

Dec 19, 2023

*This is an official document.*

**PI KAPPA ALPHA FRATERNITY DECISION LETTER**

Thank you for meeting with Dr. Mary Taylor, Kevin Melara, and Marissa Temple during Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity's formal hearing on November 30, 2023. During the Formal Hearing, allegations of policy violations were discussed. Specifically, a series of alleged violations that took place on September 30 through October 1, 2023 were reviewed.

Representatives of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity included outgoing President Carter Holm, Advisor Jack Sword, and Advisor Brad Shuman. Director of Services- West for Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity headquarters was present on Zoom. Formal Hearing attendees and panelists discussed an Investigative Report provided by facilitator Caryl Montero-Adams, Assistant Dean of Students for Student Life. The report provided an overview of the investigation and investigative themes.

Witnesses for the fraternity included Joshua Dion, former Pi Kappa Alpha president and former Interfraternity Council President, and John Stavrianopoulos, Community Assistant and Phi Delta Theta member. Kristen Lemaster, Associate Director of the Pierce Greek Life Center served as a witness for the university. The hearing panel, facilitator, and fraternity engaged each witness in a series of questions.

Following the hearing, the Formal Hearing Board Panel issued a report and recommendations to me. I have reviewed the Investigative Report compiled by facilitator Montero-Adams and the report issued by the Formal Hearing Board Panel.

**Findings**

Having reviewed the Investigative Report and the recommendations made by the Formal Hearing Board Panel, I find that the preponderance of the evidence establishes the following: Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity held an unregistered social event on October 1, 2023; Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity had alcohol on the premises that was provided to underage students resulting in the need for medical evaluations of underage students; Attendance at the unregistered social event violated capacity restrictions for the house, thus posing a threat to health and safety; and finally a structure constructed for the unregistered social event, was done so without a permit, and posed safety risks and resulted in an injury to a student.

In reviewing the charges and hearing report, Pi Kappa Alpha has violated the following section(s) of the Student Organization Code of Conduct:

***b(36-1) Violation of Policies.** Violation of any published university policy, rule, regulation or presidential order; including without limitation: Violation of university policies and procedures pertaining to student organizations set forth in the Student Organizations Handbook*

***(2) Alcohol.** Violation of applicable law or University policy regarding the use, possession, manufacture, or distribution of alcoholic beverages while on or off campus.*

***(21) Health and Safety.** Conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person within or related to the University community, including physical abuse, threats, intimidation, harassment, sexual misconduct, throwing bottles or objects that could result in personal injury, or where three or more members of a student organization engage in group violence or taunt others to engage in violence.*

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*(26-2) **Organization Facilities**, including: Failure to maintain safe and sanitary physical conditions in a facility owned, leased, occupied or used by the organization as required by applicable law and university policy.*

As a result of violations of the Student Organization Code of Conduct, as outlined above, Pi Kappa Alpha is sanctioned to Suspension in Abeyance immediately and effective until December 31, 2024. Pi Kappa Alpha must also adhere to the following stipulations in order to avoid a full suspension.

**Stipulations:**

- **Social Restriction**-Pi Kappa Alpha is prohibited from holding social events until January 27, 2025.
- **Alcohol Restriction**-Pi Kappa Alpha is prohibited from having alcoholic beverages present at organization-related activities and organization-related facilities until February 11, 2025.
- **Educational and Developmental Sanctions**-Pi Kappa Alpha must both undergo and facilitate training for its leadership and members on all aspects of the registration process, proper communication between chapter, IFC, and university personnel, and any other training that will facilitate a clear understanding of university policy and adherence to such policies.

In addition to the above stipulations, the organization shall work with the national organization to conduct a membership review. The focus of the review would be to ensure the organization membership reflects the values and expectations of both the national chapter and SDSU. This review should be concluded by July 1, 2024. The national organization and chapter at SDSU are responsible for providing updated membership lists to the university and updating the rosters in the university's Recognized Student Organization (RSO) system. Additionally, the national organization should work with the University to identify a sustainable membership total for the chapter for the next four years, to which the chapter is responsible for upholding.

Failure to complete the outlined stipulations, and/or additional organizational misconduct, will result in additional charges, with sanctions up to and including expulsion.

Lastly, Pi Kappa Alpha was issued an Interim Suspension on November 30, 2023 for additional alleged violations of the Student Organization Code of Conduct. Please be advised that, in addition to the sanctions outlined above, the Interim Suspension of Pi Kappa Alpha remains in effect while these additional allegations are investigated. In accordance with the terms of that Interim Suspension, Pi Kappa Alpha's operations must remain ceased until further notice.

Thank you for participating in the Formal Hearing. Please contact Dr. Randy Timm, Associate Vice President and Dean of Students, with questions or concerns.

Respectfully,



**Christy Samarkos**

Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Campus Diversity

cc:

Dr. Randy Timm, Associate Vice President and Dean of Students, Division of Student Affairs and Campus Diversity

Caryl Montero-Adams, Assistant Dean of Students for Student Life, Office of the Dean of Students

Kristen Lemaster, Associate Director, Pierce Greek Life Center

Dr. Lee Mintz, Director, Center for Student Rights & Responsibilities

Dr. Mary Taylor, Associate Chief Diversity Officer for Outreach and Success, Division of Student Affairs and Campus Diversity

Kevin Melara, Associate Director, Residential Education Office

Marissa Temple, Student Leader, San Diego State University

Jack Sword, Alumnus Advisor, Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity

Brad Shuman, Alumnus Advisor, Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity

Mark Nicholson, Faculty/Staff Advisor, Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity

Isaac Sires, Director of Services-West, Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity

Trenton Lane, President, Interfraternity Council

Noah Eubanks, Vice President for Judicial Affairs, Interfraternity Council