

April 22, 2022

Fraternity Phi Gamma Delta

Sent electronically to [REDACTED]

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Please print or save a copy for your records.

Regarding Case Numbers: 2021143201 and 2021157601

Dear Chapter President:

I write this letter as final resolution concerning pending Code of Student Conduct alleged violations for Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity at Bowling Green State University (BGSU). As you are aware, I met with your former chapter president, who represented the organization in fall 2021. This meeting occurred because the Office of the Dean of Students received information that the organization reportedly engaged in conduct in violation of the Code of Student Conduct at an off-campus residence during fall 2021.

After receiving this information, the Office of the Dean of Students suspended all chapter events involving alcohol and halted all new member programming and activities. In addition, all initiated members of the organizations were instructed to have no intentional contact with any new members from the fall 2021 semester. These measures were enacted for the safety and well-being of the campus community.

In spring 2022, I sent a letter informing you that based upon the information gathered throughout the investigation process, I made the determination that there was sufficient justification to charge the organization with violating the Code of Student Conduct.

Regarding case number 2021143201, the letter identified the alleged violation of the following Code of Student Conduct section:

(G)(4)(b)(iv) Offenses Disrupting Order or Disregarding Health and Safety– Alcohol

Failure of a recognized student organization or student group to take all necessary steps to ensure that no person under the legal drinking age possesses alcoholic beverages at functions it sponsors or within any property or transportation it owns, operates, and/or rents.

This charge was warranted based upon information received during interviews with new members and active brothers of the fraternity who reported that there was a date party at an off-campus house also known as the “Church House” on October 13, 2021. One new member, who was under the age of 21, reported that his date, who was also under the age of 21, consumed alcohol that they had brought with them to the date party. This student was later transported to the hospital due to their level of intoxication. Additionally, active brothers who live at the “Church House” reported that while they did not provide alcohol during the date party, they did not monitor who was consuming alcohol while at the event.

Regarding case number 2021157601, the letter identified the following alleged violations of the following Code of Student Conduct sections:

(G)(4)(b)(ii) Offenses Disrupting Order or Disregarding Health and Safety– Alcohol

Selling, distributing, or furnishing of alcoholic beverages except as expressly permitted by law and University Policy. This includes, but is not limited to, providing alcohol to a person under the legal drinking age.

This charge was warranted based upon information received during interviews with multiple new members who reported that, during fall 2021, active brothers of the fraternity made alcoholic beverages available at fraternity events and at off-campus residences associated with the fraternity, to new members of the fraternity who were under the age of 21.

(G)(2)(f)(iii) Hazing

- (a)* Purposefully, knowingly, recklessly, or negligently hazing any person.
- (b)* Involvement in the planning of hazing and/or being present during hazing.
- (c)* Failing to intervene to prevent or stop hazing if the individual has prior knowledge of a planned hazing activity.

These charges were warranted based upon information received during the University’s investigation that new members were contacted by the chapter’s pledge educator and assistant pledge educators in a private group chat and were directed to clean the houses of active brothers of the fraternity during fall 2021.

These charges were also warranted based upon information received during interviews with active members and multiple new members who described an off-campus event at the “Church House” during fall 2021 where new members were told to go to the basement of the house. When the new members arrived in the basement, a celebration ensued with the spraying of bottles of champagne. New members reported that they were hesitant to go down to the basement, as they were not told what was going to happen (i.e., engage in acts that a reasonable person would view to be frightening or deceptive).

I explained in my previous correspondence, that the chapter president, on behalf of the

organization, needed to decide how to resolve these charges for allegedly violating the Code of Student Conduct by completing and returning the Conduct Resolution Record.

Findings

You, on behalf of the organization, submitted a Conduct Resolution Record accepting responsibility for violating section (G)(4)(b)(iv) regarding case number 2021143201 as well as accepting responsibility for violating sections (G)(4)(b)(ii), (G)(2)(f)(iii)(a), (G)(2)(f)(iii)(b), and (G)(2)(f)(iii)(c) regarding case number 2021157601.

By accepting responsibility for the violations, the organization has chosen to have the cases resolved by means of informal disposition. Therefore, the organization waived the right to a formal hearing. Accordingly, I am finalizing this case, as provided by the Code of Student Conduct, and the organization has now been found responsible for the referenced violations above.

Sanctions

In determining sanctions for these violations, I considered multiple factors.

First, the organization has a recent history of violating the Code of Student Conduct. Specifically, the organization is currently on Deferred Suspension status and is not in good standing with the university after being found responsible for violations of the Code of Student Conduct stemming from an incident that occurred in spring 2021. Specifically, the organization, despite COVID-19 mitigation protocols, hosted a gathering of more than 10 people and took no steps to ensure that individuals under the age of 21 did not possess or consume alcohol. This jeopardized the health and safety of the community by disregarding university expectations and policies.

Second, the nature of the misconduct for which the organization has been found responsible for demonstrates a reckless disregard for others. Providing alcohol to underage individuals jeopardizes the health and safety of those members and the community and speaks to the values of the organization and its members. Providing a location and atmosphere for high-risk drinking without appropriate monitoring is reckless and irresponsible, especially considering the organization's previous conduct history whereby the organization was disciplined for misconduct involving alcohol from the incident that occurred in spring 2021.

Finally, BGSU has zero-tolerance for hazing. This activity has absolutely no place in our community. This disregard for BGSU policies as well as a disregard for the dignity of others is inconsistent with the University's commitment to a Community of Care.

Given the totality of this information, Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity at BGSU is suspended as a recognized student organization effective immediately. The organization will not be

eligible to petition the university for recognition as a student organization until the fall 2025 semester and no current member or local advisor may be affiliated with the chapter of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity at BGSU as a condition of considering reinstating recognition. In accordance with the sanction of suspension, the organization is prohibited from recognition on the Bowling Green or Firelands campuses during the suspension period. This sanction of suspension will be permanently noted on the organization's disciplinary record. In addition, the organization forfeits its assigned townhouse within the Greek Village, and the Office of Residence Life will provide more information concerning the process and timeline to vacate that facility as soon as possible. BGSU reserves the right to alter the sanctions at any time during the suspension period upon receipt of additional relevant facts. Should the organization be approved to return to BGSU after this suspension, it will be placed on Conduct Probation for one academic year.

Prior to petitioning for reinstatement as a recognized student organization, the following must be implemented and/or committed to occurring:

- The local chapter's charter must have been suspended/revoked throughout this suspension period and until University recognition is reinstated.
- The organization must create a chapter advisory board with a minimum of four (4) active members – one of which must be a BGSU faculty or staff member. Advisory board members must be designated to work with the chapter president/executive officers, recruitment process, new member education, as well as risk management and chapter standards/accountability operations. All advisory board members must be approved by the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity headquarters, be on file with the BGSU Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, and members must complete all fraternity and university mandated chapter advisor training(s).
- The organization must have a functioning Standards/Accountability Board that has been trained by the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity headquarters and the Office of the Dean of Students. The organization will need to send weekly accountability reports to the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity headquarters concerning any member misconduct that occurs during the first year the organization is again recognized by the University.
- No current member or local advisor may be affiliated with the chapter of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity at BGSU as a condition of reinstatement as a recognized student organization.

You, on behalf of the organization, have the right to appeal these sanctions within five (5) business days. Sanctions are effective immediately. Upon submission of an appeal, the sanctions will be held in abeyance until the appeal process has been exhausted. Should the organization choose to exercise this right, you must submit the appeal on behalf of the organization online via the [Appeal Form](#) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 29, 2022. Chris Bullins, Dean of Students, or designee will review the appeal and issue a final decision regarding the sanction(s).

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Assistant Dean of Students

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Botts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Michael Botts
Assistant Dean of Students

CC: Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity Headquarters
Chapter Advisor