



Division of Student Affairs  
Dean of Students Office

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**August 5, 2020**

Dear Family Member,

You are receiving this letter today due to the fraternity affiliation your student currently holds. Unfortunately, the local chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity has been suspended from the University of Florida due to continued behaviors that conflict with University goals regarding student health and safety and violate University Regulation 4.040, Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Alpha Epsilon Pi has communicated their intentions to remain operational and continue their residence in their official chapter facility, on the University's campus with support from its national organization, in direct violation of their conduct sanctions.

While we continue to work through this situation, we felt it imperative to inform you of the fraternity plans as it may have an impact on your student.

As noted on our [website](#), the local chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi at the University of Florida remains currently suspended, and our staff will continue to work address this issue. Please reference the attached letter that your student received yesterday.

Sincerely,

Pamela Malyk  
Assistant Dean of Students & Director  
Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution

**August 04, 2020**

Dear Student,

I hope you and your loved ones remain safe and well during these uncertain times.

As you may know, Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution has been made aware that student members of the Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity are currently planning to reside in the official chapter facility located on the University of Florida campus for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Student safety and well-being are paramount. Unfortunately, the local chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi has been suspended from the University of Florida due to continued behaviors that conflict with those goals and violate University Regulation 4.040, Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code. We strive to keep invested community members apprised of student organization statuses through our [website](#), where details of incidents involving Alpha Epsilon Pi can be found. Below is a brief summary of Alpha Epsilon Pi's conduct history since Fall 2016.

- **Incident Date: *Fall 2019 Semester***
  - Resolution Type: Greek Conduct Committee Hearing
  - Incident Description: hazing new members/potential new members
  - Sanctions: Suspension through the Spring 2021 semester and Educational Sanctions
- **Incident Date: *Fall 2018 Semester***
  - Resolution Type: Greek Conduct Committee
  - Incident Description: Providing alcohol to minors and hazing new members/potential new members
  - Sanctions: Deferred Suspension through Fall 2019; Loss of University Privileges; Educational Sanctions
- **Incident Date: *Spring 2018 Semester***
  - Resolution Type: Shared Governance
  - Incident Description: Hosting inappropriate recruitment events and activities
  - Sanctions: Educational Outcomes
- **Incident Date: *Summer 2017 Semester***
  - Resolution Type: Shared Governance
  - Incident Description: Providing alcohol to minors and drinking games
  - Sanctions: Loss of University Privileges through December 2017; Educational Outcomes
- **Incident Date: *Fall 2016 Semester***
  - Resolution Type: Shared Governance

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- Incident Description: Hazing potential/new members
- Sanctions: Outcomes from National Organization: Educational Outcomes

We recognize your right to affiliate with groups of your choice and understand you may be receiving a variety of messaging regarding both your affiliation and the status of Alpha Epsilon Pi at the University of Florida. As of December 17, 2019, the local chapter of AEPi and the national organization were on notice of the potential sanctions. Additionally, by early March 2020, the organizations were on notice of the suspension, including the sanction prohibiting members from residing in the official chapter house on the University campus for the duration of the suspension.

Therefore, I write to you today to ensure you clearly understand the expectations of you as a University of Florida student.

Student members of the Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity are not allowed to occupy the official chapter facility on the University's campus during the period of suspension, as that privilege is afforded to registered student organizations that are active and recognized by the University.

As a student, you are expected to abide by University policies, regulations and lawful directives from University officials. Therefore, please consider this correspondence an official directive from the Dean of Students informing you that you must immediately vacate the Alpha Epsilon Pi chapter facility, if currently residing. If you are not currently residing but plan to move-in to the Alpha Epsilon Pi chapter facility for the upcoming semester, you must make other living arrangements. AEPi members are prohibited from residing in the AEPi chapter facility on the University's campus, in any capacity, from June 10, 2020 forward, until AEPi complies with and completes the terms of its suspension and the University approves a reintegration plan.

Failure to comply with this directive can lead to violations of the Student Conduct Code and result in individual sanctions, including possible separation from the University.

You can find more information regarding the Student Conduct Code [here](#).

If you have individual questions, you can reach out to our office via email at [sccr@ufsa.ufl.edu](mailto:sccr@ufsa.ufl.edu).

We hope you consider this information carefully as you are a student first and foremost, working hard to obtain a degree from the University of Florida.

We hope you will be able to make decisions that best support the well-being of our University community and your continued successful matriculation.

Sincerely,

Pamela Malyk  
Assistant Dean of Students & Director  
Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution  
Dean of Students Office

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What if my student has signed a lease with the Alpha Epsilon Pi Housing Corporation?**

As you may already know, the chapter facility is managed by a private entity, with whom you have entered into a lease agreement. Therefore, the housing corporation would be able to respond to specific questions regarding your lease, of which, the University is not directly involved. As a reminder, the local chapter and national organization of Alpha Epsilon Pi have been on notice about possible outcomes that could result in separation as early as December 2019, and aware of a suspension status that would require student members of Alpha Epsilon Pi to vacate the chapter facility as early as March 2020. The housing corporation continued to move forward with signing lease agreements with individual students without the University's knowledge. Once we were made aware of the communicated intent to not-comply with this sanction directive, the University took action to notify the national organization and active membership of the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity accordingly.

Additionally, included below is the contact information Sorority and Fraternity Affairs has available for direct questions for the housing corporation:

- Tyler Corsello (Phone: 973-868-4612, Email: [tyler@espondaassociates.org](mailto:tyler@espondaassociates.org))
- Josh Schenk (Phone: 248-925-7207, Email: [josh@espondaassociates.org](mailto:josh@espondaassociates.org))

Also included is a website link to the Office of Off-Campus Life [here](#), where an online guide to finding an off-campus place to live is available.

As of this communication, the Department of Housing and Residence Education also has on-campus housing availability for students. Tara Gallagher, Assistant Director of Housing Operations, can assist students interested in exploring on-campus living arrangements and can be reached via email ([tgallagher@ufsa.ufl.edu](mailto:tgallagher@ufsa.ufl.edu))

### **How can the University enforce its policy on privately owned land on the University's campus?**

The chapter facility currently occupied by student members of the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity and owned by a private housing corporation is located on the University of Florida campus. This property is deed restricted and subject to those restrictions.

Additionally, the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs has specific policies set forth for social Greek letter organizations that occupy a chapter facility. This policy can be found on the Sorority and Fraternity Affairs website [here](#).

Students are subject to comply with these policies and expectations. Students who do not comply with University policies and expectations can be subject to official conduct action as outlined in [University Regulation 4.040](#). The University has communicated this information with both the national organization and the housing corporation.

As a reminder, the local chapter and national organization of Alpha Epsilon Pi were on notice about possible outcomes that could result in separation as early as December 2019, and aware

of a suspension status that would require student members of Alpha Epsilon Pi to vacate the chapter facility as early as March 2020. The housing corporation continued to move forward with signing lease agreements with individual students without the University's knowledge. Once we were made aware of the communicated intent to not-comply with this sanction directive, the University took action to notify the national organization and active membership of the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity accordingly.

### **Can you provide more information on the notification timeline?**

The local chapter and national organization of Alpha Epsilon Pi were on notice about possible outcomes that could result in separation as early as December 2019, and aware of a suspension status that would require student members of Alpha Epsilon Pi to vacate the chapter facility as early as March 2020.

It is our understanding that the housing corporation continued to move forward with signing lease agreements with individual students without the University's knowledge. Other organizations with chapter facilities have complied with their sanctions accordingly.

However, once we were made aware of the communicated intent to not-comply with this sanction directive, the University reached out to the national organization. The national organization confirmed its understanding and support for the local chapter's non-compliance. In response, the University sent emails to the membership of Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity in an effort to ensure student members were aware of University expectations surrounding compliance with conduct sanctions in case they are receiving conflicting guidance from these entities.

If you have questions with reference to the decision-making process for specific lease agreements, you will want to connect with the housing corporation. Included below is the contact information Sorority and Fraternity Affairs has available for direct questions for the housing corporation:

- Tyler Corsello (Phone: 973-868-4612, Email: [tyler@espondaassociates.org](mailto:tyler@espondaassociates.org))
- Josh Schenk (Phone: 248-925-7207, Email: [josh@espondaassociates.org](mailto:josh@espondaassociates.org))

If you have questions with reference to what was or was not communicated to individual student members, you will want to connect with the Alpha Epsilon Pi national organization. Included below is the contact information for national staff, who have previously engaged with the University on this matter.

- Andrew Neiberg, Director of Campus Operations, [aneiberg@aepi.org](mailto:aneiberg@aepi.org)
- Jason Kirschtel, Director of Chapter Services, [jkirschtel@aepi.org](mailto:jkirschtel@aepi.org)

### **Does the University prohibit students from continuing their membership in Alpha Epsilon Pi during the period of suspension?**

No. The organization is prohibited from participating in University events, activities and formal recruitment for the duration of the suspension; however, students are not prohibited in any way from continuing membership and participation in Alpha Epsilon Pi. The communication you

received specifically relates to the use of a chapter facility, not your identified membership with Alpha Epsilon Pi.

We recognize the rights of individuals to affiliate with groups of their choice. The University is not regulating affiliation, but rather, the organization's compliance with lawfully imposed conduct sanctions and deed restrictions for the property located on the University of Florida campus.

Additionally, the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs has specific policies set forth for social Greek letter organizations that occupy a chapter facility. This policy can be found on the Sorority and Fraternity Affairs website [here](#).

Therefore, the University's communication has been specific to our ability to appropriately enforce our policies to support student safety and well-being.

### **What is the best way to follow-up if I have additional questions?**

We understand we are facing difficult and uncertain times.

As part of our core efforts, the Dean of Students Office is continuing to work to support well-being, safety, and success of all our students.

The best way to connect with Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution is through email ([sccr@ufsa.ufl.edu](mailto:sccr@ufsa.ufl.edu)).

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- Andrew Neiberg, Director of Campus Operations, [aneiberg@aepi.org](mailto:aneiberg@aepi.org)
- Jason Kirschtel, Director of Chapter Services, [jkirschtel@aepi.org](mailto:jkirschtel@aepi.org)

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It is our understanding that the housing corporation continued to move forward with signing lease agreements with individual students without the University's knowledge. Other Greek organizations with chapter facilities have successfully complied with similar sanctions.

Once we were made aware of Alpha Epsilon Pi's intent to not-comply with this sanction directive, the University notified active members of the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity so that

individuals were clearly aware of University expectations in case they may be receiving conflicting guidance from other entities.