Officer of Fraternity & Sorority Life Hazing Policy

The Georgia Southern University student Code of Conduct defines hazing as:

Participation in hazing, defined as an act which endangers the emotional, mental, or physical health or safety of a student, with or without their expressed permission, or which destroys or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization.

Hazing includes acts that are intended to or actually cause physical discomfort, embarrassment and/or ridicule of another person for the purpose mentioned above are violations of the Student Conduct Code.

State of Georgia Hazing Law

§16-5-61. Hazing

A. As used in this section, the term:
   1. "Haze" means to subject a student to an activity which endangers or is likely to endanger the physical health of a student, regardless of a student's willingness to participate in an activity.
   2. "School" means any school, college, or university in this state.
   3. "School organization" means any club, society, fraternity, sorority, or a group living together which has students and its principal members.
   4. "Student" means any person enrolled in a school in this state.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person to haze any student in connection with or as a condition or precondition of gaining acceptance membership, office, or other status in a school organization.

C. Any person who violates this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature.

Report Hazing Anytime at Georgia Southern

Hazing Hotline: 1-888-893-6554

The Hazing Hotline has been set up as a way for individuals to anonymously report acts of hazing on the Georgia Southern University campus. All calls to the Hazing Hotline will be handled in a confidential manner. We thank all those willing to join the fight to stop hazing in our community by reporting any acts of hazing that they may be aware of on our campus.
Committing an Offense: The organization and any individual involved in hazing commit an offense by: engaging in hazing; soliciting, encouraging, aiding, or directing another engaging in hazing; intentionally, recklessly, or knowingly permitting hazing to occur; having first-hand knowledge that a specific hazing incident is being planned or has occurred and failing to report said knowledge in writing to any University Official.

Organization Hazing Offense: An organization commits an offense if the organization condones or encourages hazing or if an officer or any combination of members, pledges, or alumni of the organization commits or assists in the commission of hazing.

Consent: It is not a defense to prosecution of an offense that the person against whom the hazing was directed consented to or acquiesced in the hazing activity.

Penalties:

University - Each individual committing an offense is subject to University penalties ranging from probation to expulsion.

Organization - Student organizations committing an offense are subject to be placed on University probation and receive penalties such as expulsion or lose University recognition.

Penalties – Criminal:
- Individual and/or organizations may be charged in criminal court as well as civil court due to allegations of hazing. Criminal and civil proceedings are separate processes from the University judicial process.

Should you or any member of your organization ever suspect hazing, please contact 1-888-893-6554. Hazing is further defined through the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Relations (Adopted from the FIPG, Inc. Risk Management Policy).

The Risk Management Policy of FIPG, Inc. includes the provisions which follow and shall apply to all fraternity entities and all levels of fraternity membership.

No chapter, colony, student, or alumnus shall conduct nor condone hazing activities. Hazing activities are further defined by the FIPG (Fraternal Information Programming Group) as:

"Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside or inside of the confines of the chapter house; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution or applicable state law."