



## **NPC Position Statement Clarifying the Role of College Panhellenics in Safety and Risk Management**

The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), one of the world's largest organizations advocating for women, is the umbrella group for 26 inter/national women's-only sororities. NPC supports the formation of College Panhellenic Associations through its governance documents known as Unanimous Agreements. Unanimous Agreement VI directs that a College Panhellenic Association must be established where two or more NPC sororities have installed undergraduate chapters on campus. The purpose of a College Panhellenic is to:

- Promote the growth of individual chapters and the sorority community.
- Organize and sponsor a women's-only membership recruitment program.
- Encourage the highest possible academic, social and moral standards.
- Coordinate activities, establish orderly procedures and provide for programming in addition to recruitment.
- Actively support the mission of its host institution.
- Promote good public relations.
- Give service to the community and campus.
- Sponsor Junior Panhellenic, if appropriate, for specialized programming efforts.
- Promote friendship, harmony and unity among members, chapters, faculty, administrators and campus groups.

Each NPC member organization is a private organization that has its own expectations, policies and procedures for maintaining a safe sorority environment for its organization and members. To affirm the high standards of each organization, the inter/national presidents of each NPC member organization have set minimum standards for collegiate members. These expectations are outlined in the NPC Standards and help chapters enhance and promote each member's learning and development as well as health and safety. These policies and practices align with the best interest of the organization's members and are to be monitored and enforced by the individual member organization with its members.

Since each NPC member organization sets, monitors and enforces these expectations, policies and procedures for its members, it is not the place of a College Panhellenic to enforce them. Nor, based on its stated purpose, should the College Panhellenic develop new policies or add additional requirements to sorority members or chapters of the College Panhellenic community regarding safety/risk management or social policies. Safety/risk management or social policy concerns related to the behaviors of individuals and/or chapters should be referred back to the chapter and/or inter/national member organization. More importantly, the College Panhellenic should not attempt to adjudicate any violation of safety/risk management or social policies. The College Panhellenic only adjudicates matters found in the governing documents of the association, namely the College Panhellenic Association bylaws, standing rules and recruitment rules.

In the event College Panhellenic officers and/or the fraternity/sorority advisor are concerned about safety/risk management of the entire community, they should gather the chapter leaders together to discuss the issues and potential action items. Results of those conversations should not be the creation of policies to be adjudicated by the



College Panhellenic. Instead, each chapter must work with its respective member organization to create desired change.

NPC and its member organizations recognize that institutions of higher education may have safety/risk management or social policies required of all student organizations, such as event registration procedures. Violations of campus policies or student conduct codes by individuals and organizations shall be adjudicated by the appropriate college/university entity.

[Adopted: 2019]