Chapter Event and Risk Management Guidelines

New York University Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) seeks to promote meaningful membership experience for all fraternity and sorority membership. To this end, the NYU fraternity and sorority community commits to provide safe, enjoyable, and educational events for its members. The guidelines outlined in this document exist to ensure the safety of all individuals and organizations during chapter events.

Section I – Definition of a Chapter Event

A. An event will be defined as anything a reasonable observer would associate with the chapter;
B. occurs at a chapter house;
C. occurs at a facility owned or rented by chapter members;
D. advertised using the chapter’s name;
E. occurring with officers present;
F. funded by chapter money or the pooling of funds from chapter members;
G. if the event can be reasonably associated with the chapter, the organization will be held responsible for any actions or behaviors of any participants at the event whether the event takes place on or off campus at any point of the calendar year; and
H. all social fraternities and sororities must follow all of the Fraternal Information and Programming Group, Inc. (FIPG) policies, rules, and regulations as outlined in Appendix A.

Section II – New York University Fraternity and Sorority Life Requirements

A. As registered student organizations at New York University, all chapter events are subject to the policies for registered student organizations.

Section III – Violations

A. Violations of the chapter event policy may result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct, a staff member in Fraternity and Sorority Life, or respective governing bodies for conduct violations against the chapter and/or individual members, and the loss of registration/recognition as a fraternity/sorority at NYU. Loss of recognition will prevent the organization from participating in/hosting any social functions (on or off campus), participating in philanthropies, reserving space on campus, or otherwise functioning as a student organization.

i. Violations include, but are not limited to:
   a. submission of improper paperwork or the lack of submitting required paperwork;
   b. holding chapter events without adhering to the procedures outlined by NYU Fraternity and Sorority Life;
   c. Any violations of the event policies outlined in student organization policies and Fraternity and Sorority Life policies; and
   d. any conduct violations against the chapter during chapter events.
Appendix A

FIPG RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY
As adopted July 2008 and revised in January 2017

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

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

1. The possession, sale, use or consumption of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, while on chapter premises or during a fraternity event, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or at any event an observer would associate with the fraternity, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, province, county, city and institution of higher education, and must comply with either the BYOB or Third Party Vendor Guidelines.

2. No alcoholic beverages may be purchased through or with chapter funds nor may the purchase of same for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of or on behalf of the chapter. The purchase or use of a bulk quantity or common source(s) of alcoholic beverage, for example, kegs or cases, is prohibited.

3. OPEN PARTIES, meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members of the fraternity, without specific invitation, where alcohol is present, are prohibited.

4. No members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to, or sell alcoholic beverages to any minor (i.e., those under legal drinking age).

5. The possession, sale or use of any ILLEGAL DRUGS or CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES while on chapter premises or during a fraternity event or at any event that an observer would associate with the fraternity is strictly prohibited.

6. No chapter may co-sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor or tavern (tavern defined as an establishment generating more than half of annual gross sales from alcohol) at which alcohol is given away, sold or otherwise provided to those present. This includes any event held in, at or on the property of a tavern as defined above for purposes of fundraising. However, a chapter may rent or use a room or area in a tavern as defined above for a closed event held within the provisions of these guidelines, including the use of a third party vendor and guest list. An event at which alcohol is present may be conducted or co-sponsored with a charitable organization if the event is held within the provisions of these guidelines.

7. No chapter may co-sponsor, co-finance or attend or participate in a function at which alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups or organizations.

8. All recruitment or rush activities associated with any chapter will be non-alcoholic. No recruitment or rush activities associated with any chapter may be held at or in conjunction with a tavern or alcohol distributor as defined in these guidelines.

9. No member or pledge, associate/new member or novice shall permit, tolerate, encourage or participate in “drinking games.” The definition of drinking games includes but is not limited to the consumption of shots of alcohol, liquor or alcoholic beverages, the practice of consuming shots equating to one’s age, “beer pong,” “century club,” “dares” or any other activity involving the consumption of alcohol which involves duress or encouragement related to the consumption of alcohol.

10. No alcohol shall be present at any pledge/associate member/new member/novice program, activity or ritual of the chapter. This includes but is not limited to activities associated with “bid night,” “big brother –
little brother” events or activities, / “big sister - little sister” events or activities, “family” events or activities and initiation.

HAZING

No chapter, colony, student or alumnus shall conduct nor condone hazing activities. Permission or approval by a person being hazed is not a defense. Hazing activities are defined 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.”

SEXUAL ABUSE AND HARASSMENT

The fraternity will not tolerate or condone any form of sexist or sexually abusive behavior on the part of its members, whether physical, mental or emotional. This is to include any actions, activities or events, whether on chapter premises or an off-site location which are demeaning to women or men, including but not limited to verbal harassment, sexual assault by individuals or members acting together. The employment or use of strippers, exotic dancers or similar, whether professional or amateur, at a fraternity event as defined in these guidelines is prohibited.

FIRE, HEALTH AND SAFETY

1. All chapter houses should meet all local fire and health codes and standards.

2. All chapters should post by common phones and in other locations emergency numbers for fire, police and ambulance and should have posted evacuation routes on the back of the door of each sleeping room.

3. All chapters should comply with engineering recommendations as reported by the insurance company or municipal authorities.

4. The possession and/or use of firearms or explosive or incendiary devices of any kind within the confines and premises of the chapter house is prohibited.

5. Candles should not be used in chapter houses or individual rooms except under controlled circumstances such as initiation.

EDUCATION

Each fraternity shall annually instruct its students and alumni/alumnae in the Risk Management Guidelines of FIPG, Inc. Additionally, all students and key volunteers shall annually receive a copy of the Risk Management Guidelines and a copy of the guidelines shall be available on the fraternity website.