in exchange for its occupancy of a chapter house
  - D. Any house corporation that has accepted a donation from a member of the Chapter Alumnus for the betterment of the chapter house
- 68. Chapter Standing Irrelevant.** These Fraternity Laws apply to any applicable house corporation regardless of whether the Chapter Collegiate is active and in good standing with the Fraternity.
- 69. Duties.** House corporations subject to these Fraternity Laws must abide by each of the following requirements:
- A. Chapter House Forever to Benefit Chapter.** A house corporation must forever hold a chapter house in trust for the primary benefit of the Chapter Collegiate.
  - B. Conveyances Prohibited.** The Fraternity, in association with SAE Financial and Housing Corporation, may take any action necessary to prevent any transferring ownership of a chapter house by any manner to a third party, including by threatened foreclosure sale or a taking by eminent domain, or prior to leasing a chapter house to a third party for a term, including all options to extend, of greater than five years so as to maintain the chapter house for the future use and benefit of the Chapter Collegiate. These actions may include a right-of-first-refusal to acquire the chapter house, a binding asset purchase agreement protecting the net assets of the house corporation for the future development of a chapter house for the Chapter Collegiate, or a gift donation of the chapter house.
  - C. Surety Bond & Insurance Coverage.** Each house corporation must be under corporate security bond of not less than ten-thousand dollars and must maintain comprehensive liability insurance of not less than five-hundred-thousand dollars and separate and additional umbrella liability coverage of not less than ten million dollars. The Chapter Collegiate must pay the premiums for both bonds and insurances.
  - D. Report on Activities.** Each house corporation must, on October 30 of each year, render to the Fraternity Service Center on a form prescribed by the Eminent Supreme Recorder a report of its current officers and activities for the preceding year. Copies of such report must be furnished to the Chapter Collegiate.

**E. Financial Reporting.** If required by applicable law, each House Corporation must prepare or have prepared the appropriate IRS Form 990, as required by IRS regulations at the close of the House Corporation's fiscal year, and a copy of this form must be sent to the Fraternity Service Center.

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## THE TRUE GENTLEMAN

The True Gentleman is the man whose conduct proceeds from good will and an acute sense of propriety, and whose self-control is equal to all emergencies; who does not make the poor man conscious of his poverty, the obscure man of his obscurity, or any man of his inferiority or deformity; who is himself humbled if necessity compels him to humble another; who does not flatter wealth, cringe before power, or boast of his own possessions or achievements; who speaks with frankness but always with sincerity and sympathy; whose deed follows his word; who thinks of the rights and feelings of others rather than his own; and who appears well in any company, a man with whom honor is sacred and virtue safe.

- *John Walter Wayland*  
(*Virginia 1899*)

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