



LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES AFFIDAVIT FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS:

Official Name of Organization: (No abbreviations, please print) _____

MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT

“At the beginning of each semester, each registered student organization or group must file with the appropriate institutional officer a written statement that the organization or group does not, and will not during the semester, have as a member any person who is not either a student or a member of the faculty or staff of the institution.” (*Rules and Regulations* of The Board of Regents of The University of Texas System, Series 50202, Section 6.3.)

If an organization or group fails or refuses to file the required statement, or if it is determined that the statement is or has become false, the Office of Student Activities, after providing notice, shall begin disciplinary proceedings. The Office of Student Activities may cancel the registered status of the organization or group or impose other appropriate penalties.

Further University rules require that all Student Organizations agree to abide by all University policies and local, state, and federal laws.

SOLICITATION STATEMENT

“...each registered student organization shall, within 30 days after the beginning of each long session semester, file with the [Office of Student Activities] a statement fully disclosing the sources and amounts of money obtained from solicitations during the preceding semester or summer session and fully disclosing the purposes and amounts of the expenditures made during the preceding semester or summer session. Any organization failing to comply with the provisions of this Series shall be prohibited from solicitation activities until the organization files the required report.” (*Rules and Regulations* of The Board of Regents of The University of Texas System, Series 80103, Section 4.)

Term Sources of Income (NOT dues) Beneficiaries & Expenditures Amount

Semester	Donation, Fundraiser, Etc	How the money was spent

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

PROHIBITION OF HAZING

Hazing in state educational institutions is prohibited by both state law (Sections 51.936 & 37.151 et seq., *Texas Education Code*) and by the Regents' *Rules and Regulations* (Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3.28). Individuals or organizations engaging in hazing could be subject to fines and charged with criminal offenses. Additionally, the law does not affect or in any way restrict the right of the University to enforce its own rules against hazing.

Individuals

A person commits an offense if the person:

1. engages in hazing;
2. solicits, encourages, directs, aids or attempts to aid another engaging in hazing;

3. recklessly permits hazing to occur; or
4. has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident involving a student in an educational institution, or has firsthand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report that knowledge in writing to the dean of students or other appropriate official of the institution.

Organizations

An organization commits an offense if the organization condones or encourages hazing or if an officer or any combination of members, pledges, or alumni of the organization commits or assists in the commission of hazing.

Definition

The term "hazing" is broadly defined by statute to mean any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off the campus of an educational institution, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in an organization. Hazing includes, but is not limited to:

- a. any type of physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity
- b. any type of physical activity, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, calisthenics, or other activity that subject the student to unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student;
- c. any activity involving the consumption of a food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, liquor, drug or other substance that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student;
- d. any activity that intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism, that subjects the student to extreme mental stress, shame or humiliation, that adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student or discourages the student from entering or remaining registered in an educational institution, or that may reasonably be expected to cause a student to leave the organization or the institution rather than submit to acts described in this subdivision; and
- e. any activity that induces, causes, or requires the student to perform a duty or task that involves a violation of the Penal Code. The fact that a person consented to or acquiesced in a hazing activity is not a defense to prosecution.

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

1. Hazing with or without the consent of a student is prohibited by the System, and a violation of that prohibition renders both the person inflicting the hazing and the person submitting to the hazing subject to discipline.
2. Initiations or activities by 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 that are dangerous, harmful, or degrading, in violation of *Rules* include but are not limited to:

- calisthenics, such as sit-ups, push-ups, or any other form of physical exercise;
- total or partial nudity at any time;
- the eating or ingestion of any unwanted substance;
- the wearing or carrying of any obscene or physically burdensome article;
- paddle swats, including the trading of swats;
- pushing, shoving, tackling, or any other physical contact;
- throwing oil, syrup, flour, or any harmful substance on a person;
- rat court, kangaroo court, or other individual interrogation;
- forced consumption of alcoholic beverages either by threats or peer pressure;
- lineups intended to demean or intimidate;
- transportation and abandonment (road trips, kidnaps, walks, rides, drops);
- confining individuals in an area that is uncomfortable or dangerous (hot box effect, high temperature, too small);
- any type of personal servitude that is demeaning or of personal benefit to the individual members;
- wearing of embarrassing or uncomfortable clothing;
- assigning pranks such as stealing; painting objects; harassing other organizations;
- intentionally messing up the house or room for clean up;
- demeaning names;
- yelling and screaming; and
- requiring boxing matches or fights for entertainment.

Immunity

In an effort to encourage reporting of hazing incidents, the law grants immunity from civil or criminal liability to any person who reports a specific hazing event in good faith and without malice to the dean of students or other appropriate official of the institution and immunizes that person for participation in any judicial proceeding resulting from that report. Additionally, a doctor or other medical practitioner who treats a student who may have been subjected to hazing may make a good faith report of the suspected hazing activities to police or other law enforcement officials and is immune from civil or other liability that might otherwise be imposed or incurred as a result of the report. The penalty for failure to report is a fine of up to \$1,000, up to 180 days in jail, or both. Penalties for other hazing offenses vary according to the severity of the injury which results and include fines from \$500 to \$10,000 and/or confinement for up to two years.

AFFIDAVIT

I understand that my signature verifies that I am an authorized representative of this Student Organization and have read the rules and regulations set out above and state as follows. In addition, I have educated the entire Student Organization on these rules and regulations.

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 all University policies, and local, state, and federal laws.
2. The above-named organization or any individual member does not and will not engage in any activities that subject a member or potential member to dangerous, harmful, or degrading acts.
3. The accompanying financial statement fully and fairly discloses the sources and amounts of money that 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 that it made during that semester or session.
4. 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 the Student Activities staff and/or civil authorities.

Authorized Representative Name (Print)

Authorized Representative Signature

Date

Faculty/Staff Advisor Name (Print)

Faculty/Staff Advisor Signature

Date