



# AEPi

## DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP for the JEWISH COMMUNITY

Dear Brothers,

I hope you are off to a wonderful semester. Unfortunately, I am informing you of some difficult news within our Fraternity. Last week, we became aware of a video circulating that depicted disgusting acts of hazing at our Ann Arbor chapter. The chapter was immediately issued a cease and desist notice, and over the weekend the staff and Supreme Board of Governors of Alpha Epsilon Pi notified all sophomores, juniors, and seniors (over 100 Brothers) that they have been suspended pending their expulsion from AEPi. Not every one of these Brothers assaulted someone or took an active role in this hazing, but every one of them failed to prevent it. In Pirke Avot we read “you are not obligated to complete the task, but neither are you free to desist from it” (Pirke Avot 2:21). This is the mentality of our people and this is the mentality of our Fraternity. Unfortunately, in this case none of the Brothers lived up to that. No one stood up in the moment to say that this was wrong.

AEPi will be working with our freshmen at the chapter to determine what restorative resources we can provide them personally. We will work with those freshmen that choose to stay, in an effort to rehabilitate the chapter. As part of this process, the chapter will no longer have a new member (pledge) process and will instead utilize AEPi’s simple education and orientation course. I want you to know what actions we have taken, and will take, because this is your Fraternity. You deserve to know when others have violated your sacred trust and to know what corrective action is being taken. As a Jewish Fraternity, our highest priority is the same as the highest value of the Jewish People: Chai (Life). This is why AEPi has a robust health and safety policy and it is why we provide (and require) training on the policies, as well as on common health and safety issues on campus. In AEPi we stress how important it is to keep each other safe and we do not tolerate any behavior which endangers others.

In September of 2023, I wrote an [article](#) which discusses the scourge of hazing and what AEPi does to combat it within our organization. I want you to know that we took the exact steps that we promised to take, as soon as we became aware of this incident. Last, I want to stress that if your chapter is struggling with these issues and are ready to make positive changes, we will help you. If you are proactive, open, and honest, we will help without taking punitive action.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Dardiger".

Rob Dardiger  
Chief Executive Officer  
Alpha Epsilon Pi International