

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

We hope that you and your family have had a safe and enjoyable winter holiday break.

Phi Chi Theta considers the health, safety, and welfare of all undergraduate members to be our number one priority. Although COVID-19 remains a serious concern, the world is slowly returning to normalcy. Unfortunately, upon the return to campus, some students will place an over emphasis on the social aspects of college life. Each year nearly 2,000 college students die from alcohol related accidents. As you prepare for your return to campus, please give careful consideration that binge drinking is the major contributing factor to student injuries, deaths, sexual assaults, vehicle accidents, and hazing incidents.

Phi Chi Theta continually strives to educate our members on ways to conduct chapter activities in a

safe and responsible manner. Attached please find a copy of our organization’s Risk Management Policies. Please review these policies and make sure you understand them. Our fraternity risk management policies prohibit drinking at all chapter events. All forms of hazing are strictly prohibited. We plan to promote a safe return to college campuses this semester, and every member has a duty to follow all policies and rules of the fraternity as well as those of your college/university.

As a member of Phi Chi Theta, you have a special responsibility to uphold the ideals and expectations of our organization. One of the most noble duties of membership is to look out for your fellow brothers and sisters. If you see certain members, or your chapter, engage in activities that are illegal or violate fraternity policies, it is your responsibility to intervene and prevent them from occurring. Fraternities have been in the news lately due to hazing incidents that not only resulted in the tragic deaths of students, but also brought universal condemnation and disgrace to their organizations. Those students involved in these illegal acts have been arrested and face prosecution and possible time in prison. Hazing has not only been prohibited for more than 30 years by every national fraternity and college campus, but it is also a crime in most states, and prosecutors are rightfully prosecuting students that engage in such activities.

Studies have shown that students that stand up against hazing, binge drinking, sexual misconduct and other illegal acts within their chapters have a positive influence on their fellow brothers and sisters. It takes courage to step-in to prevent a brother or sister from drinking too much alcohol, or to intervene to prevent their chapter from making bad decisions that violate campus and fraternity risk-management policies.

Please make sure to take a responsible and balanced approach in your social activities and in your social interactions with others. Make it your chapter’s focus to live up to our fraternity’s ideals and never engage in any activity that can endanger yourself or other students.

Phi Chi Theta will continue to educate members about the most pressing issues facing fraternities today regarding binge drinking, sexual misconduct, and hazing. Please refer to the following resources about these important topics:

* Short Video: “[A Guide to Responsible Drinking](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_sPNaH2Id8&t=45)”
* Short Video: “[PUBS Signs of an Alcohol Overdose](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycwyLPgUunc&feature=emb_title)”
* Short Video: “[What is a Standard Drink?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VcVjrCsldik)”
* Short Video: “[How to Host a Safer Event](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKVzh_YvoAI&t=3s)”

Please do your part to promote a safe chapter environment this semester. Your positive influence will make a huge difference! Thank you for your assistance, and best wishes for a safe and enjoyable 2023 school year.

Respectfully,

A black and white logo

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Saundra Finley,

Executive Director

