

Code of Conduct and Risk Management

Code of Conduct (adopted 08/07/2008)

“I believe in the sacred sovereignty of my sister over her own life. Therefore I will not trespass on her domain, or seek domination over her ideas or conduct in any way.”

--from the LKS creed, written by Ruth Davies Flaherty

All members of Lambda Kappa Sigma (LKS) must follow the policies of this document and all policies and procedures, guidelines and official documents regarding fraternity activities.

Commercial Endorsements. No member (initiated or new) of LKS will authorize or permit the use of her/his writings, photographs, picture or other likeness for commercial purposes or for publicity purposes in any way identifying her/himself with LKS unless such use is first approved by Grand Council.

Housing. LKS does not operate or manage any fraternity group housing and no assumption of Fraternity liability shall be made. LKS members shall follow the housing policies of the University, if residing in campus housing, as an individual's behavior is a reflection of the Fraternity on campus. Failure to do so could result in removal of membership privileges.

Image. Each member of LKS must assume personal responsibility for prioritizing and maintaining An appropriate image of the fraternity.

Mailing Lists/Spam. The LKS mailing lists shall be used only for chapter or fraternity business and any other use is strictly forbidden. It is forbidden for any member or non-member to contact the entire fraternity membership (mail or email) to canvas opinions or seek support on any subject without the permission of the Grand Council.

Membership. LKS is a professional organization open to all persons regardless of gender, race or nationality, and who are eligible for membership as listed in the fraternity's bylaws.

Out-of-Town Events. All chapter events must be held within 40 miles of the campus. Overnight or weekend events, or any events that require travel beyond the 40 mile limit from campus, require the approval of Grand Council. to obtain approval, a petition must be submitted to Grand Council no later than 30 days prior to the event, with Grand Council review and decision no more than 7 days from the date of receipt of the petition.

Web. Each member of the fraternity must assume responsibility in appropriate use of the Internet. It is strictly forbidden to use inappropriate language or share sensitive fraternity information (such as discussion of rituals or information revealed to members through ritual) on any publicly accessed domain. Fraternity chapter website development guidelines must be adhered to at all times. Chapter websites will be routinely monitored by the fraternity

Leadership. Any violation or noncompliance will be immediately addressed. Questions about appropriate internet usage should be referred to the international office.

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Risk Management

Alcohol and Illegal Drug Policy

1. LKS supports a zero-tolerance policy concerning underage drinking, excessive drinking or the use of illegal drugs. The possession, sale, use or consumption of alcoholic beverages during a fraternity event, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or in any event an observer would associate with the fraternity, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, province, county, city and institution of higher education, and must comply with the below mentioned guidelines. It is the chapter's responsibility to ensure that any events involving alcohol adhere to the guidelines of the college or university.
2. No alcoholic beverages shall be served to, sold to, or purchased for any minor (those under legal drinking age) by any member of the fraternity.
3. It is the chapter's responsibility to ensure that any event involving alcohol adheres to the guidelines of the college or university. No alcoholic beverages may be purchased with chapter funds nor may the purchase of same for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf of, the chapter. The purchase or use of a bulk quantity or common source of alcoholic beverage (e.g. keg) is prohibited.
4. Hosting an open party, meaning those gatherings with unrestricted access by non-members of the fraternity, without specific invitation, where alcohol is present, is forbidden.
5. The possession, sale or use of any illegal drug or controlled substances during a fraternity event, or any event that an observer might associate with the fraternity, is strictly prohibited.
6. No chapter may co-sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor, charitable organization or establishment generating more than half of annual gross sales from alcohol where alcohol is given away, sold or otherwise provided to those present.
7. No chapter may co-sponsor or co-finance a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups or organizations.
8. No alcohol will be served, sold or purchased during a fraternity recruitment, new member or ritual event, even to those of legal drinking age.

Hazing

1. LKS strictly prohibits any form of hazing by any initiated member or new member. Hazing activities are not compatible with the mission and traditions of the fraternity and reflect negatively on the organization.
2. New member programs should focus on the history of the fraternity and chapter and include the standards expected of members that do not demean, embarrass or endanger any member or potential member. Activities that are considered hazing are any activities that produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule of a new or initiated member. They are also activities that are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, LKS ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution or applicable state law.
3. Chapter members who do not follow this policy will be placed on probation from fraternity events and member privileges. Further consequences may include the revocation of membership and/or the chapter's charter as deemed necessary by Grand Council.

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Sexual Abuse and Harassment

LKS will not tolerate or condone any form of sexually abusive behavior on the part of its members, whether physical, mental or emotional. This includes any actions which are demeaning to women or men.

New members shall receive two copies of this document upon indicating a commitment to join the fraternity. One copy is to be signed and returned to the appropriate chapter officer and maintained in chapter files until the new member graduates. The other copy is to be retained by the new member.

The chapter shall keep a copy of this policy in its chapter files at all times. Fraternity and faculty advisors to the chapter shall keep a copy of this policy at all times.

Examples of approved vs. hazing activities will be featured regularly during fraternity events and publications. Questions concerning whether an activity or event is consistent with this document should be directed to the international office. For immediate review by Grand Council. The decision made by Grand Council regarding approval or denial of the event is final. Deviations from the code of conduct by a chapter or an individual member will be reviewed by Grand Council. The imposition of consequences subsequent to Grand Council review of violations of the code of conduct will be swift and final.

It is the expectation of the Grand Council that at the first meeting of every fall semester, this document will be reviewed by the chapter membership.

Signature of member: _____

Date: _____