



## GREEK LIFE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

### NEW MEMBER HAZING STATEMENT

Upon accepting an invitation to join your chapter, the Fresno State Greek Life Hazing Statement must be read in full to all new members, and signed by each new member stating that they understand the policy and will uphold the policy at all times.

California State University, Fresno, the Greek Governing Councils, the State of California and the Student Activities and Leadership Development Office all prohibit students from engaging in any activity that may be considering hazing. According to the FIPG (the Fraternity Insurance Purchasing Group): Risk Management Manual hazing is defined as:

Hazing is any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premise, to produce or causes 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; kidnapping, whether by pledges or active members; 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 such activities that are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy, or the regulations and policies of the institution or applicable state law.

#### **CALIFORNIA HAZING LAW Matt's Law SEC. 3. Section 245.6**

- 245.6 (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as "Matt's Law" in memory of Matthew William Carrington, who died on February 2, 2005 as a result of hazing.
- (b) As used in this section "hazing" or "haze" is conduct which causes, or is likely to cause, bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to another person in the course of the other person's preinitiation into, initiation into, affiliation with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization. The terms "hazing" or "haze" do not include customary athletic, fire department, police department, military, or quasi-military training, conditioning, or similar events or activities.
- (c) Any person who hazes or conspires to participate in hazing is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100), nor more than five thousand dollars (\$5000), or imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed one year, or by both fine and imprisonment.
- (d) Any person who hazes or conspires to participate in hazing which results in death, great bodily injury, or great psychological injury is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in the state prison.
- (e) An organization is guilty of violating subdivisions (b) or (c) if the organization's agents, directors, trustees, managers, or officers authorized, requested, commanded, encouraged, participated in, ratified, or tolerated the hazing.
- (f) The implied or expressed consent of the person or persons against whom the hazing was directed shall not be defense to any action brought under this section.
- (g) This section does not apply to the person against whom the hazing was directed.
- (h) This section shall not, in any manner, limit or exclude prosecution or punishment for any other crime or any civil remedy.
- (i) The person against whom the hazing is directed may commence a civil action for injury or damages, including mental and physical pain and suffering that results from the hazing. The action may be brought against any participants in the hazing, or any organization, whose agents, directors, trustees, managers, or officers authorized, requested, commanded, encouraged, participated in, ratified, or tolerated the hazing. If the organization is a corporation, whether for profit or not, the individual directors of the corporation may be held individually liable for damages.

