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Risk Reduction Affidavits

The Risk Reduction Affidavit and Candidate Class Affidavit are two items that every chapter is expected to complete and return to the General Fraternity at the beginning of each semester.

1. The [Risk Reduction Affidavit](#) is an agreement that all parties clearly understand the *Risk Reduction Policy and Guidelines*.
2. The [Candidate Class Affidavit](#) is an agreement that candidates understand the same, especially in regards to hazing.

Completion of the affidavits are core responsibilities of both the chapter's Risk Reduction Chairman and the Recorder.

PDF copies of these items are also available on the [Risk Reduction Chairman's Officer Resource Page](#).

If your chapter has yet to submit the appropriate affidavits (you can check on your October financial statement) for the fall then now is the perfect time to print them off and send them in. Executed affidavits should be sent to PO Box 1869, Lexington, VA 24450.

GreekLifeEdu Financial Incentive Policy

GreekLifeEdu is the premier online interactive course on risk management issues affecting current collegiate chapter members. Is your chapter on track to qualify for the 2011-2012 GreekLifeEdu financial incentive? Starting with 2010-2011,

Collegiate chapters of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc. may qualify for the lowest available, per member risk management assessment within their applicable tier after 90% of the chapter's membership has completed the GreekLifeEdu education and prevention program. A per member risk management assessment surcharge of \$25 per member will be billed to a collegiate chapter in which less than 90% of the chapter's membership has completed the program. Any such surcharge will be applied annually, toward the end of the applicable academic year (with specific time to be determined by the Executive Director).

Chapters and colonies should have all new candidates complete the GreekLifeEdu program as part of the candidate education program. Prompts to complete GreekLifeEdu are included in LEAD Phase I sessions 5 and 7.

Take the lead in educating your members by having everyone complete GreekLifeEdu early on in their membership (remember, once a member has completed the course they will not be expected to do so again). For more information about the incentive and course, review our [GreekLifeEdu FAQ](#) and our web site by clicking [here](#).

Managing Risk At Homecoming

Homecoming is a great time of the year, and often the highlight of many college campuses during the fall semester. It's also a highlight of many chapters' fall social calendars. However, between the alumni events, float building, competitions, and overall enthusiasm, it can be easy to forget how integral risk reduction needs to be to the chapter's overall homecoming planning and participation.

The first step in planning for a successful and safe homecoming is understanding your chapter's current standing with the college/university and General Fraternity. *(continued on page 2)*

2,000 Reasons Not To Haze

The second annual #40Answers in 40 Days anti-hazing campaign concluded last week and provided more than 2,000 straightforward answers to the most common excuses for hazing.

Each day leading up to the beginning of National Hazing Prevention Week (NHPW) a spontaneous group of participants tweeted their answers to a different hazing excuse. At the campaign's conclusion, the collected tweets were compiled and made available for all.

"Regardless of where or in what group or organization hazing takes place, we hear the same excuses and rationalizations to justify it," said Sigma Nu Executive Director Brad Beacham. "Our ongoing goal is to publicly and directly address forty of these fallacies by leveraging the power of social media."

Last year's campaign created a buzz among educators, coaches, parents and students, earning coverage in several higher education publications including *Edu in Review*. Looking to build on that momentum, Sigma Nu Fraternity teamed up with HazingPrevention.Org, the leader in anti-hazing education and chief coordinator of NHPW.

"The #40Answers campaign has given us the opportunity to continue conversations about hazing prevention and reach a much broader audience who became engaged through this effort," said Tracy Maxwell, Executive Director of HazingPrevention.Org.

With the help of HazingPrevention.Org, this year's #40Answers campaign experienced a tremendous increase in participation from anti-hazing advocates around the country. In total, over 1,250 Twitter users participated in this year's campaign, which represents a 5,000% growth from last year. You can view the compiled "answer" posts [here](#).

We Have A Situation – Homecoming *(continued from page 1)*

If your chapter is on Alcohol-Free Housing for failing to earn a chapter GPA above the all-men's GPA in the previous semester then it's important to understand that alcohol is not allowed on the chapter premises at any time. This means the chapter is expected to secure an alternative third-party venue for any events that will have alcohol present. This should also be communicated to your alumni early on to prevent any confusion. During your planning, you should also be clear on what your host institution's policies are at all times and ensure your chapter follows those policies. Remember: If there is a conflict between Sigma Nu's [Risk Reduction Policy and Guidelines](#) and your host institution's policies, then the stricter of the two should be followed.

Homecoming is also a time when many chapters will be pairing up with other organizations to build floats or compete in other events. This is the perfect place for the Risk Reduction Chairman to be involved to ensure that any work areas are kept safe and alcohol is prohibited around these areas to avoid any accidents. When coordinating events with other groups it's also important to communicate clearly what the chapter's obligations are in regards to the *Risk Reduction Policy and Guidelines*.

Always communicate current standards and policies with alumni who plan to attend events. It's likely that a lot has changed since an alumnus was in the chapter. These changes in policies should be clearly explained to ensure everyone has a great time and there are no conflicts of what expectations and guidelines are currently in place.

This can be a stressful time of year for any Risk Reduction Chairman, so it's imperative that you utilize your committee. This might be a great time to suggest adding your chapter's Social Chairman to the risk reduction committee. And as always, be sure to contact the General Fraternity at headquarters@sigmanu.org or 540-463-1869 if you have any questions regarding how to plan safe events or need clarification of your chapter's current status. To learn more about addressing common risk management scenarios and events, check out the ["We Have A Situation"](#) resource online.