

RESOLUTION AND REAFFIRMATION OF POSITION AGAINST HAZING

Approved by the 161st Convention of Chi Psi

WHEREAS, Hazing has been a continuing concern of the North-American Interfraternity and Panhellenic Conferences, and its member fraternities, and numerous resolutions have been adopted through the years expressing concern; and

WHEREAS, hazing is an illegal and unlawful practice usually associated with pledging and over 40 states have now passed criminal statutes to punish those who involve themselves in hazing practices; and

WHEREAS, Over 50 fraternity men nationwide die each year as a result of fraternity hazing and a number of major lawsuits have been filed against members and alumni by undergraduates or their families as a result of hazing incidents in the last twelve months; and

WHEREAS, A number of men's fraternities have drastically reduced or eliminated their pledge education programs in order to eliminate hazing; and many colleges and universities which have abolished men's and women's fraternities on their campuses cite hazing practices as the primary concern and basis for that action; and

WHEREAS, Hazing is victimization and an act of power and control over others; it is pre-meditated and not accidental; it is abusive, degrading and life-threatening; and

WHEREAS, Hazing and its related activities are antiquated and communicate a negative image of fraternities, and

WHEREAS, Hazing is wrong and violates the fundamental values of the fraternity and disrupts the pursuit of our purpose, which is to encourage academic achievement, develop friendships, serve our campus and community and build our members' leadership skills; and

WHEREAS, Our Fraternity could cease to exist if an Alpha is involved in a serious hazing incident, and

WHEREAS, Our core values and policies already prohibit hazing in any way, shape or form; therefore, be it

Resolved, that Chi Psi wishes to reaffirm our core values and to increase awareness of the wrongs of hazing; and, be it further

Resolved, that Chi Psi encourages its Alphas to discuss our positive values and further develop programming to nurture these, while, at the same time, urging our members to review and discuss our policies against hazing, reaffirming our ban against it, encouraging our members to speak out against it, and calling on them to prevent it on their campuses and in their communities; and, be it further

Resolved, That Chi Psi shall take immediate and severe action against members and Alpha who engage in hazing practices.