



# Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity

Founded June 28, 1920

## CONSTITUTION

Revised by the 48th House of Delegates  
June 30, 2018 | Phoenix, Arizona

### PREAMBLE

For the better accomplishment of the Vision and Purpose of Sigma Tau Gamma, a fraternity established at the University of Central Missouri on June 28, 1920, and organized as a corporation under the laws of the State of Missouri, believing that all men are social creatures and that friendships of college men are lasting ones, we do hereby seek to promote these associations through a social fraternity which will uphold the true standards of Brotherhood, and do hereby adopt the following Constitution:

### ARTICLE I. NAME, VISION, PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

- SECTION 1. Name: The name of this Fraternity shall be Sigma Tau Gamma.
- SECTION 2. Vision: The Vision of this Fraternity shall be Building Noble Generations of Men.
- SECTION 3. Purpose: The Purpose of this Fraternity is to be a fraternity of courageous and noble gentlemen, who always endeavor forward.
- SECTION 4. Principles: The Principles of this Fraternity shall be Learning, Integrity, Excellence, Leadership, Citizenship, and Brotherhood as defined:
- A. LEARNING: He is committed to the pursuit of wisdom and seeks to afford the environment for Learning in all his personal and professional endeavors. He knows full well the obligation he has taken and seeks to pass what he has learned to others, knowledge that will rule and mold his thoughts, acts, and deeds. He is focused and goal-oriented.

- B. INTEGRITY: He lives a life of personal integrity perfecting a structure of honor and living by the highest standard that keeps our brotherhood alive, for, without it, we could not rely on each other or advance our cause. A man with Integrity is an honorable man who lives up to promises made – to others and himself. He is confident, ethical, and honest.
- C. EXCELLENCE: He consistently strives for superior performance and does not shrink from adversity or lofty goals. He is a man who is dedicated and purposeful who carries an unblemished reputation among men. His actions serve as an example and standard bearer for others. He is curious and bold.
- D. LEADERSHIP: He is compelled by a sacred trust and duty to develop good leaders for the world. He is a man who is humble and makes others feel like they are truly part of something special. He is the defender of good from evil. He is always prepared to lend assistance to a brother in need. He is courageous, innovative, and strategic.
- E. CITIZENSHIP: He is an outward defender of the common man and cares about more than just himself, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to serving his fraternity, college, and country. He is charitable in the broadest sense of the word, knowing those so richly blessed have an obligation to serve those less fortunate. He is generous and kind.
- F. BROTHERHOOD: He loves his fraternity and seeks to enhance the worth of belonging for others. His actions are emblematic of our shield, a protector of our secrets and our life-long commitment to one another. He holds our ideals in high regard and is forever bonded within the Chain of Honor. He is respectful and dignified and proudly represents the Fraternity in all his affairs. He is loyal and proud.

## **ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION OF THE FRATERNITY**

- SECTION 1. Organization: This Fraternity shall consist of collegiate chapters and alumni chapters governed by a House of Delegates made up of representatives of the chapters.
- SECTION 2. Collegiate Chapters: Collegiate chapters shall be organized on the campuses of colleges and universities. Members of this Fraternity shall join the Fraternity as members of one of these collegiate chapters.

SECTION 3. Alumni Chapters: Alumni chapters shall be organized among members of this Fraternity who are no longer undergraduate members of collegiate chapters.

## **ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 1. Membership: Membership shall be acquired only by male persons,

- A. Who are not members of (1) any viable, general or social Greek-letter fraternity of college grade and national in scope that is a member of the North-American Interfraternity Conference, or (2) any other group antagonistic to fraternities;
- B. Who are likely to be intellectually, morally, and socially of benefit to the Fraternity and has acceptable academic standing as defined by the college or university;
- C. Who shall have been duly elected by secret vote of a chapter in good standing, or approved by the Chief Executive Officer or the Board of Directors;
- D. Who have been duly initiated in accordance with the Ritual of the Fraternity, or acquired by merger of another fraternity; and
- E. Who fully understand the Vision and Purpose of Sigma Tau Gamma as described in Article I, Sections 2 and 3.

SECTION 2. Membership Classification: There shall be two classes of membership in this Fraternity: undergraduate and alumni.

- A. Undergraduates are all members regularly enrolled in attendance at an institution of learning at which they were initiated or at which the member and chapter have agreed to affiliate the member, and at which the chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma is in good standing.
- B. Alumni are all members who do not qualify as an undergraduate member. Members who are graduate students and are not affiliated with a collegiate chapter are also alumni members. After investigation and approval by the Chief Executive Officer or Board of Directors, any man of majority age who is not presently affiliated with another fraternity recognized by the North-American Interfraternity Conference may be initiated as an alumnus by direction of the Chief Executive Officer or Board of Directors and affiliated with a chapter.

C. There shall be no local, social, honorary, or associate memberships, nor any membership status other than as listed in Sections 2A and 2B above, all of whom are duly authorized and recorded by the Fraternity Headquarters.

SECTION 3. Initiation: Men accepted for membership in this Fraternity shall be initiated according to the Laws and the Ritual of the Fraternity.

SECTION 4. Fees: Initiates of this Fraternity shall pay initiation fees and membership dues according to the Laws.

SECTION 5. Period of Membership: Membership in this Fraternity shall be for life, except when terminated by expulsion as hereinafter provided by the Constitution and Laws. Every member shall be obligated to obey the Constitution and Laws.

## **ARTICLE IV. CHAPTERS**

SECTION 1. Chapter Location: Chapters shall be established only at colleges and universities (elsewhere herein referred to collectively as institution[s] of learning) recognized by an accrediting organization, that do not openly cause violations of Section 7 of this article, and approved by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. Chapter Names: Each chapter shall have as its official name a letter or combination of letters of the Greek alphabet. Each chapter may, with the assent of the institution of learning, adopt as its popular and unofficial name the name of the institution of learning at which it is located. Chapters established under Section 3 of this Article shall be considered established on the date of their chartering by the merged or acquired fraternity.

SECTION 3. Chapters established by Merger: The granting of charters to one or more chapters of any other national Greek letter fraternity, either by reason of the dissolution of said organization or by merger, shall be on such terms as the Board of Directors shall determine.

SECTION 4. Chapter Rights: All chapters in good standing of the Fraternity shall have equal rights.

SECTION 5. Chapter Adherence to Institution of Learning Rules: No person shall be pledged or initiated by any chapter of the Fraternity in contravention of the rules and regulations of the institution of learning at which the chapter is located.

- SECTION 6. Notification for Initiation: No chapter shall initiate any person until Fraternity Headquarters has been notified of the initiation date and location, the application for membership has been completed, and the associate and initiation fee are paid in full.
- SECTION 7. Prohibited Discrimination: No chapter shall permit discrimination in membership selection, initiation, chapter operations, or other activities of the Fraternity based on any individual's national origin, age, race, color, creed, religion, disability, family status, or sexual orientation.
- SECTION 8. Chapter Constitution: Each chapter shall adopt a constitution based on minimum guidelines established by the Chief Executive Officer, which shall contain a provision recognizing that the vision and purpose of the chapter are reflective of the Vision and Purpose of the National Fraternity as described in Article I, Sections 2 and 3, as well as include anti-discrimination language.
- SECTION 9. Academic Performance: Each chapter shall maintain a grade point average of all undergraduate members in good standing at least equal to the all men's grade point average at the institution of learning at which the chapter is located.
- SECTION 10. Provision of Badge and Paraphernalia to Initiates: Each chapter of the Fraternity shall supply each member, at the time of his initiation, with an official badge of the Fraternity and such other paraphernalia as the Chief Executive Officer may determine, and such badge and paraphernalia shall be held and maintained by the member for so long as he remains a member.
- SECTION 11. Disposition of Property: Should a chapter or its affiliate alumni group become inactive or have its charter suspended or revoked, the charter, records, archives, ritual equipment and paraphernalia shall become the property of the Fraternity.
- SECTION 12. Granting Charters: Authority to grant charters to petitioning groups shall be vested in the Board of Directors of the Fraternity.

## **ARTICLE V. HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

- SECTION 1. House of Delegates Authority: Authority to legislate for the good of the Fraternity, and to adopt and amend the Constitution and Laws of the Fraternity, shall be vested in the House of Delegates.

SECTION 2. House of Delegates: Authorized members of the House of Delegates are defined by the Laws of the Fraternity.

SECTION 3. Meeting Frequency: The House of Delegates shall meet biennially.

## **ARTICLE VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SECTION 1. Governing Body: The governing body of this Fraternity shall be the Board of Directors, which shall have the final authority for all actions not otherwise provided by the Constitution and Laws.

SECTION 2. Composition: The Board of Directors shall be composed of the President, President-elect, four Directors-at-Large and the two most immediate Past Presidents. The most immediate Past President serving on the Board of Directors shall be titled the Immediate Past President. The next most immediate Past President serving on the Board of Directors shall be titled the Senior Past President.

SECTION 3. Initiated Members: The members of the Board of Directors shall have been initiated as members of the Fraternity.

SECTION 4. Selection and Term: The members of the Board of Directors, with the exception of the President and the two immediate Past Presidents, shall be chosen by the House of Delegates at the biennial meeting, and shall serve a term of two years or until their successors are elected.

SECTION 5. Presidential Succession: At the start of each new term of office of the Board of Directors, the prior term's President-elect shall become the President, the prior President shall become the Immediate Past President, the prior Immediate Past President shall become the Senior Past President, and the prior Senior Past President shall exit the Board.

SECTION 6. Term of Office: The term of office of members of the Board of Directors shall begin immediately upon their taking the oath of office at the House of Delegates meeting.

SECTION 7. Removal from Office: A member of the Board of Directors, in whatever capacity he serves, may be removed from office in two ways. First, he may be removed by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Board of Directors. Second, he may be removed for any reason by a majority vote of the total number of members of the House of Delegates according to the following process: if at any time the President, or Chief Executive Officer if the President is the subject of the petition, receives a petition in writing from fifteen percent

(15%) of the collegiate chapters representing sixty percent (60%) or more regions of the Fraternity asking for a recall of any member of the Board of Directors, the official petitioned shall submit a ballot to each member of the House of Delegates for each charge of recall. The members of the House of Delegates shall have thirty (30) days to return their vote. If the proposal for recall receives a majority of the votes, the official petitioned shall inform the President of the Fraternity and the subject of the recall of his dismissal from the Board, and his seat will be deemed vacant. The members of the House of Delegates will also be notified. Failing a sufficient number of votes in favor of the recall, the petition shall be dismissed.

## **ARTICLE VII. REGIONS**

- SECTION 1. Establishment of Regions: There shall be geographical regions established to facilitate the development and administration of the program of the Fraternity.
- SECTION 2. Composition of Regions: Each region shall have administrative officers appointed by the Chief Executive Officer who shall be alumni members of the Fraternity.

## **ARTICLE VIII. RITUAL**

- SECTION 1. Esoteric Ritual (Private): There shall be an official Initiation Ritual adopted by the House of Delegates that shall be used by all chapters of the Fraternity. The Opening and Closing Chapter Meeting Ritual is considered esoteric and any changes thereto also requires the approval of the House of Delegates. The House of Delegates must approve amendments or alterations to these ceremonies.
- SECTION 2. Protection of Esoteric Materials: Chapters are charged to protect content that appears only in the esoteric sections of the Fraternity's Ritual Manual. Chapters should not allow the verbal or written use of the esoteric content beyond the scope of use expressly permitted by the Ritual book itself, the House of Delegates, or Board of Directors.
- SECTION 3. Exoteric Ritual (Public): The Board of Directors shall have full charge thereof and shall verify that all Ritual issued by the Chief Executive Officer are properly and completely administered. Amendments or alterations to exoteric ritual must be approved by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4. Appointed Ritualist: A Ritualist shall be appointed by the President to assist in the administration of the Ritual.

## **ARTICLE IX. INSIGNIA**

SECTION 1. Badge: The badge of this Fraternity shall be a three-pointed shield with a sword thrust diagonally through it from the upper left to the lower right. A chain shall connect the hilt of the sword with the point. The face of the badge shall be of blue enamel with a chevron of black enamel, faced with gold. Across the chevron shall be the Greek letters Sigma Tau Gamma, in gold. Below the chevron shall be a Grecian urn, of gold. The badge shall be of gold or gold set with jewels.

SECTION 2. Associate Member Pin: The emblem is signifying that a man has been associated with membership in this Fraternity shall be a three-pointed shield of blue with a silver chevron.

SECTION 3. Coat-of-Arms: The coat-of-arms of this Fraternity shall be an armorial bearing as described; per pale azure and argent, a chevron counterchanged. In chief, a scroll fesswise per pale, or and gules. On an esquire's helmet, the Crest; a circle of eighteen links, argent, Motto: Sigma Tau Gamma.

SECTION 4. Colors: The colors of this Fraternity shall be blue and white. The hues of the colors shall be specified by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5. Flower: The flower of this Fraternity shall be the white rose.

SECTION 6. Flag: The flag of this Fraternity shall be rectangular and divided into two equal parts, the background to be blue on the upper left half and white on the lower right half. The Crest, a circle of 18 links, shall be contained in the blue background and the Greek letters, Sigma Tau Gamma, shall be contained in blue over the white background. A version of the flag for each chapter must include the Greek designation (e.g. A for Alpha) appearing in the middle of the circle of 18 links.

## **ARTICLE X. PUBLICATIONS**

SECTION 1. Magazine: The Fraternity shall publish an esoteric journal called *The SAGA of Sigma Tau Gamma*.



SECTION 2. Publications: The Board of Directors is authorized to publish any material for the use of the Fraternity.

## **ARTICLE XI. RELATIONSHIP WITH COLLEGIATE CHAPTERS AND AFFILIATE/GROUPS**

SECTION 1. Relationship Defined: Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity is a non-profit corporation. It is incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri.

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity is formed for the purposes of fostering fraternity, and as an educational and service resource for collegiate chapters of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, and for persons associated with those chapters.

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity has a limited staff. It has limited funding sources which necessarily limit the size of its staff.

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity maintains and processes membership and other records for collegiate chapters associated with it. These chapters are located throughout the United States.

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity also serves as an educational resource and service organization for affiliate groups, members associated with those chapters, and for local alumni who volunteer their time on an independent basis to assist a collegiate chapter and its associated collegiate members. Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity provides education through conferences, written materials, and periodic staff visits to collegiate chapters. Staff visits result in advisory recommendations for chapter operations. Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity strives through these educational efforts to enhance life skills, leadership skills, and ethical traits for those who take advantage of these educational opportunities, and to assist through education and consultant recommendations the success of chapters associated with it.

No chapter of and no member of any chapter or affiliate group of Sigma Tau Gamma is an agent of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity Headquarters. No chapter and no member of any chapter have been appointed as an agent of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity Headquarters.

SECTION 2. Chapter Operations: Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity is not involved in the day-to-day activities of a chapter. Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity does not and cannot control or supervise the day-to-day operations or activities of a chapter.

Each collegiate chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity is a self-governing, financially self-sufficient association comprised of students of the institution at which they are enrolled. Each affiliate group of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity is a self-governing, financially self-sufficient association comprised of alumni members residing in a specific geographic location. Under the Constitution and Laws, each collegiate chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity selects and initiates its own members, elects its own officers, establishes its own rules, operates and determines its methods of operation, and governs its own affairs, subject only to those rules and operations being in harmony with the policies, Constitution, and Laws of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity. The autonomy of a collegiate chapter in organizing and determining and conducting its operations through a democracy is part of an educational process which association with the chapter adds to collegiate life and the development and refining of life skills.

If a collegiate chapter's operations are not in harmony with the policies, Constitution and Laws of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Fraternity Headquarters has the right after the fact to determine whether that chapter will continue to be recognized by Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity Headquarters as a chapter associated with it. In some situations, after an action by a chapter has occurred that is not in harmony with the policies or Constitution and Laws of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, a "not in good standing" status may be implemented for the chapter by Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity. In "not in good standing" situations, the chapter continues to be a self-governing, financially self-sufficient association of collegiate students. If a chapter ceases to be recognized by Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity Headquarters as a chapter associated with it, but that group of collegiate students nonetheless continues its operations, they do so without any affiliation with Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity.

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity does not have the right to suspend or affect the membership status of a collegiate student associated with a chapter other than in those situations and accordance with the procedures specifically set forth in the Constitution of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity.

SECTION 3. Disposition of chapter and affiliate group assets.

- A. Fraternity Property: Should a chapter or its affiliate alumni group become inactive or have its charter and/or recognition suspended or revoked, all Fraternity property shall be returned to the Headquarters office, including but not limited to the charter and all ritual equipment and paraphernalia.
- B. Assignment of Obligations: If a chapter owes money to the Fraternity at the time it becomes inactive or has its charter and/or recognition revoked, upon election of the Chief Executive Officer, any obligations owed to the chapter by its undergraduate and alumni members shall be deemed to have been assigned to the Fraternity, and Headquarters shall have the right to collect any of said obligations due and owing to the chapter and apply said funds to the debt due and owing to the Fraternity.
- C. Future Recognition: Should a chapter or its affiliate alumni group become inactive or have its charter and/or recognition suspended or revoked, any and all obligations and fines due and owing the Fraternity from the chapter or affiliated alumni group shall be immediately paid to Headquarters from any funds held by the chapter or its affiliated alumni group, and a failure to do so may constitute grounds for denial of recognition by the Fraternity in the future.
- D. Management of Remaining Assets: After the payment of all debts due and owing the Fraternity, any remaining funds or other liquid assets belonging to a chapter or affiliate group that has become inactive or had its charter and/or recognition revoked or suspended may be deposited with the Headquarters, who will manage and hold said funds according to an agreement reached between the Headquarters and representatives of the affected group who have not been expelled by the Fraternity.
- E. Real property: The Fraternity may condition the recognition of any alumni association or housing corporation, and the benefits afforded thereby, upon the adoption of certain provisions in the entity's governing documents that protect the continuity of housing at the host institution.

## ARTICLE XII.

## AMENDMENTS

The Constitutional provisions of this Fraternity may be made, modified, or repealed by two processes. The first process is by the affirmative vote of the House of Delegates after notice of the amendment is included in the House of Delegates Call pursuant to Section 1. The second process is by the affirmative vote of the House of Delegates and subsequent ratification by the members of the House of Delegates pursuant to Section 2.

SECTION 1. Notice of Amendment: This Section addresses the method of amendment where notice of the amendment is included in the House of Delegates Call.

- A. Three-Fourths Vote: The constitutional provisions of this Fraternity may be made, modified, or repealed upon receiving a three-fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of the total number of voting members of the House of Delegates at the biennial House of Delegates pursuant to the following process.
- B. Proposed Amendments: An amendment proposal may be submitted for consideration under this method by the Board of Directors or any member of the House of Delegates.
- C. Amendment Deadline: An amendment proposal with the exact wording of the amendment and the names of the proponents must be received by the Chief Executive Officer ninety (90) days before the start of the House of Delegates biennium meeting.
- D. Notice of Amendment: A notice statement with the exact wording of any proposed amendments and the names of the proponents shall be sent to all members of the House of Delegates with the Call of the House of Delegates.
- E. Implantation: An amendment receiving the required affirmative vote shall be finally adopted. It shall take effect immediately upon the adjournment sine die of the House of Delegates at which the amendment was enacted, or in whole or part, to the date specified in the amendment.
- F. Grammar: Corrections of spelling, grammar or syntax, or reassignment of section numbers or sub-section letters by the House of Delegates will not constitute a failure of notice for purposes of this provision.

SECTION 2. No Notice of Amendment: This Section addresses the method of amendment where notice of the amendment is not included in the House of Delegates Call but proposed after the notice deadline.

- A. Three-Fourths Vote: The constitutional provisions of this Fraternity may be made, modified or repealed upon receiving a three-fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of the total number of voting members of the House of Delegates at the biennial House of Delegates and subsequent ratification by the required vote of the members of the House of Delegates pursuant to the following process.
- B. Proposed Amendments: An amendment proposal may be submitted for consideration under this method by the Board of Directors or any member of the House of Delegates.
- C. Receipt of Amendment: An amendment proposal with the exact wording of the amendment and the names of the proponents must be received by the President of the Fraternity, or his designated representative, prior to the scheduled starting time of the opening business session of the House of Delegates.
- D. Tentative Adoption: An amendment proposal with the exact wording of the amendment and the names of the proponents shall be tentatively adopted upon receiving the required affirmative vote of the total number of voting members of the House of Delegates at the biennial House of Delegates.
- E. Ratification: An amendment receiving the required affirmative vote of the House of Delegates must be ratified by receiving a dissenting vote from less than one-third (1/3) of those members of the House of Delegates in good standing within sixty (60) days after the date of submission of a notice statement of the amendment to them. The Chief Executive Officer shall submit by regular or electronic mail a statement of ratification notice and call for a vote on the amendment to members of the House of Delegates in good standing at least twenty-one (21) days after the date of the adjournment sine die of the House of Delegates at which the amendment was adopted.

- F. Effective Date: An amendment receiving the required vote during the House of Delegates and subsequent ratification ballot shall be adopted. It shall take effect ninety (90) days after the date of adjournment sine die of the House of Delegates at which the amendment proposal was enacted, or, in whole or part, at some later date specified in the amendment.



# Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity

Founded June 28, 1920

## L A W S

Revised by the 48th House of Delegates  
June 30, 2018 | Phoenix, Arizona

### FOREWORD

These Laws, enacted by the House of Delegates, are the statutes for the government of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, adopted in conjunction with the Constitution of the Fraternity to more fully define the powers, duties, and functions authorized hereunder.

### LAW I. ORGANIZATION OF THE FRATERNITY

- SECTION 1. Collegiate Chapter Role: Collegiate chapters shall be organized for the successful accomplishment of the purposes of the Fraternity among collegiate members.
- SECTION 2. Alumni Members Role: Alumni members of the Fraternity shall share an active role in the direction and guidance of the collegiate chapters.
- SECTION 3. Alumni Chapter Role: Alumni chapters shall be organized primarily for the successful accomplishment of the purposes of the Fraternity among the alumni members of the Fraternity.

## **LAW II. COLLEGIATE MEMBERSHIP**

- SECTION 1. Selection: Election to collegiate membership in this Fraternity shall be in accordance with the Laws of the Fraternity and the chapter.
- SECTION 2. Associate Members: A prospective member shall be called an associate. To complete requirements for membership, each associate shall pursue an official course of study prescribed by the Fraternity and shall satisfactorily complete it before being initiated.
- SECTION 3. Bid Acceptance: An invitation to associate with this Fraternity is an invitation to become a member and, upon acceptance, implies an obligation on the part of both the chapter and the associated man.
- SECTION 4. Initiation: Initiation into membership shall be by the prescribed Ritual and in conformance with the Constitution, Laws, and Policies of the Fraternity. Every candidate shall sign the Obligation of Membership before being initiated.
- SECTION 5. Affiliation: A member of the Fraternity who enrolls as an undergraduate student in a college or university at which there is a collegiate chapter of the Fraternity, other than the chapter by which he was initiated, shall have the option to affiliate with that chapter and will then continue full obligations to the Fraternity.
- SECTION 6. Graduate Student: A member of the Fraternity who enrolls as a graduate student in a college or university at which there is a collegiate chapter of the Fraternity, other than the chapter by which he was initiated, may affiliate with that chapter and continue full obligations to the Fraternity.
- SECTION 7. Transfer Student: A collegiate chapter need not accept the affiliation of a transfer member from another chapter unless he is in good standing in the chapter from which he is transferring. If his affiliation is accepted, the name of the transferring member shall be entered upon the current roll but shall not be inscribed upon the roll of initiates of the second chapter. The transferring member shall not receive any new tokens of membership without specifically requesting them from Headquarters and paying for them to be produced.
- SECTION 8. Tokens of Membership: An initiate of this Fraternity shall receive a membership manual, a membership certificate, a membership badge, and a life subscription to *The SAGA of Sigma Tau Gamma*.



SECTION 9. Alumni Associations: There shall be an alumni association for each collegiate chapter with which each alumnus member of that collegiate chapter shall affiliate. Each alumni association shall promote the fraternal interest of its members in its collegiate chapter through regular communications.

### **LAW III. ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 1. Membership Classification: Collegiate members of this Fraternity shall become alumni members when they leave college or university. Graduate students who are members may choose to become alumni members while in graduate school.

SECTION 2. Member Responsibilities: Every alumni member may participate in the alumni program of the Fraternity. He is encouraged to participate fully in the rights and privileges of membership by affiliating with an alumni association in the area of his residence.

### **LAW IV. (Reserved)**

### **LAW V. MEMBERSHIP FEES**

SECTION 1. Initiation Fee: Every initiate into this Fraternity shall pay a membership fee before his initiation. The House of Delegates shall set, by resolution, the amount and structure of the membership fee.

SECTION 2. Alumni Association Fees: Alumni members shall pay alumni association dues to support their alumni association. Alumni association dues shall be set by the association.

SECTION 3. Payment of Fees: Each collegiate chapter shall pay the Fraternity the membership fee for each collegiate member initiated by that chapter into the Fraternity. Payment of membership fees must be made within the time limits, procedures, and conditions set by the policy of the Headquarters of the Fraternity.

SECTION 4. Collegiate Chapter Fee Increase: Upon evaluation and approval by the Board of Directors, the Fraternity may increase undergraduate membership fees and dues and chapter fees no more than 2% each academic year.

SECTION 5. Alumni Association Fee Increase: Upon evaluation and approval by the Board of Directors, the Fraternity may increase or decrease alumni association fees and dues no more than 2% each academic year.

SECTION 6. Alumni Chapter Fees: Each alumni chapter shall pay into the General Fund of the Fraternity fees and dues to be set by the Board of Directors.

## **LAW VI. ADMISSION OF COLLEGIATE CHAPTERS**

SECTION 1. Establishment: Collegiate chapters shall be established as authorized by the Constitution and Laws, and upon installation, shall henceforth be bound by the Constitution and Laws, as shall all the members.

SECTION 2. Greek Designation: Chapters shall be designated by the letters of the Greek alphabet in order, provided that when the single alphabet has been used, the alphabet shall be repeated with the prefix Alpha, then Beta, then Gamma, and the other letters in order as long as they are necessary.

SECTION 3. Chartering Fee: A fee set by Board of Directors shall be charged for the chartering and installation of a new chapter.

SECTION 4. Associate Chapter Members: Members of an associate chapter may be initiated as members of the Fraternity, and if initiated, they shall be obligated to the Constitution, Laws, and Ritual.

SECTION 5. Associate Chapter Responsibilities: An associate chapter shall be obligated to the Constitution, Laws, and Ritual, and shall have all the privileges of a collegiate chapter, except that it shall not have a vote in the House of Delegates. It shall be under the guidance of designated members of the Fraternity during the period it remains in the status of an associate chapter, and shall make reports as required and shall submit the names of all candidates for membership to these members for their approval prior to initiation.

SECTION 6. Dissolving an Associate Chapter: An associate chapter may be installed as a collegiate chapter or dissolved at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the Fraternity, but if dissolved, this action shall not affect the membership obligation, rights, and privileges of members of the Fraternity in good standing upon the date of dissolution, and they shall then become alumni members of the Fraternity.

## **LAW VII. COLLEGIATE CHAPTERS**

- SECTION 1. Regular Meetings: Each collegiate chapter shall hold a regular meeting once each week during the college year, provided that for sufficient reasons a regular meeting may be postponed for not more than one week. It shall be the duty of every member to attend all chapter meetings unless excused in advance for reasons considered sufficient.
- SECTION 2. Alumni Association: Each collegiate chapter shall have an alumni association composed of the alumni members of the chapter. To be recognized by the Fraternity, the alumni association mission, articles of incorporation, by-laws, and dues structure must be submitted to the Headquarters and reviewed by the Chief Executive Officer or their designee. Once recognized, that alumni association shall be eligible to participate in the programs and services of the Fraternity, and represent themselves in the House of Delegates, provided that it complies with the following requirements: (i) each alumni association shall meet at least once per year at which time directors shall be elected; (ii) each alumni association shall submit an annual report to the Headquarters not later than June 30 that consists of a roster of its members, a list of its duly elected officers and directors, and complete information on its activities; and (iii) each alumni association shall pay the annual dues set by the Fraternity.
- SECTION 3. Reporting: Each collegiate chapter shall follow the procedures and shall furnish such reports using specified forms as are required by the Laws and by request of the Headquarters of the Fraternity.
- SECTION 4. Payment of Fees and Dues: Each collegiate chapter shall pay into the General Fund of the Fraternity dues to be set by House of Delegates resolution, and each collegiate chapter shall remit promptly to Headquarters the dues and fees which are prescribed by the Constitution and Laws.
- SECTION 5. Chapter Constitutions and Laws: Collegiate chapters shall have no power to amend these Laws, but shall each adopt chapter laws which it deems necessary, provided that said laws are not in conflict with the Constitution, Laws, or Ritual of the Fraternity. A copy of the chapter laws and any changes thereto shall be deposited by each chapter with the Headquarters.

- SECTION 6. Elections: Each collegiate chapter shall hold its regular election of officers annually in November. Chapter officers shall take office no earlier than the first day of December and shall serve for twelve consecutive months. Members must meet academic and other eligibility requirements set by House of Delegates resolution to hold elective office in a collegiate chapter. Any member who fails to be eligible to hold an elected chapter office shall be replaced by the election of a new officer, who shall serve for the remainder of the regular term of office. Terms may be adjusted for trimesters.
- SECTION 7. National Fees: Each collegiate chapter shall pay into the General Fund of the Fraternity, such other fees and dues to be set by House of Delegates resolution.
- SECTION 8. Convention Fee: Each collegiate chapter shall pay a semi-annual fee set by the Board of Directors, to be set aside in a Convention Fund. Said Convention fund shall be used to offset a portion of the costs of holding the annual meetings of the Fraternity, including the House of Delegates.
- SECTION 9. Executive Cabinet Structure: The collegiate chapter organization shall be according to a plan common throughout this Fraternity. It shall be defined by resolution of the Board of Directors and set forth in the official membership manual.
- SECTION 10. Local Fees: Each collegiate chapter and associate chapter may levy fees and dues upon its members in addition to fees, dues, and other payments to the Fraternity. Each chapter and associate chapter of the Fraternity shall set its local dues at an amount which shall cover all of its anticipated regular operation costs. Each chapter and associate chapter shall bill its members and associates with a written statement which clearly and separately identifies (i) chapter and associate chapter dues and fees and (ii) dues and fees charged by the National Fraternity, and when payment is made, shall provide each member or associate with a written receipt which clearly identifies the amount paid and specific item for which payment has been made. Each chapter and associate chapter shall also distribute, with individual billing statements, a written budget, which identifies, by category, the amounts and sources of revenue and the amounts and purposes of expenditures. In addition to the penalties provided by Law 14, any officer found to have violated the provisions of this Section may be removed from office.

SECTION 11. Purchase of Property: Collegiate chapters may not purchase, lease or otherwise occupy real property for use as a residence or lodge except through an incorporated alumni association or housing corporation. An incorporated alumni association or housing corporation that owns real property is charged with the responsibility of maintaining adequate insurance on the property, and shall name the Fraternity as an additional insured.

SECTION 12. Founders Day: Each collegiate chapter shall observe Founders Day on its anniversary or a date as near it as possible with appropriate ceremonies.

SECTION 13. Fellowship Day: Each collegiate chapter shall observe Fellowship Day on or about February 26, the birthday anniversary of Wilson C. Morris, first sponsor of the Fraternity, with appropriate ceremonies.

## **LAW VIII. AFFILIATE GROUPS**

SECTION 1. Chapter Advisory Team: A chapter advisory team's primary role is to advise and mentor the undergraduate officers by providing a mature perspective to the undergraduate chapter.

A. Each chapter advisory team shall have as its official name the Greek name of its respective chapter (e.g. Alpha Chapter Advisory Team).

B. A chapter advisory team shall serve as an advisory board to the undergraduate officers.

C. A chapter advisory team is composed of a minimum of the lead advisor, who is the chair of the Chapter Advisory Team. Other positions include, but are not limited to financial advisor, ritual advisor, brotherhood development advisor, scholarship advisor, standards advisor, recruitment advisor, service/philanthropy advisor, membership education advisor, parent or family member, and faculty/staff advisor. The team is encouraged to elect a vice chair, and include members from outside their chapter to serve on the team.

D. The lead advisor shall be appointed by the Chief Executive Officer.

- E. In the event of absence or incapacity of the chair, or upon request, the vice chair shall serve as chair of the chapter advisory team. In the event of absence or incapacity of both the chair and vice chairman, the chapter advisory team shall elect another member to preside as interim chair.
- F. Members of a chapter advisory team may appoint or remove members, other than the lead advisor, to the chapter advisory team by majority vote.
- G. Members of a chapter advisory team shall not serve concurrently on the Board of Directors, or as officers of or on the board of any chapter-based affiliate organizations.

SECTION 2. Alumni Association: The purpose of an alumni association is two-fold in nature: to provide support for the benefit of its respective chapter and chapter advisory team through coordination of yearly/semester/quarterly events and/or fundraisers and to provide events and activities that support interaction among members of the chapter.

- A. Each active or inactive chapter shall have an alumni association, and its official name shall be the Greek name of its respective chapter or associate chapter (e.g. Alpha Alumni Association).
- B. The alumni association of a chapter with at least five living alumni in good standing shall be composed of, but not limited to, the following officers: president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary.
- C. The alumni association shall be responsible for the coordination of yearly/semesterly/quarterly events and/or fundraisers to benefit the chapter or the alumni association. Additionally, the alumni association should coordinate, produce and distribute an association newsletter twice annually.

SECTION 3. Recognized Alumni Association: An alumni association is considered a recognized alumni association if it continues to meet its financial obligations to the national Fraternity; it has completed all necessary paperwork and requirements annually; it is under no disciplinary action from the national Fraternity at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer; and promotes the anti-discrimination, anti-hazing, and risk management policies of the Fraternity. Recognized alumni associations are not issued

charters or certificates stating their recognition, and oversight falls under the Chief Executive Officer.

- SECTION 4. Alumni Association Delegates: Each recognized chapter alumni association shall be entitled to appoint and send one delegate and one alternate delegate to represent itself in the House of Delegates at its or its member's own expense. A member in good standing of an alumni association may be seated as the delegate or alternate for the alumni association if the appointed delegate or alternate delegate fails to attend the House of Delegates. Although the delegate and alternate delegate may attend, the alumni association shall be permitted only one vote.
- SECTION 5. Alumni Association Voting Rights: Recognized alumni associations shall be entitled to the same voting privileges, other than on issues of undergraduate fees and dues, as chapters in good standing at the House of Delegates, Annual Meetings, or on matters submitted for approval by mail vote of the Fraternity.
- SECTION 6. Constitution and Bylaws of Alumni Associations: Alumni associations shall adopt a constitution, bylaws, and other organic documents and rules for their own government, not inconsistent with the Constitution and Laws of the Fraternity. Such constitutions and bylaws shall be subject to the review of the Chief Executive Officer, who may deny recognition of a group should its governing documents conflict with the Constitution, Laws, or policies of the Fraternity. Chapter advisory teams shall not maintain independent constitutions or bylaws.
- SECTION 7. Parents Club: Each chapter or associate chapter shall have the option to establish a parents club. It is not a requirement that a parent is an initiated member of the Fraternity or a member of another Greek organization. The purpose of the parents club is to provide physical and monetary support for the benefit of its respective associate chapter/chapter and chapter advisory team through coordination of yearly, semester, quarterly work days, social events or fundraisers and to connect with other parents to enhance the collegiate and fraternal experience of the undergraduates.
- A. Each chapter or associate chapter parents club shall have as its official name, the Greek name of its respective chapter or associate chapter (e.g. Alpha Parents Club).
  - B. A parents club is composed of, but not limited to, the following officers: president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary.

- SECTION 8. Disposition of Affiliate Group's Property: Should any affiliate group become inactive or not recognized, all records and archives of the affiliate group shall become the property of the Fraternity. The Chief Executive Officer may authorize retention of the property of any affiliate group that seeks to continue to operate as an (unrecognized) group.
- SECTION 9. Alumni Chapters: Policies regarding the organization and recognition of alumni chapters may be adopted by the Board of Directors.

## **LAW IX. CHAPTER HOUSE CORPORATION**

- SECTION 1. Establishment: Every chapter that operates a house for the benefit of its members shall establish and maintain a house corporation for the purpose of operation and management of its housing activities that is separate and distinct from itself and its alumni association. A chapter house corporation shall be organized as a separate legal entity.
- SECTION 2. Already in Operation: Every chapter that at the time of adoption of this Law operates a house for the benefit of its members through its alumni association, shall be allowed to continue its housing operation in this manner; however, upon termination of that housing operation, or change in the real property location, the housing operation shall follow the rules prescribed in the Section above.

## **LAW X. HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

- SECTION 1. Delegates: The House of Delegates is a representative body. The members of the House of Delegates, who must be in good standing with the Fraternity to be eligible to serve as a House of Delegates delegate or to cast a vote between meetings, shall be as prescribed in the following sections of this Law.
- SECTION 2. Chapter Representation: Each collegiate chapter in good standing shall be entitled to representation by a number of delegates at the meetings of the House of Delegates, which shall be determined by the following formula: Chapters having a total initiated college membership on the closing day of the school year of thirty-nine (39) or fewer members shall be entitled to two (2) delegates, and those with forty (40) or more members shall be entitled to three (3) delegates, provided that each of the said delegates shall be elected by and from the collegiate members of the collegiate chapter.



- SECTION 3. Alumni Association Representation: Each alumni association of a collegiate chapter in good standing shall be entitled to one delegate to meetings of the House of Delegates, provided that the alumni association is certified by the Fraternity. Each such delegate shall be entitled to one vote. Between meetings, the vote of each alumni association shall be cast as a unit of one.
- SECTION 4. Alumni Chapter Representation: Each alumni chapter in good standing shall be entitled to one delegate to meetings of the House of Delegates. Each such delegate shall be entitled to one vote. Between meetings, the vote of each alumni chapter shall be cast as a unit of one.
- SECTION 5. Board of Directors: Members of the Board of Directors of the Fraternity shall each have one vote.
- SECTION 6. Past Presidents: Past Presidents of the Fraternity shall each have one vote.
- SECTION 7. Society of the Seventeen: Members of the Society of the Seventeen of the Fraternity shall each have one vote.
- SECTION 8. Voting: No individual may exercise more than one vote.
- SECTION 9. No Proxy Vote: No vote shall be cast by proxy.
- SECTION 10. Membership Status: The delegate representing a collegiate chapter or an alumni chapter shall be a member in good standing of that chapter and the Fraternity.
- SECTION 11. House of Delegates Call: The biennial meeting of the House of Delegates shall be called by the President not less than sixty (60) days before the convening.
- SECTION 12. Chapter Representation: Each collegiate chapter shall send a minimum of two representatives to the House of Delegates meeting. Failure to send the required representative(s) shall result in a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per person to the chapter, payable to the Fraternity.
- SECTION 13. Alumni Chapter Representation: Each alumni chapter shall send a representative to the House of Delegates meeting.
- SECTION 14. Quorum: A quorum is present when a minimum of 2/3 of properly credentialed delegates are present in the House of Delegates room.

SECTION 15. Credentialed Delegates: "Majority vote", "2/3 majority" and "3/4 majority" refer to the fraction of credentialed delegates present in the House of Delegates room, provided that a quorum has been established.

## **LAW XI. ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SECTION 1. Time of Election: Members of the Board of Directors of the Fraternity shall be elected at the House of Delegates meeting.

SECTION 2. Voting: Election to any office on the Board of Directors of the Fraternity shall be by majority vote of the qualified members of the House of Delegates.

SECTION 3. Candidate Filing: Candidates for offices on the Board of Directors of the Fraternity shall file for office with the Chief Executive Officer on or before the 15th day of March in the year of the House of Delegates biennial meeting, or the next regular business day if that day falls on a weekend or holiday. Candidates shall be certified as eligible to hold office by the Chairman of the Election Commission to qualify for candidacy. Candidates shall file for office using the Candidate Filing Declaration form provided by the Election Commission, and this Candidate Filing Declaration must be received by the filing deadline for the candidate to be certified as eligible. The Declaration shall be submitted electronically to the electronic mail address designated by the Chief Executive Officer. However, should the number of eligible candidates filing for a position be the same or less than the number of seats open for the position then the filing deadline shall be extended (30) days. And, further, should the number of eligible candidates filing for a position be less than the number of seats open for the position after the second extended deadline, then the filing deadline shall be extended 10 business days before the published opening date of the House of Delegates. An eligible candidate is defined as a member in good standing with the Fraternity who has completed orientation on the Fraternity's Governance Policies as approved by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4. Election Order: The order of election shall be: (1) President-Elect, (2) Director-at-Large.

SECTION 5. Election Commission: The election for offices on the Board of Directors shall be conducted and judged, subject to the rights of due process and appeal, by an Election Commission and governed by an Election Code. The Election Commission shall be composed of the Senior Past President as chairman, the Immediate Past President as vice chairman, and a collegiate member

and an alumni member of the Fraternity who are in good standing appointed by the Senior Past President. The appointed members of the Election Commission shall not be from the same chapter, nor from the same chapter as the chairman or vice chairman. A member who is a candidate may not serve on the Election Commission. The Election Commission Chairman shall serve as the Election Official with the authority and duty to conduct the elections. The Election Commission vice chairman shall assume the title and duties of the chairman upon his absence. The Election Code shall be recommended by the Board of Directors and ratified by the House of Delegates at which the election will be held. The Election Code adopted at the most recent House of Delegates meeting shall remain in effect until the convening of the next House of Delegates.

- SECTION 6. Duplicate Representation: No more than one member of any collegiate chapter shall be eligible to hold the elected position of Director-at-Large on the Board of Directors of the Fraternity at one time.
- SECTION 7. Vacancy: A vacancy on the Board shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors of the Fraternity, the appointment to be effective until the next election is held.
- SECTION 8. Officer Elections: The Board of Directors, at its first meeting, shall elect from its members the Secretary and the Treasurer, and such other officers as the members deem necessary.

## **LAW XII. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- SECTION 1. Responsibilities: The Board of Directors of the Fraternity is responsible to the House of Delegates for the governance of the Fraternity between House of Delegates meetings.
- SECTION 2. Advisory Offices or Committees: The Board of Directors of the Fraternity is authorized to create advisory offices or committees, and to appoint members of the Fraternity to such offices and committees. Such officers or committees shall be non-salaried, but they shall be reimbursed for the expense incurred in the interest of the Fraternity when specifically provided for in the budget.
- SECTION 3. Headquarters: The Board of Directors of the Fraternity is authorized to establish a Headquarters and is authorized to pay rents for office quarters, incur expenses for operation, purchase of office equipment supplies, and other costs incident to the functions of the Headquarters.

- SECTION 4. Employment: The Board of Directors of the Fraternity is authorized, as they deem necessary, to employ persons to manage and operate the Fraternity. The Board of Directors is prohibited from entering into or authorizing the entering into, any employment contract with any employee that is perpetual, either expressly or effectively under its terms, as defined by the law of the state of the location of the Headquarters of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc.
- SECTION 5. Retirement Program: The Board of Directors of the Fraternity is authorized to create a retirement program and other benefits for salaried employees.
- SECTION 6. Business Operations: The Board of Directors of the Fraternity shall collect monies, maintain bank accounts, and disburse funds of the Fraternity according to an adopted budget.
- SECTION 7. Headquarters Construction: The Board of Directors of the Fraternity may be authorized by the House of Delegates to pay from Fraternity funds and to incur indebtedness for the construction of a building to house the Fraternity's office.
- SECTION 8. Volunteer Board: Members of the Board of Directors of the Fraternity shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the interests of the Fraternity.
- SECTION 9. State of the Fraternity: At each meeting of the House of Delegates the President of the Fraternity shall present a report of the progress of the Fraternity since the preceding meeting, and recommendations for the good of the Fraternity.
- SECTION 10. Annual Report: The Board of Directors shall publish an annual report, every fall, addressing the level of attainment of the Fraternity's desired ends.

## **LAW XIII. REGIONS**

- SECTION 1. Chief Officer: The chief administrative officer in each region shall be the Regional Director, who shall report to the Chief Executive Officer of the Fraternity.
- SECTION 2. Additional Officers: The regions may include such other regional officers as may be authorized by the Chief Executive Officer.

SECTION 3. Volunteers: Regional officers shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the interest of the Fraternity, provided that such expenses are specifically authorized by the Chief Executive Officer.

## **LAW XIV. DISCIPLINE: MEMBER STANDARDS BOARD PROCESS**

SECTION 1. Offenses: Charges may be brought for one or more of the following offenses:

- A. Flagrant breach of the obligations assumed upon initiation.
- B. Violation of the Constitution, Laws, Policies, or Ritual of the Fraternity.
- C. Refusal or persistent failure to meet financial obligations.
- D. Failure to maintain good, acceptable academic standing as defined by the college or university.
- E. Failure to comply with college or university regulations.
- F. Condoning the practice of hazing or by violating the provisions of the Code of Conduct as defined by the Fraternity.
- G. Violation of the Risk Management Policy, as defined by the Fraternity, including the prohibition against the purchase of beverage alcohol through the chapter treasury or by individual members in the name of or on behalf of the chapter.
- H. The possession, sale and/or use of any illegal drugs or controlled substances on chapter premises or at any Fraternity sponsored event or at any event that would suggest an association with the Fraternity to a normal observer.
- I. Violation of chapter by-laws or policies by collegiate members.
- J. Encouraging or conspiring by an alumni member with a collegiate member or chapter to violate the Constitution, Laws, Policies, or Ritual of the Fraternity or provisions of the Code of Conduct and Risk Management Policy as defined by the Fraternity.
- K. Abuse of the Standards Board process.

SECTION 2. Filing Charges: Charges for violations may be brought against a collegiate or alumni member of the Fraternity. Charges for violations may be brought by any collegiate or alumni member; chapter officer; chapter advisor; the Regional Director, or his duly authorized agent; or the Chief Executive Officer, or their duly authorized agent. Charges shall be in writing and state the violation and specific instance of the violation. There may be one or more counts of violation.

SECTION 3. Standards Board and Standards Review Boards: Every collegiate chapter shall have a chapter standards board. Each region and the National Fraternity shall have a standards board and a standards review board on an as needed basis. A standards board originally hearing a charge shall be composed of five members including the chairman. A standards review board hearing an appeal shall be composed of three members including the chairman. A Regional Standards Board or Regional Standards Review Board shall be appointed by the Regional Director, and should he fail or refuse to do so promptly, then by the President of the Fraternity. A National Standards Board or National Standards Review Board shall be appointed by the President of the Fraternity, and should he fail or refuse to do so promptly, then by the President-elect of the Fraternity. At least one member of a standards board or standards review board shall be a collegiate member where the charges are against a collegiate member. The jurisdiction, composition, member qualification, and appointment of Standards Board and Standards Review Boards shall be prescribed in the Standards Board Process and Procedures of the Fraternity

SECTION 4. Penalties:

- A. The penalties that may be levied by a standards board regarding member discipline consists of any of the following, solely, or in combination with others:
  - i. Fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per offense and not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for the cumulative total arising from the same occurrence.
  - ii. Restitution.
  - iii. Performance of community service.
  - iv. Removal from office or position.

- v. Suspension for a specified length of time from the activities of the Fraternity.
  - vi. Censure.
  - vii. Educational/developmental requirements.
  - viii. Recommendation of expulsion of the member from the Fraternity to the Board of Directors.
- B. The action to expel a member may be taken only by the Board of Directors.
- C. The imposition of penalties through the Fraternity's standards board process will never be construed as a waiver of the right of the Fraternity or chapter to pursue any other remedies allowed by law.

SECTION 5. Appeal: The parties involved with charges, specifically the subject of charges and the filer of the charges, shall have the right to appeal the decision of the standards board that conducted the hearing. Appeals can be made on the grounds of an error in the charge or due process, the severity of sanction does not meet the severity of the violation, or new information that could not previously have been obtained was discovered. The complete appeal process shall be prescribed in the Standards Board Process and Procedures of the Fraternity.

SECTION 6. Emergency Action: In an emergency condition where charges have been levied, or are intended to be levied within the next thirty (30) days, against a member, the Chief Executive Officer shall have the power and authority to temporarily suspend the membership privileges of any collegiate or alumni member, including among other things their holding chapter office or position. Such temporary suspension shall remain in effect until changed by the Chief Executive Officer or the Board of Directors, or the final disposition of the change.

SECTION 7. Documentation: A written statement of all standards board decisions and rulings shall be delivered to all the parties involved with the charges. A copy of a chapter standards board's written statement of its decisions and rulings will be delivered to the Chief Executive Officer, and a copy of Regional or National Standards Board's or Standards Review Board's written statement of its decisions and rulings, along with the original standards board's

written statement, will be delivered to the Chief Executive Officer and President of the Fraternity.

SECTION 8. Standards Board Process and Procedures: The Board of Directors shall adopt by written policy Standards Board Process and Procedures for filing charges, the conducting of standards board matters regarding member discipline, and the appeals process, that reflect accepted notions of fairness, notice, and due process. The Standards Board Process and Procedures policy document shall be posted on the website of the Fraternity as a matter of public notice, and will be delivered to any member of the Fraternity upon request.

## **LAW XV. DISCIPLINE: COLLEGIATE CHAPTER, ALUMNI CHAPTER, AND ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

SECTION 1. Offenses: Charges may be brought for one or more of the following offenses:

- A. Violation of the Constitution, Laws, Policies or Ritual of the Fraternity.
- B. Failure to comply with college or university regulations.
- C. Persistent failure to meet financial obligations to the Fraternity.
- D. Condoning the practice of hazing or violating the provisions of the Code of Conduct as defined by the Fraternity.
- E. Violation of the Risk Management Policy, as defined by the Fraternity, including the prohibition against the purchase of alcohol through the chapter treasury or by individual members in the name of or on behalf of the chapter.
- F. The possession, sale and/or use of any illegal drug or controlled substance on chapter premises or at any Fraternity sponsored event or at any event that would suggest an association with the Fraternity to a normal observer.
- G. Encouraging or conspiring with a collegiate member or chapter to violate the Constitution, Laws, Policies or Ritual of the Fraternity or provisions of the Code of Conduct and Risk Management Policy as defined by the Fraternity.



SECTION 2. Filing Charges: Charges for violations may be brought against a collegiate chapter, alumni association, or alumni chapter of the Fraternity. Charges for violations may be brought by any member of the same chapter, an officer of the same chapter, a chapter advisor of the same chapter, the Regional Director or his duly authorized agent, or the Chief Executive Officer or their duly authorized agent. These charges shall be in writing and state the violation and specific instance of the violation. There may be one or more counts of violation.

SECTION 3. Standards Boards and Standards Review Boards: Each region and the National Fraternity shall have a standards board and a standards review board on an as needed basis. A Standards Board originally hearing a charge shall be composed of five members including the chairman. A Standards Review Board hearing an appeal shall be composed of three members including the chairman. A Regional Standards Board or Regional Standards Review Board shall be appointed by the Regional Director, and should he fail or refuse to do so promptly, then by the President of the Fraternity. A National Standards Board or National Standards Review Board shall be appointed by the President of the Fraternity, and should he fail or refuse to do so promptly, then by the President-elect of the Fraternity. At least one member of the standards board or standards review board shall be a collegiate member where the charges are against a collegiate chapter. The jurisdiction, composition, member qualification, and appointment of standards boards and standards review boards shall be prescribed in the Standards Board Process and Procedures of the Fraternity.

SECTION 4. Penalties:

- A. The penalties that may be levied by a standards board regarding discipline under this Law include:
  - i. A fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per offense and not to exceed five thousand (\$5,000) for the cumulative total of all offenses within the same event.
  - ii. If the occurrence results in litigation against the Fraternity, a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per offense and not to exceed fifty thousand (\$50,000) for the cumulative total of all offenses.
  - iii. A warning to the chapter, association, and/or its members, which may be levied with or without a fine.

- iv. A probationary status of the chapter, association, and/or its members for a specific length of time, which may be levied with or without a fine.
- v. A suspension of the chapter, association, and/or its members for a specified length of time from the activities of the Fraternity, which may be levied with or without a fine.
- vi. A recommendation to revoke the chapter charter or alumni association recognition to the Board of Directors.
- vii. Educational program requirements.

B. The action to revoke a chapter's charter may be taken only by the Board of Directors.

C. The imposition of penalties through the Fraternity's standards board process will never be construed as a waiver of the right of the Fraternity to pursue any other remedies allowed by law.

SECTION 5. Appeal: The parties involved with charges, specifically any officer or member of the chapter and the filer of the charges, shall have the right to appeal the decisions of the standards board that conducted the hearing. Appeals can be made on the grounds of an error in the charge or due process, the severity of sanction does not meet the severity of the violation, or new information that could not previously been obtained was discovered. The complete appeal process shall be prescribed in the Standards Board Process and Procedures of the Fraternity.

SECTION 6. Emergency Action: In the case where emergency conditions exist and where charges have been levied, or are intended to be levied within the next thirty (30) days, against a chapter or association, the Chief Executive Officer shall have the power and authority to temporarily suspend the chapter charter, recognition, and/or chapter privileges of any collegiate chapter, alumni association or alumni chapter. Such temporary suspension shall remain in effect until changed by the Chief Executive Officer or the Board of Directors.

SECTION 7. Documentation: A written statement of all standards board decisions and rulings shall be delivered to all the parties involved with the charges. A copy of a Regional or National Standards Board's written statement of its decisions and rulings will be delivered to the Chief Executive Officer and President of the Fraternity.

SECTION 8. Process and Procedures: The Board of Directors shall issue by written policy the process and procedures for filing charges, and the conducting of standards board matters regarding collegiate chapter, alumni association, and alumni chapter discipline, that reflect accepted notions of fairness, notice and due process. The Process and Procedures policy document shall be posted on the website of the Fraternity as a matter of public notice, and will be delivered to any member of the Fraternity upon request.

## **LAW XVI.           INSIGNIA: THE BADGE**

SECTION 1. Badge: Every initiate of the Fraternity is supplied a badge and is entitled to wear it at all times. If a member is expelled, the badge supplied to him shall be returned to the Headquarters.

SECTION 2. Alumni Badge: Every alumnus of the Fraternity in good standing shall be entitled to wear the badge of the Fraternity at all times.

SECTION 3. Badge Types: Any member of the Fraternity shall be entitled to purchase and wear any style of badge that is declared official that differs in ornamentation from the badge supplied by the Fraternity upon initiation.

SECTION 4. Placement of the Badge: The badge of the Fraternity shall be worn only upon the left breast, above the heart, upon a vest, collared shirt, or sweater.

SECTION 5. Production: Authority for the manufacture and distribution of the badge is vested in the Chief Executive Officer of the Fraternity. The Chief Executive Officer may appoint and contract with one or more jewelers to reproduce the design, manufacture, and sell the badge in any size, quality of manufacture and materials, and combinations of metals and jewels. Jewelers thus appointed shall be known as official jewelers, and they alone shall be entitled during the effective period of contracts, to reproduce the design, manufacture and sell the badge. Appointments of official jewelers and contracts with the same shall be subject to renegotiation or cancellation of the terms of the contracts.

SECTION 6. Auxiliary Pieces: Wearers of the badge may be permitted to purchase and wear with it an auxiliary known as a guard, linked to the badge by a chain of gold. The guard shall consist of the Greek letter or letters of the chapter name, worked in gold or gold and pearls. No other style of the guard shall be worn with the badge.

## **LAW XVII.           INSIGNIA: COAT-OF-ARMS**

- SECTION 1.    Display: The coat-of-arms of the Fraternity shall be displayed only in a dignified manner. The House of Delegates is authorized to prescribe how it may or may not be displayed.
- SECTION 2.    Reproductions: All reproductions shall be approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the Fraternity, and must conform to the official drawing of the coat-of-arms in possession of the Fraternity. Copies of the drawing shall be available to members and chapters.
- SECTION 3.    Lapel Pin: The Chief Executive Officer of the Fraternity is authorized to have the coat-of-arms reproduced by official jewelers in the form of a small gold or silver emblem to be worn on the lapel of a coat for purposes of recognition, or in the form of gold or silver charm or pocket piece.

## **LAW XVIII.         INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

- SECTION 1.    License Trademarks: The Chief Executive Officer of the Fraternity, and such persons as they may designate, are the only persons authorized to license the trademarks and other intellectual property of the Fraternity.
- SECTION 2.    Acceptable Use Policy: The Chief Executive Officer shall develop an acceptable use policy for the trademarks and other intellectual property of the Fraternity.
- SECTION 3.    License Revocation: In addition to the remedies provided by the Laws, if the Chief Executive Officer finds there has been a violation of the acceptable use policy of the trademarks or other intellectual property of the Fraternity, they may immediately revoke the license of the offender to use the trademarks or intellectual property of the Fraternity.

## **LAW XIX.           THE SAGA MAGAZINE**

- SECTION 1.    Production: The Chief Executive Officer of the Fraternity is authorized to publish *The SAGA of Sigma Tau Gamma*.
- SECTION 2.    SAGA Fund: The Board of Directors of the Fraternity is authorized to set aside funds derived from initiation fees, dues, or other revenues, to establish a separate fund for *The SAGA of Sigma Tau Gamma*.

## **LAW XX.            AMENDMENTS**

The Laws of this Fraternity may be made, modified or repealed by three processes. The first process is by the affirmative vote of the House of Delegates after notice of the amendment is included in the House of Delegates Call under Section 1.

The second process is by the affirmative vote of the House of Delegates and subsequent ratification by the members of the House of Delegates under Section 2.

The third process is in an emergency or extraordinary circumstances during the time between meetings of the House of Delegates by the Board of Directors and subsequent ratification by the members of the House of Delegates under Section 3.

SECTION 1.    Amendment Included in House of Delegates Call: This Section addresses the method of amendment where notice of the amendment is included in the House of Delegates Call.

- A. Laws of this Fraternity may be made, modified or repealed upon receiving a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the total number of voting members of the House of Delegates at the biennial meeting of the House of Delegates under the following process.
- B. An amendment proposal may be submitted for consideration under this method by the Board of Directors or any member of the House of Delegates.
- C. An amendment proposal with the exact wording of the amendment and the names of the proponents must be received by the Chief Executive Officer by April 30th, or the next regular business day if that day falls on a weekend or holiday, of the year of the House of Delegates.
- D. A notice statement with the exact wording of any proposed amendments and the names of the proponents shall be sent to all members of the House of Delegates with the Call of the House of Delegates.
- E. An amendment receiving the required affirmative vote during the House of Delegates shall be finally adopted. It shall take effect immediately upon the adjournment sine die of the House of Delegates at which the amendment was enacted, or in whole or part, on the date specified in the amendment.

- F. Corrections of spelling, grammar or syntax, or reassignment of section numbers or sub-section letters by the House of Delegates will not constitute a failure of notice for purposes of this provision.

SECTION 2. Amendment Not Included in House of Delegates Call: This Section addresses the method of amendment where notice of the amendment is not included in the House of Delegates Call but proposed after the notice deadline.

- A. Laws of this Fraternity may be made, modified or repealed upon receiving a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the total number of voting members of the House of Delegates at the biennial House of Delegates and subsequent ratification by the required vote of the members of the House of Delegates pursuant to the following process.
- B. An amendment proposal may be submitted for consideration under this method by the Board of Directors or any member of the House of Delegates.
- C. An amendment proposal with the exact wording of the amendment and the names of the proponents must be received by the President of the Fraternity, or his designated representative, before the scheduled starting time of the opening business session of the House of Delegates.
- D. An amendment proposal with the exact wording of the amendment and the names of the proponents shall be tentatively adopted upon receiving the required affirmative vote of the total number of voting members of the House of Delegates at the biennial House of Delegates.
- E. An amendment receiving the required affirmative vote of the House of Delegates must be ratified by receiving a dissenting vote from less than one-half (1/2) of those members of the House of Delegates in good standing within sixty (60) days after the date of submission of a notice statement of the amendment to them. The Chief Executive Officer shall submit by regular or electronic mail a statement of ratification notice and call for a vote on the amendment to members of the House of Delegates in good standing at least twenty-one (21) days after the date of the adjournment sine die of the House of Delegates at which the amendment was adopted.

- F. An amendment receiving the required vote during the House of Delegates and subsequent ratification ballot afterward shall be finally adopted. It shall take effect ninety (90) days after the date of adjournment sine die of the House of Delegates at which the amendment proposal was enacted, or, in whole or part, to the date specified in the amendment.

SECTION 3. Emergency or Extraordinary Circumstance: This Section addresses the method of amendment in an emergency or extraordinary circumstance during the time between meetings of the House of Delegates.

- A. Laws of this Fraternity may be made, modified or repealed upon receiving a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the total number of voting members of the Board of Directors acting on behalf of the House of Delegates and subsequent ratification by the required vote of the members of the House of Delegates pursuant to the following process.
- B. An amendment proposal may be submitted for consideration under this method by a member of the Board of Directors or the Chief Executive Officer.
- C. An amendment proposal with the exact wording of the amendment and the names of the proponents shall be tentatively adopted upon receiving the required affirmative vote of the total number of voting members of the Board of Directors acting on behalf of the House of Delegates.
- D. An amendment receiving the required affirmative vote of the Board of Directors must be ratified by receiving a dissenting vote from less than one-third (1/3) of those members of the House of Delegates in good standing within sixty (60) days after the date of submission of a notice statement of the amendment to them. The Chief Executive Officer shall submit by regular or electronic mail a statement of ratification notice and call for a vote on the amendment to members of the House of Delegates in good standing at least twenty-one (21) days after the date of adoption of the amendment by the Board of Directors. This notice statement and call for the vote shall contain exact wording of the amendment and the names of the proponents.

- E. An amendment receiving the required affirmative vote of the Board of Directors and subsequent ratification ballot shall be finally adopted. It shall take effect ninety (90) days after the date of adoption of the amendment by the Board of Directors, or, in whole or part, to the date specified in the amendment.