

# University of North Georgia Student Organization Conduct Report

## **2015-2016 Academic Year**

**Fall 2015**

**Organization:** Sigma Nu

**Incident Date:** 10/1/2015

**Charge Date:** 2/12/2016

**Investigation Initiated Date:** 1/13/2016

**Charges:** 5.03 - Physical abuse, verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, bullying, harassment, coercion, or other conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of another person or oneself.

12.00 - Hazing

2.02 - Consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages at university-sponsored activities, except when authorized.

2.03 - Furnishing and/or distributing alcoholic beverages to any student under legal age

2.04 -

## **Outcomes/Sanctions:**

### **RESOLUTION AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2016, the University of North Georgia ("University") received a complaint from a student regarding the Kappa Chapter of Sigma Nu at the University ("Kappa Chapter") recruitment process ("Complaint"); and WHEREAS, from January 13, 2016 to February 4, 2016, the University and Sigma Nu Incorporated ("National Fraternity") conducted a joint investigation into the Complaint; and

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the above premises and the mutual covenants contained herein, the receipt and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties acknowledge and agree as follows:

1. On February 4, 2016, the National Fraternity's board of directors acted to suspend the charter of the Kappa Chapter as a result of violations by the Kappa Chapter of The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc., the Risk Reduction Policy and Guidelines of the National Fraternity, including alcohol-related and hazing violations.
2. The suspension of the chapter's charter means that all activities and operations of the Kappa Chapter have ceased and the chapter will remain dormant, pending recolonization.
3. Those students who were initiated members of the Fraternity at the time of the charter suspension are now suspended Fraternity members, until such time as their matriculation at UNG ceases. Those students who were candidates (meaning they were pledged to become initiates) at the time of the charter suspension have been provided a path to become Fraternity initiates. If the candidates pursue this path, are approved for initiation and become initiated, their Fraternity membership would be on a suspended status until such time as their matriculation at UNG ceases. A list of initiated members and candidates is included in Exhibit A to this Resolution Agreement.
4. In making this decision, the Fraternity's board of directors considered the findings of the Fraternity's investigation, the current and recent status of Kappa Chapter, and input from alumni leaders and University officials.
5. The Fraternity's investigation found the following violations of Fraternity law and policy occurred in the activities of the Kappa Chapter:
  - a) Situations created to produce mental or physical discomfort, harassment or ridicule, excessive fatigue and physical or psychological shocks.
  - b) Activities that were morally degrading or humiliating.
  - c) Situations involving late work sessions that interfered with scholastic activities.

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8. Because of the National Fraternity's action in suspending the charter of the Kappa chapter, the University consented to proceed with an administrative resolution of the charges in lieu of a judicial proceeding with a hearing panel.
9. The National Fraternity agreed that the violations by the Kappa Chapter, confirmed in the National Fraternity's investigation, also violate the following sections of the University's Student Code of Conduct:
  - < 5.03 - Physical abuse, verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, bullying, harassment, coercion, or other conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of another person or oneself.
  - < 12.00 - Hazing includes any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off campus, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. See Hazing Policy for Student Groups.
  - < 2.02 - Consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages at university-sponsored activities, except when authorized.
  - < 2.03 - Furnishing and/or distributing alcoholic beverages to any student under legal age
  - < 2.04 - Being in an intoxicated condition as made manifest by disorderly, obscene, or indecent conduct or appearance.
  - < 23.00 - Violation of University regulations and policies as approved and published by various units of the university.
10. Based on the National Fraternity's action to suspend the chapter's charter and the acknowledgment by the National Fraternity of the violations of the University's Student Code of Conduct, the University suspended its recognition of the Kappa Chapter as a University student organization effective February 4, 2016 pending