

March 13, 2009

To All Members of Phi Chi Theta:

Phi Chi Theta maintains a copyright of our name and crest. However, just maintaining a copyright is not enough. We also have to enforce it. To that end, we have adopted a Trademark/Copyright Policy.

All chapters have the right to use Phi Chi Theta's name and crest on any official chapter communications to include flyers and newsletters etc. However, no chapter or member can use any copyrighted material on any merchandise (t-shirts, glasses, etc.) without the express permission of the national office. In the past, chapters have been required to seek the permission of the national office to use any of Phi Chi Theta's trademarked items. Unfortunately, we have become lax in enforcing this requirement. Under our new policy all chapters and members are required to submit their proposed design and use of copyrighted material to the national office and request permission to use it. Our goal here is not to be restrictive in the use of our trademarked items but to just ensure that only appropriate merchandise bears our name and crest. The executive director, who has been delegated the authority to review these requests, has been instructed to be as liberal as possible in granting permission to use these items.

I do understand that this is a departure from our current procedures. However, I ask that you work with the national office on this. Although our copyrights are current, failure to enforce them can lead to us in fact losing our protection. The sole purpose of this policy is to continue to protect our name and crest.

I appreciate your support in this area. Ultimately, I have to rely on each of you to comply with and support this policy. I have instructed all of the national officers to check for compliance with this policy when they conduct chapter visitations. A copy of the Trademark/Copyright Policy is enclosed.

Thank you.

Fraternally,



Gary Hodge
National President

