



# Interfraternity Council

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE *of* TECHNOLOGY

**Outcome Letter**  
*December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

**From: Tobe Obochi, IFC Judicial Committee Chair**

**To: Garrett Whitmore, Theta Tau President**

**CC: Anthony Dominguez, Assistant Dean, FSILGs**

**James Reed, Assistant Dean, Student Conduct and Community Standards**

**Liz Jason, Associate Dean, FSILGs**

Dear Garrett,

This letter is to notify you of the resolution of a report I received from the FSILG Office regarding a series of incidents that culminated in an email sent regarding incidents that occurred on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, continuing from the report that was sent on November 8<sup>th</sup>. The report stated that neighbors of Theta Tau were complaining about an increase in excessive noise. The report also stated that the neighbors met with the president and other members of Theta Tau, obtained their contact information, and texted them when the noise was deemed excessive to no avail. The report stated they received a response, but the noise returned after some time. Based on this information, Theta Tau may have violated the following policies:

*MIT Mind and Hand Book*

## **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 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.

After reviewing the report and your response, I have decided to resolve this case administratively. Based on the information provided, I find Theta Tau responsible for all policy violations. According to the reports, there was sufficient noise created to lead to a noise complaint report.

This finding of responsibility will be recorded as an organizational warning from MIT that Theta Tau's behavior in this situation violated Institute expectations. This warning should prompt your house to reflect on this incident and the behavior. Please note that this letter to file does not directly impose any loss of privileges on Theta Tau. However, if you are involved in any type of misconduct in the future, this letter will be considered in determining how your case should be heard and during sanctioning.

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77 Massachusetts Avenue · W20-450 · Cambridge, MA 02139 · <http://ifc.mit.edu> · [ifc-exec@mit.edu](mailto:ifc-exec@mit.edu)

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

*Pi Lambda Phi · Sigma Alpha Epsilon · Sigma Chi · Sigma Nu · Sigma Phi Epsilon · Tau Epsilon Phi ·*

*Theta Chi · Theta Delta Chi · Theta Xi · Zeta Beta Tau · Zeta Psi*



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Since this is the second warning Theta Tau has received for noise issues, Theta Tau will be assigned the following sanctions:

- Theta Tau must develop a Community Relations Task Force that will include the current house president and one member of the house from each class year; this task force will meet with the FSILG Office to discuss how to manage complicated neighborhood relations. The task force must meet at least twice to develop a plan for how to resolve low-level complaints from neighbors, including a plan for communication with the neighbor that loops the FSILG Office in, a plan for how the house will work with the FSILG Office to generate solutions to issues, and a plan for how the house will hold itself and its individual members accountable for making agreed-upon changes. The task force should meet at least twice before February 15, 2024, and a final plan that includes the above items should be submitted to the Judicial Committee Chair and the FSILG Office by 4:30 PM on February 20, 2024.
- Theta Tau leadership must also connect with the FSILG Office and with neighbor to Rus Abruzzi schedule a sound test by February 15, 2024; FSILG Office staff should be included on all communications with Abruzzi regarding the sound test. Confirmation that the sound test has occurred should be sent to the Judicial Committee Chair and the FSILG Office by 4:30 PM on February 20, 2024.

The rationale for these sanctions took into consideration Theta Tau's history of prior violations as well as the impact to the surrounding community. There was concern that Theta Tau has had multiple issues involving the neighbor in question, and while I appreciated the challenges that the house has encountered in resolving these issues, I felt that more serious action was warranted to resolve the concerns before they had additional community impacts beyond the neighbor who has complained thus far. I am hopeful that the work the task force will do, as well as the sound test, will help move the house forward towards resolving these issues in a meaningful way this upcoming year and will also provide future residents a road map for resolving any issues that may arise in the future.

Sincerely,

**Tobe Obochi**

Judicial Committee Chair, MIT Interfraternity Council