



## Division of Student Affairs

March 17, 2022:

██████████ Executive Director  
Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity  
██████████  
Indianapolis, IN 46226

Dear ██████████

Thank you for your recent call informing me of Phi Kappa Psi's (Phi Psi) intention to maintain an unrecognized chapter for students at Louisiana State University (LSU) despite a finding of responsibility and a suspension of university recognition for multiple and severe violations of the LSU Code of Student Conduct. Please know that LSU is unequivocally opposed to Phi Psi operating a chapter without university recognition. I am therefore asking the organization to affirm the university's decision and support the sanctions as issued.

While I understand many Phi Psi stakeholders are frustrated with the length of the suspension determined per the LSU Code of Student Conduct process (until at least May 31, 2025), I need to note that Phi Psi was given ample opportunity to pursue an alternative form of resolution that could have resulted in a more favorable timeline. Specifically, on April 12, 2021, a Phi Psi official and I met to discuss the status of the investigation and potential paths forward. During that meeting, it was acknowledged that Phi Psi staff had remained informed during the LSU investigation and were aware of the findings. He verbally outlined a very detailed and promising plan for ensuring the health and safety of future LSU Phi Psi members. In response, I suggested that the Phi Psi Board suspend the chapter, propose a detailed and thorough return framework, and propose a return date for consideration. As you and I have discussed, a Spring 2023 return to campus would have received serious consideration if coupled with a comprehensive plan to promote health, safety, achievement, accountability, and a positive contribution to the campus community. Following that meeting, I understand that local Phi Psi alumni opted instead for the chapter to avail itself of LSU's formal conduct process, which resulted in the suspension that is at issue today.

If Phi Psi chooses to operate an unrecognized chapter for students at Louisiana State University, it is essential that students, parents, alumni, volunteers, board members, and Phi Psi headquarters staff fully understand the implications of doing so. First and foremost, the organization will violate the sanctions issued on June 10, 2021, if it engages in any of the following activities:

- Participation in social activities on or off-campus
- Solicitation of new members or pledges
- Initiation of new members
- Habitation, occupancy, or utilization of the house located at ██████████

Choosing to violate the terms of the sanctions would be noted and factored into the decision-making process when/if the chapter decides to reapply for LSU recognition and would likely extend the chapter's lapse in recognition beyond May 31, 2025.

In addition to the future implications for LSU recognition, immediate other consequences should be noted. The following is a partial list:

- The organization's status will be clearly stated on the Greek Life website, the Greek scorecard, and other forums frequented by parents and prospective new members of fraternities/sororities. LSU will explicitly state that we neither support nor recommend LSU students join an unrecognized chapter.
- The organization will not be permitted to use "LSU," "Louisiana State University," or other registered LSU trademarks, nor should the chapter be known or referred to nationally as the LSU chapter or the Louisiana State University Chapter.
- The organization will not be eligible for block/priority seating available to recognized student organizations at LSU athletic events.
- The organization may not sponsor, cosponsor, or participate in social, intramural, athletic, or similar activities on or off-campus.
- The organization will be unable to reserve campus rooms, outdoor spaces, or equipment at free or reduced rates available to recognized student organizations.
- The organization will not have access to educational workshops, training, or chapter enhancement tools available to recognized student organizations.
- Many fraternities and sororities have national policies prohibiting local chapters from associating with unrecognized chapters. Thus the social environment is unlikely to resemble that of a recognized student organization for the men who choose to participate in the unrecognized chapter.

I sincerely believe that both LSU and Phi Kappa Psi are committed to the health and safety and the personal and academic development of LSU students. We ardently believe in solid partnerships between the university and our national fraternity headquarters partners. We are further convinced that a partnership provides the best environment for pursuing our shared commitment to LSU students. However, a partnership is impossible outside of formal recognition as an LSU student organization. As such, I again ask for Phi Psi to affirm the university's conduct decision and support the sanctions as issued, with the goal of resuming our partnership at the appropriate time.

Regards,



Jeremiah B. Shinn, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Student Affairs