

ANTI - HAZING COMPLIANCE

Hazing is illegal in Massachusetts. State law requires that every member of every organization be provided with a copy of the statute. In order to be active each year, every RSO, student business, fraternity and sorority must do the following:

- 1. Give every member a copy of the attached sections of the Massachusetts General Laws**
"Each student group, team or organization shall distribute a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to each of its members, plebes, pledges or applicants for membership."
- 2. Make sure every member agrees to comply with the law - in other words NO HAZING!**
"such group, team or organization understands and agrees to comply with the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen"
- 3. Sign this form after doing steps 1 and 2 and return it to the appropriate office (RSO Resource Center, Center for Student Business or Office of Fraternities and Sororities)**
"It shall be the duty of each such group, team or organization, acting through its designated officer, to deliver annually, to the institution an attested acknowledgement stating that such group, team or organization has received a copy of this section and said sections seventeen and eighteen, that each of its members, plebes, pledges and applicants has received a copy of sections seventeen and eighteen"

GROUP _____

As a designated officer, my signature attests that each member of the above named organization has received, understands and agrees to comply with Section 17, 18 and 19 of Chapter 269 of the Massachusetts General Law prohibiting hazing.

Print Name

Position

Signature

Date

RETURN BY SEPTEMBER 28, 2007

SECTIONS 17, 18 AND 19 OF THE STATUTE PROHIBITING HAZING, CHAPTER 269 OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS.

Section 17

PENALTY Whoever is a principle organizer or participant in the crime of hazing, as defined herein, shall be punished by a fine of not more than three thousand dollars or by imprisonment on a house of correction for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

DEFINITION The term of “hazing” as used in this section and in sections eighteen and nineteen, shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation or sleep or rest or extended isolation.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the contrary, consent shall not be available as a defense to any prosecution under this action.

Section 18

DUTY TO REPORT Whoever fails to report such crime shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars.

Section 19

NOTICE Each institution of secondary education and each public and private institution of post secondary education shall issue to every student group, student team or student organization which is part of such institution to use its name or facilities or is known by the institution to exist as an unaffiliated student group, student team or student organization, a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen; provided, however, that an institution’s compliance with this section’s requirement that an institution issue copies of this section and section seventeen and eighteen to unaffiliated student groups, teams or organizations shall not constitute evidence of the institution’s recognition or endorsement of said unaffiliated student groups, teams or organizations.

Each student group, team or organization shall distribute a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to each of its members, plebes, pledges or applicants for membership. It shall be the duty of each such group, team or organization, acting through its designated officer, to deliver annually, to the institution an attested acknowledgement stating that such group, team or organization has received a copy of this section and said sections seventeen and eighteen, that each of its members, plebes, pledges and applicants has received a copy of sections seventeen and eighteen, and that such group, team or organization understands and agrees to comply with the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen. Each institution of secondary education shall, at least annually, before or at the start of enrollment, deliver to each person who enrolls as a full time student in such institution a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post secondary education shall file, at least annually, report with the regents of higher education and in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education, certifying that such institutions has complied with its responsibility to inform student groups, teams or organizations and to notify each full time student enrolled by it of the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen and also certifying that said institution has adopted a disciplinary policy with regard to the organizers and participants of hazing, and that such policy has been set forth with appropriate emphasis in the student handbook or similar means of communicating the institution’s policies to its students. The board of regents and, in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education shall promulgate relations governing the content and frequency of such reports, and shall forthwith report to the attorney general any such institution which fails to make such report.