



# PHI GAMMA DELTA

BUILDING COURAGEOUS LEADERS

## Alcohol Free Housing (AFH) and Phi Gamma Delta

A review of the movement within our Fraternity and the Greek community

### History of the Movement

- 1988** Companies that insure college fraternities started sending a message that Greek organizations would no longer be covered by insurance unless their members started changing their behavior, especially regarding alcohol and hazing.
- 1995** Individuals at the (inter)national leadership levels of many Greek organizations began talking seriously about removing alcohol from chapter houses. An early step in this movement was the formation of the Joint Task on AFH by the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) and the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC).
- 1996** The Select 2000 initiative (a plan to change the fraternity environment in a positive way) sponsored by the NIC, also included the recommendation that fraternities, when expanding, require their new colonies start as alcohol-free facilities. This was something Phi Gamma Delta embraced and it continues to be our policy today.
- 1997** In February Phi Delta Theta and Sigma Nu announced their alcohol free housing initiative. The Archons additionally, deemed alcohol to be the number one problem in the Greek world at this time. In late May/early June of this year, the Archons appointed the Task Force on Alcohol-Free Housing and Education, comprised of six undergraduate and six graduate brothers. Their task was to review the matter of alcohol-free housing and develop a program for adoption and implementation to require all chapter facilities in Phi Gamma Delta to be alcohol-free by July 1, 2000.

After a summer of meetings, the committee prepared its report for the Archons and presented it for review in August. The primary recommendation of the committee to the Archons was the development of the AFH and Educational Initiative, which included the recommendation that all Phi Gamma Delta facilities become alcohol-free by July 1, 2000. The Archons, in the interim between Ekklesiai, then made an amendment to the Risk Management (RM) Policy to include this requirement.

The Fraternity and the Educational Foundation offered chapters the ability to apply for grants to go alcohol-free prior to July 1, 1998. Qualifying chapters were eligible to receive up to \$20,000 (\$10,000 from each organization) for chapter improvements, and educational equipment (i.e., computers, study rooms/desks, etc.). Twenty-Four chapters qualified, and Twenty-One accepted the grant. The foundation and the fraternity granted a total of \$296,890.45 to our chapters who adopted alcohol free housing prior to the 2000 deadline.

- 1998** As the topic of AFH would be discussed at the 150<sup>th</sup> Ekklesia, undergraduate chapters made several by-law proposals that would alter the original “no exceptions” AFH requirement as stated in the RM policy. The

subject was debated in Pittsburgh and finally, the undergraduates, which make up approximately 93% of all votes cast at an Ekklesia, elected to make AFH a by-law with the provision of a one-time, two-year exemption.

- 2000** (Spring). Original exemption process saw nearly 30 chapters apply for the exemption. Out of this group, 18 chapters qualified.
- (Fall). 152<sup>nd</sup> Ekklesia saw a new amendment to AFH with one major change; a continued two-year exemption to AFH, provided chapters meet several criteria. Additionally, the creation of an Exemption Review Committee, with two graduate and three undergraduate members serving, was added to the amendment.
- (Fall). The amendment further allowed those chapters that did not qualify earlier in the year (or those chapters that did not apply in the first place) the opportunity to submit applications for a special exemption review process. Out of 20 applications submitted, the Review Committee granted nine exemptions. Two applications were sent on to the Board of Conduct for appeal and were granted their exemptions upon further review of the submitted materials.
- 2001** (Spring/Summer). Nine chapters applied. The Exemption Review Committee reviewed these packets in Lexington on July 6-8, 2001. From this group, six chapters qualified for an exemption. To date 33 of Phi Gamma Delta's chapters were exempted from the alcohol-free housing policy.
- 2002** (Spring/Summer). Forty chapters were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. To date 30 of Phi Gamma Delta's chapters are now exempt from alcohol-free housing policy.
- 2003** (Spring/Summer) Forty applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee (10-new, 30-yearly reviews). Thirty-two chapters were exempted from the alcohol-free housing policy.
- 2004** (Spring/Summer) Forty-two applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee (40-new, 2-yearly reviews). Thirty-three chapters were granted an exempt from the alcohol-free housing policy.
- (Summer) The 156<sup>th</sup> Ekklesia amended 19.500, ¶ 3, to provide that chapters may submit evidence to the exemption review committee that IFC or institutional disciplinary actions should not disqualify the chapter from applying for or receiving the exemption.
- 2005** (Spring/Summer) Forty-four applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee (15-new, 29-yearly reviews). Thirty-five chapters were granted an exemption from the alcohol-free housing policy
- 2006** (Spring / Summer) Forty applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee (31 – new; 9-yearly reviews). Thirty-four chapters were granted an exemption from the alcohol-free housing policy.
- 2007** (Spring/Summer) Thirty-eight applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. Twenty-nine chapters were approved for the exemption, with another five (as of 8/30/07) having the opportunity to gain the exemption by completing certain requirements.
- 2008** (Spring/Summer) Thirty-five applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. Twenty-six chapters were approved for an exemption to the Alcohol Free Housing Policy. Additionally, the 160<sup>th</sup> Ekklesia amended 19.500, ¶ 1 so that chapters earning at least a 3.0 per semester (regardless of campus averages) qualify academically. It also amended ¶ 3 to allow chapters until June 15 of the application year to submit letters from the IFC / institution.
- 2009** (Spring/Summer) Thirty-two applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. Twenty-six chapters were approved for an exemption to the Alcohol Free Housing Policy.

- 2010** (Spring/Summer) Forty-one applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. Thirty-seven chapters were approved for an exemption to the Alcohol Free Housing Policy. Additionally, the 162<sup>nd</sup> Ekklesia made numerous amendments to 19.500. Changes included:
- Exemptions are now granted on an annual basis (as opposed to biannual) with applications due April 1 (from March 1)
  - Chapters whose host institution does not provide campus averages must earn a 2.6 on a 4.0 scale (up from a 2.5)
  - Chapters may not be under disciplinary action as of August 1 (the effective date of an exemption as opposed to the time of application)
  - The descriptions of educational programming topics to be completed were clarified to better reflect available programming and risks which students face
- 2011** (Spring/Summer) Forty-five applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. Thirty-six chapters were approved for an exemption to the Alcohol Free Housing Policy.
- 2012** (Spring/Summer) Forty-five applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. Thirty chapters were approved for an exemption to the Alcohol Free Housing Policy. The 164<sup>th</sup> Ekklesia did not amend section 19.500 of the Bylaws.
- 2013** (Spring/Summer) Forty-six applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. Thirty-six chapters were approved for an exemption to the Alcohol Free Housing Policy.
- 2014** (Spring/Summer) Forty-seven applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. Thirty-eight chapters were approved for an exemption to the Alcohol Free Housing Policy. Additionally, the 166<sup>th</sup> Ekklesia amended 19.500:
- Board of Conduct is now allowed to give guidance to the Exemption Review Committee related to chapter discipline.
  - Chapters need to only submit one letter of good standing from the host institution. The only chapters required to submit a letter from the IFC are where the host institution does not normally provide that information.
  - Various editorial changes were made to update to common language and practices.
- 2015** (Spring/Summer) Forty-nine applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. Thirty-nine chapters were approved for an exemption to the Alcohol Free Housing Policy.
- 2016** (Spring/Summer) Forty-six applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. Thirty-six chapters were approved for an exemption to the Alcohol Free Housing Policy. The 168<sup>th</sup> Ekklesia did not amend section 19.500 of the Bylaws.
- 2017** (Spring/Summer) Forty-seven applications were reviewed by the Exemption Review Committee. Thirty-two chapters were approved for an exemption to the Alcohol Free Housing Policy.
- On November 8, 2017, Sigma Phi Epsilon announced all chapter facilities will be alcohol free by 2020.
- 2018** On May 16, 2018, Delta Upsilon announced all chapter facilities will be alcohol free by August 1, 2020. Beginning August 1, 2018, all chapter facilities will ban hard alcohol.