### **IFC** Resource

# Sanctioning.

Sanctions should help member fraternities realize that unacceptable behavior must not be repeated.

The best way to ensure unacceptable behavior is not repeated is to be certain that the sanction imposed on a member fraternity fits the violation. If the violation is serious, the sanction must also be serious. If a more severe violation does occur and the sanction is minimal, the member fraternity will believe that the Judicial Board did not feel that the violation was very important and may repeat the behavior without fear of another sanction.

#### **NON-STATUS SANCTIONS**

- Apology letters
- Fines
- Restitution
- Educational programming
- Public service to the campus or community
- Meetings with campus offices or departments
- Loss of social event and/or campus event privileges
- Loss of eligibility for IFC Awards
- Censure

#### **STATUS SANCTIONS**

In the event of an egregious violation, the following are sanctions that may be imposed by the IFC Judicial Board for a specified period of time:

- **Suspension:** Loss of IFC voting rights, removal from Good Standing status, and any additional sanctions listed in Non-Status Sanctions.
- Loss of IFC Recognition: Loss of IFC recognition and its rights and privileges.

#### LIMITATIONS

- The judicial committee should be aware that the same violation does not automatically mean the same sanction must be given out because the surrounding circumstances in each case may be very different.
- The judicial committee must be careful that educational sanctions are levied in a consistent and thorough manner and fit the violation. A serious violation requires that a serious sanction be levied by the judicial committee.
- Fines are appropriate if a member fraternity has caused damages to property or others, as they should then be expected to pay for repairs or replacement; or in conjunction with educational sanctions. Fines, used by themselves, rarely communicate the seriousness of a violation.
- Recruitment and association privileges should never be revoked as an IFC Judicial Sanction. As stated in the Joint Resolution of the NIC and the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors (AFA), *"restrictions on rush when used for disciplinary purposes are neither educational nor developmental and therefore are not an acceptable sanction for men's fraternities."*

# Advancing fraternity.

The mission of an Interfraternity Council (IFC) is to foster a healthy and vibrant fraternity community on campus and provide interfraternal leadership and positive change. **nicfraternity.org/ifcsop** 



• New members provide the growth that an organization with problems needs to redeem itself and should be a focal point in issuing educational sanctions.

### **Monitoring and Reviewing Sanctions and Progress**

The Judicial Affairs Officer, or a designated member of the Judicial Board, along with the IFC advisor should be in charge of monitoring and reviewing the progress of any member fraternity under disciplinary action. If a member fraternity is to learn something from the conduct process, the sanction they receive must be completed as assigned. An efficient and effective means of monitoring a sanction is to assign one member of the Judicial Board to review the progress with the member fraternity regularly until satisfactory completion.

#### **SANCTION CONTRACT**

The use of a sanction contract is a wise and effective idea. The sanction contract confirms outstanding sanctions and is a reminder that the sanction must be fulfilled. Additional feedback can be provided by the Judicial Board to assist the member fraternity with continuing to meet and surpass these standards and expectations. A **sanction contract** should contain the following:

- A specific description of the sanction
- The name of the judicial member supervising the sanction
- The date by which the sanction must be completed
- A brief statement regarding the consequences of an uncompleted sanction
- Signatures of the IFC Judicial Affairs officer, assigned judicial representative and member fraternity
  president

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