



# Interfraternity Council

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE *of* TECHNOLOGY

## IFC Judicial Committee Outcome Letter

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**From: Daniel Gonzalez Cunningham, IFC Judicial Committee Chair**

**To: Tim Kralj, Theta Tau President**

**CC: Liz Jason, Assistant Dean, FSILGs  
James Reed, Assistant Dean, Student Conduct**

Dear Tim,

I'm writing to provide you the outcome of an IFC Judicial Committee Hearing panel held on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The panel was convened to review the incident that was reported by MIT Police at Theta Tau on May 21, 2019 during which Theta Tau may have violated the following policies:

*MIT Mind and Hand Book*

### **II (6). Disorderly Conduct**

### **IV (6). FSILG Risk Management Policies: Drugs and Alcohol**

*IFC Risk Management Policy*

#### **II. Alcohol**

H. When hosting events with alcohol, all fraternities must follow the guidelines for hosting events.

#### **VIII. Event Registration**

A. All events must be registered with the IFC according to the rules outlined in the FSILG Social Event Policy.

*FSILG Social Events Policy*

#### **Management Requirements for Social Events with Alcohol**

The service of hard liquor is prohibited at all FSILG social events. No common source alcohol (e.g. kegs) will be permitted. [...]

At the hearing on October 24<sup>th</sup>, you and several other members of Theta Tau were present, and you responded to the complaint. Additionally, you answered questions asked of you by IFC Judicial Committee members. The complainant was not present at the hearing.

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## **Finding**

After reviewing all information available at the time of the hearing, the Panel has found Theta Tau responsible for violating IFC Risk Management Policy Section II(H) and Mind and Hand Book Section II (6) and IV (6).

During the hearing, Theta Tau accepted responsibility for the presence of loud music and the playing of the drinking game, “beer die”, which addresses the policies listed by the Mind and Hand Book. With regards to VIII A. from the IFC Risk Management Policy, the Panel felt that what ultimately occurred between 6-8 members of Theta Tau was solely between members of Theta Tau with no intention of inviting guests outside of the organization, so therefore did not constitute as an event. As a direct result of this, the Panel felt it necessary to not find Theta Tau responsible for the Management Requirements charge from the FSILG Social Events Policy as well.

## **Sanctions**

After due consideration, the Panel assigned the following sanctions:

- This finding of responsibility will be recorded as an organizational warning, which is considered a 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 organizational warning 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.
- Theta Tau must revise its new member education program documents in such a way that shows an emphasis on educating new members with the various MIT policies, in particular the IFC Risk Management Policy, the FSILG Social Events Policy, and the MIT Mind and Hand Book. It is not required to send the entire new member education program, just the portions that deal directly with policy education. This document, or parts of the document, must be sent to Daniel Gonzalez Cunningham, Judicial Committee Chair, and Liz Jason, Associate Dean of FSILGs, by December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.
  - Once approved, Theta Tau and its membership must review and vote on the new changes before the end of the semester.
- Theta Tau must host a risk management meeting with the next elected IFC Risk Manager during the month of April 2020 to discuss risk management practices and related policies. The meeting is designed to familiarize all of Theta Tau’s membership with MIT, FSILG, and IFC social event policies and act as a reminder to help prevent similar a similar incident from occurring again, especially during finals period.
  - The meeting must be attended by a minimum of 75% of the fraternity’s membership. Theta Tau must submit a handwritten attendance sheet to Liz Jason, Assistant Dean of FSILGs and to the next Judicial Committee Chair, by May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The panel considered Theta Tau’s relevant disciplinary history when assigning sanctions as well as the circumstances that may have led to the incident occurring. The Panel felt that although it was the end of the semester, members of Theta Tau, especially new members, should be fluent in the various policies that they are expected to abide by, as well as how their actions can affect the fraternity overall. Given the assigned sanctions of revising the new member education program and hosting a risk management meeting in the spring, the Panel was confident that the preceding sanctions would help to prevent a similar incident from happening again and give Theta Tau a better understanding of the expectations that MIT has for its fraternities.

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Please note that failure to comply with the above noted sanctions is grounds for additional Judicial Committee action. As noted in the [IFC Judicial Committee Bylaws](#), 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 1, 2019 at 5:00 PM to submit an appeal. Appeals may be sent to me directly. Please let me know if you have any additional questions about this outcome or the overall process.

Sincerely,

**Daniel Gonzalez Cunningham**

Judicial Committee Chair, MIT Interfraternity Council

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