

Legal Responsibilities

<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sald/>

Receipt #

Name of Organization: (please print) _____

I. MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT

"At the beginning of each semester, each registered student organization must file with the dean a written statement stating that the organization does not, and will not during the semester, have as a member any person who is neither a student nor member of the faculty or staff of the university. If an organization fails or refuses to file the required statement, or if the dean of students determines that the statement is or has become false, the dean of students, after providing notice, shall begin disciplinary proceedings. The dean or hearing officer may cancel the registered status of the organization or may impose other appropriate penalties." The organization or group may thereafter apply for registration if it becomes eligible to do so.

(Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System, Part I, Chapter VI, Sec. 4.73.)

Further institutional rules require that membership not be denied "on any basis prohibited by applicable law, including but not limited to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, or veteran's status." [See Appendix C, Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities, Chapter VI, Sec. 6.202 (3)]

II. HAZING STATEMENT

Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3.28, provides that

- (a) Any student who, acting singly or in concert with others, engages in hazing is subject to discipline.
- (b) Hazing in state educational institutions is prohibited by state law (Sections 51.936 and 37.151, Texas Education Code). Hazing with or without the consent of a student whether on or off campus is prohibited, and a violation of that prohibition renders both the person inflicting the hazing and the person submitting to the hazing subject to discipline.
- (c) Initiations or activities of organizations may include no feature which is dangerous, harmful, or degrading to the student, and a violation of this prohibition renders both the organization and participating individuals subject to discipline.

Activities which under certain conditions constitute acts which are dangerous, harmful, or degrading, in violation of the University's Prohibition of Hazing [Appendix F and Appendix C, Sec. 6-303(d) and Sec. 11-804(7) of the Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities] including but not limited to:

- (a) Calisthenics, such as sit-ups, push-ups, or any other form of physical exercise;
- (b) Total or partial nudity at any time;
- (c) The eating or ingestion of any unwanted substance;
- (d) The wearing or carrying of any obscene or physically burdensome article;
- (e) Paddle swats, including the trading of swats;
- (f) Pushing, shoving, tackling, or any other physical contact;
- (g) Throwing oil, syrup, flour, or any harmful substance on a person;
- (h) Rat Court, kangaroo court, or other individual interrogation;
- (i) Forced consumption of alcoholic beverages either by threats or peer pressure;
- (j) Lineups intended to demean or intimidate;
- (k) Transportation and abandonment (road trips, kidnaps, walks, rides, drops);
- (l) Confining individuals in an area which is uncomfortable or dangerous (hot box effect, high temperature, too small);
- (m) Any type of personal servitude which is demeaning or of personal benefit to the individual members;
- (n) Wearing of embarrassing or uncomfortable clothing;
- (o) Assigning pranks such as stealing, painting objects, harassing other organizations;
- (p) Intentionally messing up the house or a room for clean up;
- (q) Demeaning names;
- (r) Yelling and screaming; and
- (s) Requiring boxing matches or fights for entertainment.

According to the law, a person can commit a hazing offense not only by engaging in a hazing activity, but also by soliciting, directing, encouraging, aiding or attempting to aid another in hazing; by intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly allowing hazing to occur; or by failing to report in writing to the dean of students firsthand knowledge that a hazing incident is planned or has occurred. (Texas Education Code 51.936 and 37.151 et seq.)

An organization violates a regents' rule, university regulation, or administrative rule when one or more members of an organization fail to report to appropriate university or civil authorities promptly their knowledge or any reasonable information about a violation (Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities 6-501(a)(7)).

(OVER)

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III. PROPERTY INFORMATION STATEMENT

The Campus Security Act (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)) requires institutions of higher education to report annually the occurrence of crimes on "any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization recognized by the institution". To assist the University in identifying such property, registered student organizations are required to answer the following:

Does your organization own, lease or otherwise control any property? _____ Yes _____ No

If "yes", you must complete and return a "Property Information" form before your student organization registration will be complete.

IV. SOLICITATION STATEMENT

"Each registered student organization shall, within 30 days of the beginning of the following long session semester file with the dean a statement fully and fairly disclosing the sources and amounts of money which it obtained from solicitations (sales, contributions, and/or other revenues) on the campus **during the preceding semester or summer session** and fully and fairly disclosing the beneficiaries and amounts of the expenditures which it made during the preceding semester or summer session. A registered student organization which during a semester or summer session receives no money or thing of value other than from its own members need file only a statement to that effect. Any organization failing to comply with the provisions of this paragraph shall be prohibited from solicitation on the campus until such organization places itself in compliance." [Appendix C, Sec. 6-401(c) of the Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities]

<u>Term</u> (semester)	<u>Sources of Income (NOT dues)</u> (donations, fundraisers, etc)	<u>Beneficiaries & Expenditures</u> (how your organization spends the money)	<u>Amount</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(If you had no solicitation or expenditures, write NONE in columns. Use additional forms if necessary, but do not attach bank statements.)

AFFIDAVIT

I, _____ as an authorized representative of
(Print your name)

(Print student organization name)

have read the rules and regulations set out above and state as follows:

1. The above-named organization does not and will not during the semester have as a member any person who is neither a student nor a member of the faculty or staff of the institution, and further, that the organization is in compliance with the institutional policy regarding discrimination.
2. The above-named organization or any individual member does not and will not engage in any activities that subject a probationary member to dangerous, harmful, or degrading acts.
3. The above-named organization has fully disclosed information requested regarding the ownership, lease or control of any property.
4. The accompanying financial statement fully and fairly discloses the sources and amounts of money which the above-named organization obtained from solicitations (sales, contributions, and/or other revenues) on campus during prior semesters and fully and fairly discloses the beneficiaries and amounts of expenditures which it made during that semester or session.
5. The above-named organization and any individual member will promptly report any knowledge or reasonable information about a violation of a regents' rule, university regulation, administrative rule or applicable law to Office of the Dean of Students staff and/or civil authorities.

Signature of Authorized Representative

Date

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