



Stephen F. Austin State University Hazing Report

For incidents occurring between August 01, 2020 and August 1, 2023

Per Texas Education Code Sec. 51.936 Hazing, each postsecondary educational institution shall develop and post in a prominent location on the institution's Internet website a report on hazing committed on or off campus by an organization registered with or recognized by the institution. The report must include information regarding each disciplinary action taken by the institution against an organization for hazing, and each conviction of hazing under Section 37.153 (Organization Hazing Offense) by an organization, during the three years preceding the date on which the report is issued or updated.

Case 1: Alpha Phi Omega

Name of Organization:

Alpha Phi Omega

Date of Incident:

February 28, 2023

Date Investigation Initiated:

March 1, 2023

Description of Incident:

Fraternity members allegedly required pledges to participate in scavenger hunts, "call outs", and reciting information upon command. Additionally, pledges were deserted into the woods, forced to perform physical activities, and forced to consume alcohol.

Alleged Violation(s) of the Student Code of Conduct:

- Article III, Section 2c: Hazing – Sleep Deprivation, Exposure, Confinement, Calisthenics, or Similar
- Article III, Section 2h: Hazing – Intentionally, Recklessly, or Knowingly Permitting Hazing to Occur
- Article III, Section 1b: Harm to Others – Endangerment
- Article III, Section 5d: Disorderly Conduct – Facilitation of Student Misconduct

Findings of Case:

The Alpha Phi Omega – Nu Sigma Chapter was found responsible for violating Article III, Section 2c: Hazing – Sleep Deprivation, Exposure, Confinement, Calisthenics, or Similar and Article III, Section 2h: Hazing – Intentionally, Recklessly, or Knowingly Permitting Hazing to Occur. Additionally, the Alpha Phi Omega – Nu Sigma chapter was found not responsible for

violating Article III, Section 1b: Harm to Others – Endangerment and Article III, Section 5d: Disorderly Conduct – Facilitation of Student Misconduct.

Sanctions:

- Suspension: The SFA Nu Sigma chapter of Alpha Phi Omega is suspended effective April 13, 2023 through April 14, 2025.
- Membership review of any currently active members that may still be a registered student once the term of the suspension has expired.
- National representatives must meet with the Office of Student Engagement to develop a strategic plan for future success of the organization.

Resolution Date of Student Conduct Process:

April 13, 2023

Case 2: Alpha Tau Omega

Name of Organization:

Alpha Tau Omega

Date of Incident:

On or around August 25, 2022

Date Investigation Initiated:

September 15, 2022

Description of Incident:

Fraternity members allegedly provided shots of alcohol to potential new members at an off-campus event.

Alleged Violation(s) of the Student Code of Conduct:

- Article III, Section 2d: Hazing – Consumption of Food, Drug, Alcohol, or other Substance
- Article III, Section 8b: Prohibited Possession or Use of Alcohol – Distribution

Findings of Case:

All charges dismissed as the event occurred off-campus and did not meet the standard of adversely affecting the University community and/or the pursuit of its objectives (from the Student Code of Conduct, Article II: Jurisdiction).

Sanctions:

None

Resolution Date of Student Conduct Process:

September 26, 2022

Case 3: Zeta Tau Alpha

Name of Organization:

Zeta Tau Alpha

Date of Incident:

On or around August 17, 2022

Date Investigation Initiated:

September 19, 2022

Description of Incident:

New members to Zeta Tau Alpha were allegedly physically harmed as part of the initiation process.

Alleged Violation(s) of the Student Code of Conduct:

- Article III, Section 2b: Hazing – Physical Brutality

Findings of Case:

The charges were determined to be unfounded after interviews with the majority of the potential new members. Hazing charge was dismissed.

Sanctions:

None

Resolution Date of Student Conduct Process:

September 27, 2022

Case 4: Alpha Phi Omega

Name of Organization:

Alpha Phi Omega – Nu Sigma Chapter

Date of Incident:

Spring 2021, and October 1, 2021

Date Investigation Initiated:

October 22, 2021

Description of Incident:

During the spring 2021 semester, Pledges were yelled at while being quizzed on Alpha Phi Omega history and the Greek alphabet. Afterwards, Pledges were blindfolded and taken to an unknown location and told to jump into a body of water. Instead of jumping into a body of water, Pledges were pushed into a ditch. Pledges were subjected to activities described as “Callouts.” Pledges were required to perform calisthenics such as running in circles at one Callout, and running “suicides” at another. These required calisthenics were due to the Pledges performing poorly on information they were being quizzed on.

On or about October 1, 2021, Pledges were quizzed on Alpha Phi Omega information, and on the Greek alphabet for up to four hours. During this, Pledges were required to line up and link arms. Alpha Phi Omega associated individuals attempted to physically separate the Pledges’ linked arms. Additionally, Alpha Phi Omega associated individuals yelled at the Pledges while they were quizzed on the information. Up to three Pledges experienced panic/anxiety attacks, and at least one Pledge passed out due to the incident. Pledges were blindfolded and taken to an unknown location. At this location, Pledges were told to jump into a body of water. Instead of jumping into a body of water, Pledges jumped into concrete. At least one Pledge received bruised/skinned knees due to their knees hitting the concrete. Pledges were left in the dark at an unknown location for at least 30 minutes. Pledges were told that they would be by themselves at that location overnight. Pledges were not allowed to be in possession of their phones during this time

Alleged Violation(s) of the Student Code of Conduct:

- Student Code of Conduct: Article II. Section B. 23. Violation of University Policies

Findings of Case:

The Alpha Phi Omega – Nu Sigma Chapter Accepted Responsibility for all charges.

Sanctions:

- Disciplinary Probation: The SFA Nu Sigma chapter of Alpha Phi Omega is on disciplinary probation effective November 11, 2021 through May 31, 2024. Involvement in any further incidents during this time may result in more severe sanctions.
- Identify and Secure a Chapter Advisor: The SFA Nu Sigma chapter of Alpha Phi Omega must identify and secure an SFA faculty or full-time staff member to assume the Chapter Advisor position by January 1, 2022. Once secured, the new Chapter Advisor must contact Lacey Folsom and Nathan Hendrix and acknowledge that they have accepted this position. Failure to identify an Advisor who is an SFA faculty or full-time staff member by January 1, 2022 will lead to the chapter being placed on interim suspension until they are able to complete this requirement
- Hazing Prevention Workshop/Program Requirement: The SFA Nu Sigma chapter of Alpha Phi Omega must undergo a Hazing Prevention Workshop/Program by February 1 in the spring semesters and October 1st in the fall semesters. The chapter must work with their National office in order to secure these workshops and their completion. All advisors, officers, active members, and pledges must attend. The person(s) conducting the Hazing Workshop/Program must be an expert on hazing prevention. This person must be approved by the Dean of Students before the Workshop/Program is conducted. These

workshops must be completed each fall and spring semester through May 31, 2024.
Documentation of completion must be provided to the SFA Dean of Students office by
February 1st and October 1st of each semester.

Resolution Date of Student Conduct Process:

November 11, 2021