

## **Outcome Letter**

*November 17th, 2022* 

From: James Shaw, IFC Judicial Committee Secretary

To: Carson Collard, Delta Tau Delta President

CC: Liz Jason, Associate Dean, FSILGs

James Reed, Assistant Dean, Student Conduct and Community Standards

Anthony Dominguez, Assistant Dean, FSILGs

Dear Carson Collard,

This letter is to notify you of the resolution of a report I received from MIT Police regarding an incident that occurred on September 24th, 2022. The report stated that MIT Police received two noise complaints for Delta Tau Delta on September 24th, 2022. The report stated that during the second complaint, officers visited the chapter house roof where a party was being thrown. The officers observed more than 50 people on the roof and a large amount of alcohol all over the roof. The FSILG Office confirmed that Delta Tau Delta did not have a registered event, nor have the explicit, written approval of the Associate Dean and Director of the FSILG Office, Liz Jason, to host an event on the roof for that day. The FSILG Office also confirmed that the capacity of the chapter roof is 43 people. Additionally, the officers noted in the report that many of the people on the roof were below the age of 21 and that chapter members could not account for who was under 21 drinking alcohol at the party. Based on this information, Delta Tau Delta may have violated the following policies:

## MIT Mind and Hand Book

## II (2) (A). Alcohol Policy

MIT prohibits any persons under the age of 21 from possessing or consuming alcohol. Additionally, MIT prohibits persons from providing, serving, or selling alcohol to any person, except as expressly allowed in Institute policy 9.11.2. Small social gatherings (usually considered to be 25 guests or fewer) at which alcohol is served to individuals over the age of 21 are not considered a violation of this policy.

## II (7). Disorderly Conduct

MIT prohibits disorderly conduct. Disorderly conduct is defined as any unreasonable or reckless conduct by an individual or group that is inherently or potentially unsafe to other persons or to their real or personal property, and/or any behavior that disrupts the peace or interferes with the normal operation of the



# **Interfraternity Council**

# MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY

Institute or Institute-sponsored activities. Disorderly conduct includes making unreasonable noise, disrupting a lawful meeting, obstructing pedestrian or vehicle traffic, or creating a hazardous situation.

FSILG Social Events Policy

# **Event Registration Protocols – All FSILGs**

## **Special House Events**

9. Roof decks may be used for Special House Events, but only by explicit, written approval of the Associate Dean/Director of the FSILG Office.

# **Event Registration Protocols – Interfraternity Council**

# **Social Event Gathering Provisions**

Social Events with Alcohol

3. Roof Decks may not be used for this type of social event.

# Management Requirements for Social Events with Alcohol

# Guest Management

Open parties, meaning those with significantly unrestricted access by nonmembers of a fraternity without specific invitation where alcoholic beverages are present, are prohibited.

- 1. Events with alcohol must have guestlists.
- 2. All guests must provide photo identification with proof of age and sign the guest list prior to entering the event (see Proof of Age below).
- 3. No lines or crowds of individuals are permitted outside of the door.

# Proof of Age

Proof of age must be checked at all entrances to an event at all times. Only government-issued ID's may be used to verify proof of age. Those attendees that are 21 years of age or older must wear a wristband at all times.

## IFC Risk Management Policy

## VIII. Event Registration

A. All events must be registered with the IFC according to the rules outlined in the FSILG Social Event Policy. As of this writing, the Social Policy requires that events must be registered by 3pm on the Thursday before the event is scheduled to take place (events on Thursday must be registered by 3pm on the preceding

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Phi Beta Epsilon · Phi Delta Theta · Phi Kappa Sigma · Phi Kappa Theta · Phi Sigma Kappa · Phi Sigma Rho ·

 $\textit{Pi Lambda Phi \cdot Sigma Alpha Epsilon \cdot Sigma Chi \cdot \textit{Sigma Nu \cdot Sigma Phi Epsilon \cdot Tau Epsilon Phi \cdot \textit{Sigma Phi Epsilon Phi } }$ 

Thursday). The Social Policy's requirements shall supersede the requirements listed here.

#### **Procedures for Events with Alcohol**

## II. Admittance

- A. Each entrance and exit to an event must be monitored by at least one non-consuming individual.
- C. Fraternities are responsible for keeping an accurate list of the name and over/under 21 status of all attendees to a party.
- E. Those guests who are of legal age and who wish to drink must show proof of age, and then be fitted with a wristband.
- F. Those that do not show proof of age to drink must have a non-washable mark placed on the same hand that would otherwise have a wristband applied.
- G. All events must be limited to the safe capacity of the event location as described in the FSILG Social Event Policy. An accurate account must be kept as to the number of guests currently in an event; the IFC Risk Manager will provide capacity "clickers" upon request. An accurate count of the number of individuals inside the chapter's house must be presented to IFC Risk Management Consultants his/her inspection.

#### III. Control of Alcohol

D. Alcohol should not be served to any individual who does not have a proper wristband, whose hand has been marked as an underage guest, or who is not of the age of 21. In addition, no alcohol should be served to an individual who is visibly intoxicated. Party monitors shall monitor the event for guests distributing alcohol or for underage guests possessing alcohol, and will deal with such guests accordingly.

## **Finding**

- MIT Mind and Hand Book, Alcohol Policy Responsible
  - The Panel found Delta Tau Delta responsible for violating this policy because the Panel found that Delta Tau Delta did not appropriately check for proof of age at this event allowing underage students to consume alcohol as stated in the police report.
- MIT Mind and Hand Book, Disorderly Conduct Policy Responsible
  - Delta Tau Delta accepted responsibility for violating this policy.



- FSILG Social Events Policy, Event Registration Protocols All FSILGs, Special House Events Responsible
  - O The Panel found Delta Tau Delta responsible for violating this policy because no explicit, written permission was given to host an event on the roof of Delta Tau Delta, and the Panel found that under the definition of a party in the FSILG Social Events Policy, "If a social event looks like a party, even if it does not involve a majority or even a significant minority of members, it is a party", it is clear that Delta Tau Delta did host an unregistered party on the roof.
- FSILG Social Events Policy, Management Requirements for Social Events with Alcohol, Guest Management Responsible
  - The Panel found Delta Tau Delta responsible for violating this policy there was no guest list or sign in for the event as stated in the police report.
- FSILG Social Events Policy, Management Requirements for Social Events with Alcohol, Proof of Age – Responsible
  - The Panel found Delta Tau Delta responsible for this policy as proof of age was not verified at the event as stated in the police report.
- IFC Risk Management Policy, VIII. Event Registration Responsible
  - The Panel found Delta Tau Delta responsible for violating this policy because under the definition of a party in the FSILG Social Events Policy, "If a social event looks like a party, even if it does not involve a majority or even a significant minority of members, it is a party", it is clear that Delta Tau Delta did host an unregistered party
- IFC Risk Management Policy, Procedures for Events with Alcohol, II. Admittance Responsible
  - The Panel found Delta Tau Delta responsible for violating this policy as no sign in practices occurred and the Panel found that the event exceeded Delta Tau Delta's roof capacity because of the number of people on the roof as stated in the police report.
- IFC Risk Management Policy, Procedures for Events with Alcohol, III. Control of Alcohol
  Responsible
  - The Panel found Delta Tau Delta responsible for violating this policy as the Panel found that open containers of alcohol were present at the event allowing for uncontrolled consumption of alcohol and no centralized distribution of alcohol because of the photos provided by MIT Police.

## **Sanctions**

After reviewing all information available at the time of the hearing, the IFC Judicial Committee has assigned the following sanctions:



- Delta Tau Delta will be placed on organizational probation until October 15th, 2023. Probation is a strong warning from the Institute that the fraternity's behavior violated Institute expectations. During the probationary period, Delta Tau Delta is encouraged to be especially thoughtful in decision-making because additional violations will result in more serious consequences. Please note that this does not directly impose any loss of rights or privileges on Delta Tau Delta.
- Delta Tau Delta must revise their risk management plan and send a copy of the revised document to the IFC Judicial Committee Chair, Kameron Dawson, and Liz Jason, Associate Dean of FSILGs, by December 14th, 2022 (the end of the Fall semester).
  - As general guidance, these revisions should focus on a plan that ensures that small gatherings of members do not get out of hand, better handling of personal use and distribution of alcohol, and better roof management.
- Delta Tau Delta must host an internal risk management meeting before December 14th, 2022 to go over the revised risk management policies and best practices.
  - At least 75% of membership must be in attendance for the house to successfully complete this requirement. A hand-written attendance sheet must be verified by the FSILG Office and submitted to the next Judicial Committee Chair by February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Delta Tau Delta will be unable to hold Social Events until the Risk Management Revision has been submitted and the Risk Management Meeting has been held.
- Delta Tau Delta must hold a Decision-Making Workshop with OSCCS staff before March 1st, 2023.
  - The Spring President, Vice President, and Risk Manager must be in attendance.
  - At least 75% of membership must be in attendance for the house to successfully complete this requirement. A hand-written attendance sheet must be verified by the FSILG Office and submitted to the next Judicial Committee Chair.
- Delta Tau Delta will be subject to 1 additional RMC check for the duration of the Organizational Probation until October 15th, 2023.

The Panel considered Delta Tau Delta's relevant disciplinary history when assigning sanctions as well as the severity of this particular incident and assigned a sanction of organizational probation, with the stipulation that Delta Tau Delta must hold a decision-making workshop, be subject to an additional RMC check for registered events for the duration of their probation, and may not host social events until a Risk Management Revision and internal Risk Management Meeting occur. Delta Tau Delta received a 6-month Organizational Probation from the IFC Judicial Committee in Spring of 2020 due to mismanagement of alcohol, so the Panel feels that a more serious sanction is needed to help Delta Tau Delta take a step back and reflect on how

mistakes in the chapter's risk management policies and execution of the policies led to a situation like this occurring. The Panel believes that a lack of attention to control of alcohol and an improper execution/understanding of risk management strategy- especially as it relates to Delta Tau Delta's roof deck - contributed to these incidents, so Delta Tau Delta can benefit from the risk management revision and meeting.

The Panel feels that a revision of Delta Tau Delta's risk management policy, a risk management meeting, and a decision-making workshop with OSCCS can effectively prepare the chapter to prevent similar incidents from occurring again. Overall, the Panel believes that the sanctions as designed will enable Delta Tau Delta to take the necessary steps to reflect on its risk management practices and use this experience as an opportunity to learn and grow as an organization and be enabled to host successful events in the future.

Please note that failure to comply with the above noted sanctions is grounds for additional Judicial Committee action. As noted in the <a href="IFC Judicial Committee Bylaws">IFC Judicial Committee Bylaws</a>, you have the option to appeal this decision if you so choose; specific details on the appeal process may be found in Article IX of the Bylaws. You have until November 28, 2022 at 5:00PM to submit an appeal. Appeals may be sent directly to the IFC Judicial Committee Chair. Please let me know if you have any additional questions about this outcome or the overall process

Sincerely,

## **James Shaw**

Judicial Committee Secretary, MIT Interfraternity Council