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## October 28, 1974 Letter Regarding Psi Phi Student Misconduct

Commission for Blacks

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# student activities

the university of tennessee   student services building   suite 413   circle park drive   knoxville, tennessee 37916

October 28, 1974

Mr. Tom Bible  
President, Delta Upsilon  
1845 Terrace Avenue  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916

Dear Mr. Bible:

This correspondence is to summarize the University's position following the regretable events of Thursday, October 17, 1974.

Following separate conferences with the individual who was responsible for the painting and the three accomplices, I am convinced that their actions were not either direct or indirect consequences of an organized pledge program or activity. The individuals (by their own admission) were intoxicated, and arrived at the Omega Psi Phi House after unsuccessful attempts at painting the SAE lions and rolling other fraternity properties in Fraternity Park. It appears that the actions of "the painter" were independent of the actions of the others.

There is some doubt in my mind as to whether a prudent action on your part could have curtailed the activity as the individuals concerned were in the chapter house with you and your date prior to their departing for Fraternity Park. They also returned to the Chapter House after the event and awaited some action by the Omegas thus compounding the "collective" involvement. I also believe that the chapter has a specific and direct responsibility to educate and guide its pledge group once membership is offered. According, we are taking the following actions:

1. The pledge living in the house is to be removed to supervised university housing.
2. The university will support the action of the International Fraternity in suspending the pledgeship of the four individuals. It is my understanding that said suspension is to be reviewed at the end of the fall quarter.
3. The chapter will be placed on administrative probation for the remainder of the academic year. Terms of the probation are as follows: (1) Bi-weekly conferences of the office with the Fraternity Advisor for the duration of the academic year (2) participation in all IFC activities and meetings for the re-

mainder of the year (3) written submission of a model pledge education program (4) successful completion of a community service project developed to foster a continuing relationship between the chapter and some needy civic group, preferably in the inner city (5) written acceptance of the foregoing terms by the local chapter, its advisor and fraternity's Executive Director.

By copy of this letter I am requesting that the IFC Executive Committee review (and hopefully ratify) these conclusions.

I will be looking forward to hearing from you on these matters at the earliest possible moment.

Sincerely,

Philip A. Scheurer  
Director of Student Activities

PAS:tb

cc: Mr. W.A. Butler, Executive Director  
Dr. Thor, Chapter Advisor  
Mr. Ray Cowles, IFC President