

The following information appears in compliance with the 1987 State of Texas Hazing Law:

Texas Hazing Law Texas A&M University

On August 31, 1987, a new law went into effect in the State of Texas regarding HAZING. Below is an abbreviated summary, in question and answer form, of the contents of that law and the applicability and implications for students, faculty and staff at Texas A&M University. THIS IS ONLY A SUMMARY. Certain points in the law have been omitted in this summary for editorial purposes. For the full text of the law, please see Appendix VI of the 1997-98 Student Rules.

What is the definition of Hazing?

"Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off campus of Texas A&M University, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliation with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose memberships are or include students at Texas A&M University. The term included but is not limited to:

- (a) Any type of physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity.
- (b) Any type of physical activity, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small place, calisthenics, or other activities that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.
- (c) Any activity involving consumption of a food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, liquor, drug, or other substance which subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.
- (d) Any activity that intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism, that subjects the student to extreme mental stress, shame, or humiliation, or adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student or discourages the student from entering or remaining registered in an educational institution, or that may reasonably be expected to cause a student to leave the organization or the institution rather than submit to acts described in the subsection.
- (e) Any activity that induces, causes, or requires the student to perform a duty or task which involves a violation of the penal code.

In addition, Texas A&M University has also defined hazing to include:

- (a) Misuse of authority by virtue of your class rank or leadership position.
- (b) Any form of physical bondage.
- (c) Any form of "Quadding".

How do I commit a hazing offense?

A person commits an offense if the person:

- (a) Engages in hazing
- (b) Solicits, encourages, directs, aids or attempts to aid another in engaging in hazing.
- (c) Intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly permits hazing to occur.
- (d) Has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident involving a student of Texas A&M University, or firsthand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report said knowledge in writing to the appropriate University official.

Does it matter if I did not intend to hurt anyone?

No. Texas A&M's policies state that if one of the above occurs, it is HAZING, regardless of the intent.

Does it matter if the person being hazing agrees to the activity?

No. The new law and Texas A&M's policies state that if one above occurs, it is HAZING, regardless of the consent or cooperation of the recipient.

What is the penalty if I am found guilty of hazing?

- (a) Failing to report hazing: Fine up to \$1,000 and/or up to 180 days in jail.
- (b) Hazing resulting in no serious bodily injury: Fine of \$500 to \$1,000 and/or 90-180 days in jail.
- (c) Hazing resulting in serious bodily injury: Fine of \$1,000 - \$5,000 and/or 180 days to 1 year in jail.
- (d) Hazing resulting in death: Fine of \$5,000 - \$10,000 and/or 1-2 years in jail.
- (e) Except where the hazing results in death, the student may be required to perform community service in lieu of confinement in jail.
- (f) The student may also be subject to University disciplinary action, up to and including removal from the University, in addition to or regardless of any penalty imposed by the state.

Can an organization be found guilty of hazing?

Yes. An Organization commits an offense if the organization condones or encourages hazing or if an officer or any combination of members, pledges, or alumni of the organization commits or assists in the commission of hazing.

Can I get into trouble for reporting hazing?

No. Any person who reports a specific hazing incident involving a student to an appropriate University official is protected from civil or criminal liability. However, a person who reports in bad faith or with malice is not protected by this section.

Where do I report hazing?

Office of the Commandant (845-2811) if the hazing was committed by members of the Corps of Cadets.
Department of Student Activities (845-1133) if the hazing was committed by members of a Greek organization or other recognized student organization.
Student Judicial Affairs Office (845-5262) all other incidents of hazing.

The following information appears in compliance with the 1987 state of Texas Hazing Law shown above:

Student Organization Hazing Violations:

Organization name: Pi Kappa Alpha
Date of Incident: February, 1996
Description of Incident: Activities that included, but were not limited to forced exercise, sleep deprivation, forced ingestion of inedible mixtures, exposure to the elements, forced work.
Action Taken: Fraternity on a 2 year probation through Spring 1998; meetings with Greek affairs staff 2 times per semester throughout probation; sponsor and fund an outside speaker on positive pledge programming for Greek community; 400 hours of community service to be completed by 75% of chapter membership by Spring 1996; semester report for each pledge class and risk management program; written letter of apology to landowner where hazing took place.

Organization name: Kappa Alpha Order
Date of Incident: October 14, 1996
Description of Incident: Pledges were taken to a remote location late at night and forced to undergo a "lineup" that included forced exercises, such as push ups, calisthenics, and army low crawl in the dark. Pledges were denied any water, were subjected to degrading confrontations by activities and were physically "manhandled" - pushed to the ground or picked up forcefully. One encounter resulted in severe injury, hospitalization and emergency surgery of a pledge.
Action Taken: Fraternity suspended until Fall, 1999 - a joint decision of the University and the fraternity's national headquarters.

Organization name: Company B-2, Corp of Cadets
Date of Incident: Fall Semester, 1996
Description of Incident: At the unit Christmas party, an upperclass member of the company hazed freshmen members by giving them single "licks" with an ax handle. Alcohol was also provided to minors and inappropriate skits which bordered on sexual harassment were performed.
Action Taken: Hearings were held for all involved and individual sanctions were assigned. A number of the members left the Corps and others were dispersed to new companies. The unit was disbanded and is no longer a part of the Corps of Cadets.

Organization name: Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity
Date of Incident: January 8, 1997
Description of Incident: During pre-semester work week activities, pledges were forced to participate in calisthenics, an outdoor line up where they were hosed down, forced to hold push-up positions and participate in other activities that subjected them to potential harm. Pledges were forced to wear demeaning attire and to violate IFC alcohol policies.
Action Taken: After appeal, the fraternity was suspended until Fall semester, 1999. The same sanction was applied by the national fraternity headquarters.

Organization name: Fish Drill Team, Corp of Cadets
Date of Incident: Spring Semester 1997
Description of Incident: Members of the Fish Drill Team were subjected to acts of hazing and physical assault by the nine upperclassmen who served as advisors (instructors) for the team. Specific actions occurred periodically throughout the semester and took place during drill practice as well as during night visits to individual fish (freshman) rooms.
Action Taken: University hearings were held for all involved, including those advisors from previous years who were still enrolled in the University. Sanctions ranged from expulsion to deferred suspension. The Fish Drill Team itself was suspended for an indefinite period.

Organization name: Squadron 16, Corps of Cadets
Date of Incident: Fall and Spring Semesters, 1997-1998
Description of Incident: Upperclass members of the unit periodically hazed and harassed the fish (freshmen) through improper physical contact; requiring training in an inappropriate setting and manner; and requiring some to drink excessive amounts of water to the point of sickness.
Action Taken: University hearings were held for all involved and individual sanctions were assigned. Some members of the unit were suspended from the University while others were placed on deferred suspension. Additionally, several upperclassmen were reassigned to other Corps units.

Organization name: Aggie Men's Club (AMC)
Date of Incident: October 10, 1998
Description of Incident: During a Big Brother/Little Brother Revelation event, Candidates were exposed by Actives to participation in calisthenics, an outdoor line-up where they were hosed down, and a scavenger hunt involving demeaning activities in public places such as a grocery store parking lot and adult book store.
Action Taken: After appeal, the sanction for the organization included the following: organizational probation through Fall 2001 (3 yrs), develop and submit an article for the Battalion, develop a presentation for student organizations, have all members disseminate and sign "no hazing" agreements, and complete a comprehensive review of its new member selection process.

Outcomes of Individual Hazing Cases

September 1, 1996 through August 31, 1996	September 1, 1996 through August 31, 1997	September 1, 1997 through August 31, 1998
Total Cases: 44	Total Cases: 66	Total Cases: 35
Suspension 9	Expulsion 1	Expulsion 1
Deferred Suspension 14	Dismissal 4	Dismissal 0
Conduct Probation 8	Suspension 7	Suspension 2
Letter of Reprimand 7	Deferred Suspension 6	Deferred Suspension 5
Registration Block 4	Conduct Probation 9	Conduct Probation 5
No Action* 2	Letter of Reprimand 27	Letter of Reprimand 14
	Warning 2	Warning 0
	Registration Block 4	Registration Block 0
	No Action* 6	No Action* 8

*No Action indicates that the student was not found to be responsible for the charges initiated.

Joining up



(From left to right) Aaron Dobbs, a sophomore journalism major, Robert Herring Jr., a junior chemistry major, and Matt Mooney Jr., a junior recreation park and tourism science major, run to the members of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity Saturday afternoon at Jack K. Williams Administration Building. The three received bids from the fraternity following last week's IFC Spring Rush.

We, The People to address issues

We, The People, a neighborhood organization, will hold a meeting tonight at 7 in the Lincoln Center to discuss issues concerning the city's influence in the neighborhoods and businesses of Bryan/College Station.

We, The People founder Norma Miller said the groups' members are concerned with the city's desire to build in the Historic District of College Station, developments being made on Wellborn Road that will increase traffic by 2,500-3,500 cars per day, and taxpayers' money being spent on frivolous lawsuits.

Miller said the group wants to inform others about conflicts that

exist between some local residents and city council members.

Miller said it is important for students to get involved in issues.

"Students are a real asset to the community," she said. "These are students' tax dollars too."

David Peter, an educational technology graduate student and a member of We, The People, said group meetings are open to anyone and try to give attendees an equal voice.

Peter said the organization emphasizes student involvement in the voting process. He said more than 4,000 students were registered to vote in the last city election, but only 12 percent actually voted.

"A lot of people think their votes don't count. 4,000 voters are a very powerful group."

UH tries to shed 'Cougar High' image, looks to boost professor salaries

HOUSTON (AP) — When Jim Jones was named a Pulitzer Prize finalist last year for one of his books, the University of Houston boosted his professor's salary to what Jones calls a "pretty anemic" \$77,500.

Now Jones is bidding farewell to Houston, headed for the University of Arkansas and a salary that's twice as big.

UH officials, anxious to shed what's left of the school's "Cougar High" image, say the loss of one of their star professors shows why the university needs more state support — namely an additional \$41 million this year — to help retain and hire celebrity scholars.

But the funding request has rekindled

debate about whether the school should court prominent professors or hire faculty committed to educating its diverse, 32,000-member student body that is composed of many first-generation college students and minorities.

The funding request, which is in addition to the school's enrollment-based state allocation, is essentially an effort to boost UH to "flagship" status among universities nationally.

UH already is the flagship of its four-school system, but officials want the university to become a national player in academia. Celebrity professors would help in that effort, and bring high-dollar research grants.

Lewinsky prepares for deposition in trial

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican senators on Sunday said some of their colleagues may vote against removing President Clinton from office. House prosecutors, meanwhile, prepared to question Monica Lewinsky in a last-ditch effort to strengthen their case.

As Lewinsky waited at the Mayflower Hotel for her deposition Monday, cracks appeared in the unified Republican front on the perjury and obstruction charges against Clinton.

"The sense right now is just listening to members talk is that there are Republicans who either are not going to vote for perjury or the obstruction of justice" charge, Sen. Tim Hutchinson, R-Ark., said in a telephone interview.

Hutchinson declined to estimate how many might vote to acquit, but he indicated that getting even 50 votes for conviction in a chamber controlled by 55 Republican senators is in doubt.

"You would much closer to getting a majority in the obstruction (charge) than on the perjury charge" and the case now stands, he said.

House prosecutors have shifted their focus to the obstruction charge on the assumption that even among Republicans who believe that Clinton lied under oath, there is questionable support for

the notion that the untruthful president's removal, according to knowledgeable officials, was to roll over mandated anonymity.

To that end, two of the lone too, witnesses prosecutors will question this week — presiding friend Vernon Jordan and House aide Sydney Blumenthal — go to the obstruction charge rather than the perjury charge.

And sources close to the mittee have said that Sen. Bryant of Tennessee, who questioned Ms. Lewinsky, will elicit information on Clinton's efforts to conceal their affair. Paula Jones' lawyers and the president Counsel Kenneth Starr's grand jury.

But even as senators waver, they don't have the needed to remove him from Clinton's battles are far from

Starr is considering seeking president's indictment before his term expires. A legal speaking on condition of anonymity, said Sunday that Starr "for some time" has been sitting president is indicted.

Bipartisanship showed a mer of life again as the House and senators of both parties expressed dismay at a report Starr's thinking in *The New York Times*.

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