FOREWORD

The 45th edition of The Code of Regulations of Beta Theta Pi is based on the 44th edition published in 2022, including all amendments subsequent thereto.

This new edition represents another step forward in the development of The Code initially given to us by its framers in 1878. The original Code was the first non-secret document of its kind among social fraternities, and the present edition follows this tradition.

The Code represents the authority for the governance of our association. It brings every member under its rules and regulations.

This edition has been corrected to include changes authorized by the 184th General Convention in 2023.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the Code of Regulations consisting of The Constitution and The Laws and the Appendices thereto as herein presented are accurate in all details and form the basis for the government of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity.

John H. Stebbins, *Emory* ‘92
General Secretary

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BETA THETA PI
Incorporated under the Laws of Ohio
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION*

FIRST: The name of the corporation is BETA THETA PI.

SECOND: The place in the State of Ohio where its principal office is located is the City of Oxford, Butler County.

THIRD: Said corporation is formed for the purpose of the promotion of the moral and social culture of its members; the establishment of confidence and friendly relations between students of various colleges and universities; and the perpetuation of a fraternity that recognizes mutual assistance in the honorable labors and aspirations of life, unsullied friendship, unfaltering fidelity and the cultivation of intellect, as objects worthy of the highest aim and purposes of associated efforts; and the holding and control of such real and personal property as the foregoing objects may render expedient.

FOURTH: The members of the corporation shall be the individual members of Beta Theta Pi who have not died, resigned or been expelled.

FIFTH: All the rights and privileges of members at an annual meeting shall be exercised by the delegates to a General Convention elected as provided in the Code of Regulations, when assembled as directed in The Code of Regulations. Only those members elected in accordance with the Code of Regulations as delegates to a General Convention or other meeting of members shall be entitled to a vote; each such delegate shall have a single vote unless otherwise provided by the Code of Regulations.

SIXTH: The corporate powers, property and affairs of the corporation shall be exercised, conducted and controlled by the Board of Trustees, each of whom shall be a member of the corporation.

SEVENTH: No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any private individual or member and in no event shall any assets of the Fraternity be distributed to or for the benefit of any private individual or member, and in the event of the termination, liquidation, or dissolution of the corporation its assets shall be distributed to an educational or other charitable organization or expended for educational or charitable purposes.

* Incorporated on March 16, 1895, as amended by the 110th General Convention in 1949, the amendment being filed January 14, 1950.

THE CONSTITUTION
OF BETA THETA PI
(Articles of Association)

PREAMBLE

For the better accomplishment of the objects and designs of Beta Theta Pi, a fraternity established by John Reily Knox, Samuel Taylor Marshall, David Linton, James George Smith, Charles Henry Hardin, John Holt Duncan, Michael Clarkson Ryan, and Thomas Boston Gordon, "of ever-honored memory", at Miami University, in the State of Ohio, in the month of August 1839, and now organized as a corporation not for profit under the laws of the State of Ohio, the General Convention of Beta Theta Pi assembled at Marriott's Marco Island Resort, Marco Island Florida, on the 7th day of August 1994, adopts the following Constitution and Laws, which shall be and are the Code of Regulations of Beta Theta Pi:

ARTICLE I NAME AND OBJECTS

SECTION 1. *Name*: The name of this fraternity is BETA THETA PI.

SECTION 2. *Objects*: It shall be constituted as hereinafter provided and shall have for its objects the promotion of the moral and social culture of its members, the establishment of confidence and friendly relations among the universities and colleges of the United States and Canada, in securing unity of action and sympathy in matters of common interest among them, and the building up of a fraternity that recognizes mutual assistance in the honorable labors and aspirations of life, devotion to the cultivation of the intellect, unsullied friendship, and unfaltering fidelity, as objects worthy of the highest aim and purpose of associated effort.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. *General*: The fraternity shall consist of the individual members of all chapters of Beta Theta Pi and the individual alumni who have been initiated by any chapters and have not died, resigned or been expelled.

SECTION 2. *Qualifications*: Any regularly enrolled male student, graduate or undergraduate, of a college or university for which there is an established chapter or colony of Beta Theta Pi may become a member of the fraternity provided:

A. He is not a member of any similar fraternity or association;

B. He completes the pledgeship normally prescribed by the chapter or colony proposing to initiate him, unless the period of pledgeship is waived by written approval of the General Secretary;

C. The chapter or colony to which his name is proposed shall express confidence in his character and qualifications, including scholarship requirements set forth in Chapter XIV of the Laws, by electing him at a meeting duly called, by vote of its collegiate members upon such vote as its collegiate members shall determine with complete autonomy;

D. He is formally initiated into the chapter or colony so electing him.

SECTION 3. *Equality of Members*: All members shall have equal rights in the fraternity.

SECTION 4. *Membership Eligibility and Inclusiveness of the Chapter:* No chapter shall permit discrimination in membership selection, initiation, chapter operations, or other activities of the fraternity based upon any person's race, color, creed, religion, age, disability, ethnic background, sexual orientation, or national origin.

ARTICLE III CHAPTERS AND ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS

SECTION 1. *General:* The fraternity organization shall consist of the chapters and alumni associations already established, and such chapters and alumni associations as may hereafter be established. All chapters and alumni associations shall, except as otherwise provided, have equal rights in the fraternity.

SECTION 2. *Normal Establishment of Colonies:* Colonies of Beta Theta Pi shall be established only for students enrolled in universities and colleges of good standing and repute with a record of support for positive fraternal culture as determined by the Board of Trustees with input from the Administrative Office staff.

Prior to a colony being established, the Board of Trustees and Administrative Office staff shall make such investigation of the facts and circumstances as they deem advisable and, upon the Board's preliminary approval in favor of the establishment of a colony, the Board of Trustees may authorize the initiation of regularly enrolled students, undergraduate or graduate, at that institution by their designee. These students so initiated at such institutions shall constitute a colony of Beta Theta Pi. Requirements for an institution to be considered shall be set by the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 3. *Establishment of Chapters:* Members of a colony shall submit a petition to charter to the Administrative Office by February 1 of the year before the General Convention or at least seven months before the General Convention, whichever is later. The petition shall be accompanied by a recommendation from a General Fraternity Officer appointed to the colony's district. Upon submission of a petition to the Administrative Office in writing from the members of a colony of Beta Theta Pi, the Board of Trustees and Administrative Office staff shall make such investigation of the facts and circumstances as they deem advisable. The petition shall contain such information regarding the character and standing of the applicant as may be required by the Board of Trustees. After a majority vote of the Board of Trustees in favor of granting the charter, the petition shall be submitted to the next General Convention for its action. Likewise, if a Committee on Charters or Committee on Chapters determines that a colony meets

the criteria for charter, they may recommend a colony for charter without the aforementioned steps, and the recommendation shall be submitted to the forthcoming General Convention for its action. If such Convention by a three-fourths vote of the chapters represented directs, a charter will be issued, by authority of which they shall be constituted a chapter of Beta Theta Pi. The General Secretary will notify all the chapters, in writing, of the proposed submission of any application for a new chapter, at least 60 days prior to the date of opening of the convention which is to take action thereon.

SECTION 4: *Reestablishment of Disbanded Chapters:* A chapter previously disbanded shall be considered for reestablishment under the same requirements as a new colony prescribed in Article III, Section 2. The reestablished chapter shall also be required to petition the General Convention to receive their charter in good standing under the same requirements as a new colony chapter prescribed in Article III, Section 3. The only exception is that the charter currently in keeping of the Board of Trustees may be used under all applicable authorities otherwise given.

SECTION 5. *Installation of Chapters:* The General Secretary shall transmit the charter of each new chapter to some suitable member, who shall be authorized to install the chapter, to give them the necessary instructions for the proper execution of the work of the fraternity, to open and establish the new chapter and place such charter in its keeping.

SECTION 6. *Form of Charters:* Charters shall be signed by the President and General Secretary of the fraternity, shall be in such form as may be approved by the Board of Trustees, and shall have affixed thereto the Great Seal of the fraternity.

SECTION 7. *Alumni Associations:* Alumni associations of the fraternity may be authorized and may continue to exist under such regulations and at such places as provided by Chapter XI of the Laws.

ARTICLE IV GOVERNANCE, JURISDICTIONS AND DUTIES

SECTION 1. *General Convention*

A. *Supreme Authority:* The supreme legislative authority of the fraternity shall be vested in a General Convention.

B. *Constitution.* One delegate selected by each chapter entitled to representation and by each alumni associations entitled to representation shall constitute the General Convention.

SECTION 2. *Jurisdiction of Convention:* The General Convention shall have exclusive jurisdiction in all matters not specifically reserved to the chapters by the provisions of this Constitution, subject to disapproval as provided in Article IV, Section 5. It shall also have jurisdiction over the conduct of all members of the fraternity, while they are in attendance at a General Convention, with power to apply any discipline short of expulsion from the fraternity. It may pass laws for the governing of the fraternity, its chapters and alumni associations, and may establish offices not herein provided.

SECTION 3. *Jurisdiction and Powers of the Chapters:* Each chapter shall have jurisdiction over all members of the fraternity enrolled in the institution where it is established whether initiated by such chapter or not, provided such jurisdiction shall not exclude the jurisdiction of the convention and of the Board of Trustees; each chapter may make such regulations and adopt such order of business as it may deem expedient, provided they be not inconsistent with this Constitution and the Laws of the fraternity. The transfer of collegiate members from one chapter to another is regulated by the Laws of the Fraternity, Chapter 9.

SECTION 4. *Jurisdiction of College or University Authorities:* Chapters must observe the rules and regulations of the institution in which their members are enrolled and must demand strict loyalty and obedience on the part of their members to the university or college authorities, provided the jurisdiction of college or university authorities and rules and regulations promulgated by them may not alter, amend, or contravene the requirements stated in Article II, governing membership in the fraternity.

SECTION 5. *Chapter Disapproval of Convention Actions:* Actions of the General Convention shall be in full force and effect from the date of the adjournment of the Convention; however, if within three months after the publication of the proceedings of the Convention, more than one-half of the chapters have filed with the General Secretary notice of their disapproval of any actions, or any part thereof, the action so disapproved shall be inoperative and void. The following actions of the General Convention cannot be disapproved:

1. Granting of charters;
2. Disbandment, revocation, reorganization or suspension of charters/chapters;
3. Election of General Officers and Trustees;

SECTION 6. *Board of Trustees*

A. *Powers:* The powers, business and property of the fraternity shall be exercised, conducted and controlled by the Board of Trustees, subject to the Laws of the fraternity and the orders of the General Convention.

B. *Number and Election:* The number of members of the Board of Trustees shall be 12. They shall be elected for the term and in the manner prescribed by Article IV, Section 7.

C. *Qualifications:* Trustees must be alumni members of the fraternity. Trustees may not concurrently serve as a district chief, regional chief, or chapter counselor or advisor position described in Chapter III, Section 8.

D. *Vacancies:* In the event of the death, removal, resignation, or disability of a Trustee during his term, or in the event the Convention fails to fill a vacancy created by an expired term, the Board shall select a person to fill the vacancy until the meeting of the next General Convention at which time the remainder of any unexpired terms shall be filled by election by the convention.

In the event vacancies on the Board are created by an increase in the size thereof, then the Convention making the change in size shall recommend the members to fill those positions following Article IV, Section 7. Those recommended by the Convention may be sworn in at the Convention with their election to office becoming effective as prescribed in the Laws Chapter I, Section 5(H).

E. *Quorum, Meetings:* The Board shall hold regular meetings at such times and places as it may determine. Special meetings may be held upon call of the President. He shall call a meeting upon the request of any two members of the Board. A majority of the Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

F. *Removal of Officers:* If any officer or Trustee of the fraternity be guilty of any conduct prejudicial to the interests of the fraternity, he may be removed by the Board of Trustees upon due notice as described in Chapter XIII, Section 2(C) and a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Trustees in office. The Trustee whose removal is at issue shall not be entitled to vote on the question of removal. If any Trustee is marked absent on the roll of three regular board meetings in his term, he shall automatically relinquish his position on the Board of Trustees unless, by three-fourths vote of the remaining Board members, he is asked to remain.

G. *Discipline:* The Board shall have original jurisdiction in all cases of discipline of those who are no longer Collegiate Members and in all other cases of discipline provided for in the Laws.

H. *Advisory Council:* Former members of the Board of Trustees, Foundation Board of Directors, and General Fraternity House Corporation shall constitute an Advisory Council, with the privilege of attendance at regular meetings of the Board of Trustees without vote. They may perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 7. *Officers and Trustees:* The officers of the fraternity shall be a President, a General Secretary and a General Treasurer and each having been elected by the General Convention shall also serve concurrently as a trustee. Nine additional trustees at large shall be elected and together with the officers shall comprise the Board of Trustees. Officers and trustees shall hold office for a term of three years and until their successor is elected and qualified. The terms of the President, General Secretary and General Treasurer shall be staggered such that they expire in consecutive years. The terms of the trustees at large shall be staggered such that three of the terms expire each year.

A. *Duties of President:* The President of the fraternity shall serve as the chief ceremonial officer of the fraternity and shall chair the board meetings in the General Secretary's absence. He shall sign all charters and designate discrete persons to install new chapters. He shall chair the awards committee to select Oxford Cup and Francis Wayland Shephardson award recipients. He shall perform all other duties as provided for in the Code of Beta Theta Pi or assigned by the Board of Trustees.

B. *Duties of Trustees:* The Trustees of the fraternity shall have such duties as shall be assigned to them, respectively, by the Board of Trustees.

C. *Duties of General Secretary:* The General Secretary, subject to the authority of the Board of Trustees and the General Convention, shall be the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and shall preside at their meetings. He shall have supervisory authority over all fraternity positions except for other members of the Board of Trustees, or their assistants and directors of the Beta Theta Pi Foundation, the General Fraternity House Corporation, the Baird Fund Corporation, and any associated employees. The General Secretary may take any action designated by the Code to be performed by any officer over which he has supervisory authority. He shall have authority over all of the chapters and alumni associations, with all that pertains to them. All records of the fraternity, except financial records, shall be maintained under his authority. He shall perform such duties as shall be provided by the Code of Beta Theta Pi or assigned by the Board of Trustees or the General Convention. The General Secretary shall report the affairs of his office to each General Convention. He may, in writing, with the consent of the Board of Trustees, but for no longer than the balance of his term as General Secretary, delegate various powers and responsibilities of his office to the Chief Executive Officer, the Regional Chiefs, the District Chiefs, or to other general fraternity volunteers or staff. He may at any time, in writing and with or without the consent of the Board of Trustees, withdraw a delegation of authority made by him.

D. *Duties of General Treasurer:* The General Treasurer shall oversee the collection and holding of funds of the fraternity and the payment of appropriations of the General Convention. He shall oversee the audit committee and present an annual report, properly audited by certified public accountants, to the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE V FINANCES

SECTION 1. *General:* The General Convention shall have power to raise money by 1) the levy of fees and assessments upon the chapters; 2) by the sale, lease, pledging, mortgaging, or disposing of any property owned by the fraternity.

SECTION 2. *Fiscal Year*: The fiscal year of the fraternity starts on June 1 and ends May 31 unless changed by the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 3. *Distribution of Funds:* No part of the net earnings of the fraternity shall ever inure to the benefit of any private individual or member, as such, and in no event shall any assets of the fraternity be distributed to or for the benefit of any private individual or member, as such, and in the event of the termination, liquidation or dissolution of the fraternity its assets shall be distributed to an educational or some other form of charitable organization or expended for educational or other charitable purposes.

SECTION 4. *Establishment of Funds:* The General Convention, Board of Trustees and Foundation Directors shall have power to establish endowment, building, or other permanent

funds or foundations, and to provide for the investment and reinvestment thereof, the use of the income arising therefrom and for periodic accounting.

SECTION 5. *Indemnity:* The Fraternity may, to the full extent permitted by the Ohio Non-profit Corporation law, indemnify all persons whom it may indemnify pursuant thereto.

ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. *General:* Except as limited by Section 2 of this article, this Constitution may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote of any General Convention; provided such action shall not be effective under circumstances as prescribed in Article IV, Section 5.

SECTION 2. *Restriction on Amendments:* No amendment to this Constitution may alter or change Article V, Section 3 pertaining to distribution of funds and if this Constitution is repealed in the manner provided in Section l of this Article, the action authorizing such repeal shall provide for carrying out the terms of Article V, Section 3 or for the incorporation of a similar provision in a new Constitution.

LAWS

CHAPTER I THE GENERAL CONVENTION

SECTION 1. *Time of Convention:*

A. *General.* The General Convention of the fraternity, hereinafter called the Convention, shall be constituted as provided in Article IV, Section 1 of the Constitution at such time and place determined by the Board of Trustees.

B. *Sessions of Convention:* The convention shall hold sessions annually. In periods of national emergency, the Board of Trustees may vote by two thirds majority to omit convention, in which case the powers of the convention, with the exception of the right to grant charters and amend the Constitution, may be exercised by the Board of Trustees. If a majority of the chapters submit written requests, within a three-month period of each other to the General Secretary, a convention shall be convened within eight months after a majority is achieved.

C. *Omission.* In the event of the omission of the annual convention under this section, the Board of Trustees shall report its proceedings and the report of the General Treasurer for the preceding fiscal year to each chapter.

SECTION 2. *Delegates:* Delegates shall at the time of their selections be collegiate members of the chapters or members of the alumni associations they represent.

A. *Selection of Delegates:* At least 60 days prior to an announced General Convention, each chapter shall select and register its delegate to the Convention with the Administrative Office. Failure to register for two consecutive Conventions will be grounds for a status change at the direction of the General Secretary. Alumni associations shall follow the requirements for delegates prescribed in Chapter XI, Section 2 of the Laws.
    a. *Proxies; Alternates:* Any regularly selected delegate may, in case of inability to attend the Convention or any session thereof, give his proxy to another member of the same chapter or alumni association; provided such proxy representation shall be subject to approval of the Committee on Credentials and Registration.

B. *Duties of Chapter Delegates:* Chapter delegates shall attend each session of the Convention. The Board of Trustees may take one or more of the following actions against a chapter or Alumni Association whose delegate has failed to attend any or all of the sessions of the convention:

    a. To secure the return of the travel allowance paid to the delegate and the subsidized portion of the registration fee;
    b. To suspend the voting privileges of said chapter or Alumni Association at the convention until reinstated by vote of the General Convention;
    c. For chapters, failure to attend two consecutive Conventions will be grounds for a status change at the direction of the General Secretary.

C. *Expenses of Convention Delegates:* During the General Convention the Chief Executive Officer shall reimburse each registered chapter delegate, whose fees and assessments have been paid, for nine (9) cents per mile, or other amount designated by the Board of Trustees by May 1 each year, for transportation from his home in the United States or Canada (as shown on the records of the General Fraternity) to the place of the Convention and return. Any outstanding convention fees owed by the delegate shall be deducted from his travel expense reimbursement.
    a. If the Kettering chapter sends two delegates to Convention, each delegate shall receive a check for reimbursement of mileage expenses determined as provided above.

D. *Credentials for Delegates:* The Chief Executive Officer shall prepare a form of credentials for the use of the chapters in accrediting delegates to the Convention who have registered and paid the fees stated in the Laws, Chapter XII.

SECTION 3. *Chapters and Alumni Associations Entitled to Representation at Convention:*

A. All chapters are entitled to representation except:

    a. Chapters which are not in good standing or probation, except those entitled to representation if the Board of Trustees so directs pursuant to Chapter II, Section 3 of the Laws,
    b. Chapters that have not paid all fees and assessments accrued at least 15 days prior to an announced Convention, and
    c. Chapters that have failed to submit a scholarship report in a timely manner as required by Chapter XIV of the Laws.

B. Chapters may gain or lose entitlement to representation during Convention based on the above criteria as certified by the Committee on Credentials and Registration. This includes colonies which become chapters during the Convention. The identity and number of chapters entitled to representation shall be determined at the time of each vote.

C. Alumni Associations entitled to representation shall be determined under Chapter XI of the Laws.

SECTION 4. *Convention Officers and Committees*: The business of the Convention shall be carried out by officers and committees structured as follows:

A. *Appointment and Confirmation of Convention Officers:* The Board of Trustees shall appoint by April 1 the following officers of the Convention: President, one or more Vice Presidents, a Parliamentarian, a Secretary, a Marshal, Floor Managers, a Chorister, and such other Convention officers as the Board may deem appropriate, and report the same to the Convention. After its report, a majority vote is required to confirm their appointment.

a. *Duties of the Marshal*: The Marshal shall have charge of the attendees to the Convention while in session; shall preserve order under the direction of the presiding officer; shall have a care that none not duly qualified enter or without permission retire; and generally, have supervision over the conduct of all members in attendance and shall report to the Convention any misconduct of members.

B. *Standing Committees of the Convention:* The standing committees of the Convention shall be:

a. Committee on Nomination of General Fraternity Officers
b. Committee on Charters
c. Committee on Credentials and Registration
d. Committee on Permanent Organization
e. Committee on Risk Management
f. Committee on Chapters
g. Committee on General Fraternity Finance
h. Committee on Constitution and Jurisprudence

These committees may be combined or divided in such manner as the General Secretary may see fit, provided each committee consists of a minimum of five members.

Prior to the convening of any General Convention, the General Secretary will select or designate the composition of standing committees and such other committees he determines to be necessary. Such designation or selection may be made in whole or in part by chapter delegate designation. The selection shall be forwarded promptly to all chapters. Any vacancies on committees not filled by the General Secretary may be appointed by the Convention President.

C. *Special Committees*: Special committees may be appointed by the Convention President at the pleasure of the Convention

SECTION 5. *Conducting Business:* The Convention, having met pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution, shall be called to order by the General Secretary or his designee. A Convention may adopt policies to govern the administration of the fraternity and may alter, amend, repeal, or add policies from time to time. A Convention may create General Fraternity awards. A Convention or the Board of Trustees may specify, amend and modify the criteria for such awards. All policies shall be placed in an Appendix to the Laws and all changes in the policies shall be included in the Appendix.

A. *Opening and adjourning the Convention:* The proceedings of the Convention shall be opened and adjourned Sine Die in the manner prescribed in the Ritual.

B. *Admittance*: Only members shall be duly qualified to enter sessions of the Convention, except that pledges of chapters and colonies may be admitted at the

discretion of the Convention President. Other non-members may be admitted with a two thirds vote.

C. *Rules of Order:* Parliamentary rules, as contained in the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, shall govern the proceedings of the Convention, except in cases where such rules are in conflict with the Constitution or Laws of the fraternity. Any member of the Fraternity may speak or make motions on any subject under consideration.

D. *Quorum*: Delegates in attendance from a majority of the Chapters Entitled to Representation as defined by Chapter I, Section 3 shall be required to form a quorum.

E. *Chapters Represented at the Convention; Voting*: Each chapter and Alumni Association entitled to representation under Chapter I, Section 3 and with a delegate registered under Chapter I, Section 2(A), shall be entitled to one vote. Alumni associations may not vote on granting and revoking charters or the election of General Officers and Trustees. Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised are followed for voting percentage requirements except where specifically stated in the Constitution or Laws.

No chapter delegate may vote on any question involving the revocation, suspension or discipline of the chapter he represents.

F. *Order of Business:* The following shall be the order of proceedings at each session of the Convention:

1. Reading and approval of the minutes of the previous session.
2. Reports from the Board of Trustees and the General Officers.
3. Reports of standing committees.
4. Reports of special committees.

G. *Roll:* Roll shall be taken at least once during each session of the Convention at the order of the President. The absentees shall be noted and their names shall be published in the minutes of the Convention.

H. *Election of General Officers and Trustees by the Convention:* The election of General Officers and Trustees of the Fraternity shall be held during a regular legislative session of each Convention. The term of office of any General Officer or Trustee so elected shall not commence until the Convention shall have adjourned sine die.

I. *Reports and Resolutions in Writing:* Unless otherwise ordered by the President of the Convention, all committee reports, resolutions or proposals intended for consideration by the Convention must be in writing, duly signed, and filed with the Convention Secretary before action can be had thereon. All such reports, resolutions or proposals shall be incorporated in the minutes of the Convention.

J. *Reference of Resolutions, Reports or Proposals:* All resolutions, reports other than committee reports, or proposals shall be referred to the appropriate committee for consideration and report unless the Convention shall by a two-thirds vote waive said requirement, in which case the same may be acted upon directly and without reference.

SECTION 6. *Committee of the Whole:* While in committee of the whole upon the condition of the fraternity, the presiding officer shall call a member of the Convention to the chair. Any member present shall have the privilege of speaking upon subjects pertinent to the Fraternity. The motion to rise and report will always be in order, but the previous question, or any other privileged motion, shall not be entertained.

SECTION 7. *Preparation of Proceedings*: The Secretary shall prepare the Minutes of the Convention. The Convention Secretary and the Board of Trustees shall have the power to edit the language of changes to the Code enacted by the General Convention in order to assure that the enacted language properly expresses the intended change. The Minutes of the Convention (including committee reports) shall be provided by the General Fraternity upon request. The Administrative Office shall distribute copies of the Convention minutes to all chapters by October 15.

SECTION 8. *Proposals for Legislative Enactments by the Convention and Trustee Nominations;*

Any proposal to change the Constitution or the Laws of Beta Theta Pi must be presented in writing, including such information as may be required by the Board of Trustees, to the Chief Executive Officer on or before February 1 prior to that year's convention with the signature, chapter and roll number of the proposer, in order to be considered for a vote at that year's convention. Proposals submitted after February 1 may be discussed but not acted upon until the following year's convention.

The Board of Trustees or their designee shall coordinate review of all timely proposals to ensure they are complete, timely, and relevant. It shall be left to the approval of the Board of Trustees to ensure final legislative proposals are complete and relevant prior to submission to the convention delegates for consideration. The Board of Trustees or their designee will correspond with all proposal authors as to any recommended changes or proposal deficiencies by March 18 and allow for appropriate corrections to be made up until April 1. If the proposal is not returned to the proposal authors by March 18 the Convention President may direct the proposal to an appropriate committee for consideration at that Convention.

In addition, any nominees to the Board of Trustees must be presented in writing to the Chief Executive Officer on or before February 1 prior to that year's convention in order to be considered for a vote at that year's convention. Any nominations received after February 1 will be recorded as a nomination for the following year's convention unless that nomination is specifically approved by a majority vote of the Trustees for consideration at that year's convention. The Trustees will follow up with all nominees whose names have been submitted by

February 1 in order to affirm their intent to stand for election and provide guidance as to the role and expectations of a Trustee.

The Board of Trustees or their designee shall, by April 1: (1) send all approved proposals to the chapters as well as a list of nominees who have agreed to stand for election; (2) send such proposals and nominations to the appropriate convention committee(s) for consideration; and (3) post all such proposals and nominations to the Beta Theta Pi website so that Beta's general public may have a chance to make comments on the proposals.

All chapter presidents, chapter advisors and alumni association presidents shall be notified of the deadline to submit changes to the Constitution or Laws of Beta Theta Pi via e-mail by December 1. The notification shall detail the deadline, proper means of submitting amendments, legislation and Trustee nominations as well as any information necessary for submission. The subject line of the e-mail shall read, "Proposing Amendments at the General Convention".

SECTION 9. *Suspension of Laws:* Any of the sections of this chapter may be suspended for a particular Convention by a two-thirds vote of the delegates.

CHAPTER II BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SECTION 1. *Fixing Time and Place of Convention:* On or before August 31, the Board of Trustees shall select the time and place for the next General Convention; and shall send official notification of such selection to each chapter, colony and alumni association not later than September 15 following confirmation of the time and place. In the unlikely event the date or place of Convention must be changed, the Board of Trustees will send notification immediately, and follow up when the alternative is finalized.

SECTION 2. *Powers as to Magazine:* The Board of Trustees shall choose annually an editor and publisher for the magazine. The editor and publisher and the publication of the magazine shall be under the direction and control of the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 3. *Chapter Charter in Keeping of Board:* The charter of any chapter which has been, by direction of any General Convention, Board of Trustees or General Secretary suspended or placed in the keeping of the Board of Trustees may be used under the direction, control and supervision of the Board of Trustees subject to such limitations or directions, if any, placed on such use by the Convention.

SECTION 4. *Report of Proceedings:* The Board shall cause to be transmitted to each General Convention: 1) a Board of Trustees' report of all activities and actions of the Board since its last such report; 2) the reports required of officers by the Constitution or Laws.

SECTION 5. *Reports and Investigations:* The Board may at any time require a report from any officer, chapter, or alumni association or cause an investigation to be made of any situation involving the fraternity, its officers, members, chapters, or alumni associations.

SECTION 6. *Disapproval of Board of Trustees:* The Board of Trustees, a majority of all the members thereof concurring, may, within one month after the publication of the proceedings of any General Convention, declare and notify each chapter of its disapproval of any Law, Order, or Resolution or any part thereof, passed by such Convention, except those granting or revoking charters or pertaining to actions taken pursuant to Chapter XIII of the Laws, and such law, order, or resolution, or part thereof so disapproved, shall be of no force and effect unless repassed by the next succeeding General Convention. After passage by such succeeding Convention, said Board of Trustees shall have no further power of disapproval as to such Law, order, or resolution or any part thereof.

CHAPTER III THE GENERAL SECRETARY

SECTION 1. *Other General Fraternity Officers:* To enable the General Secretary to carry out his responsibilities as the chief volunteer officer of the fraternity, he may appoint, in the manner set forth in this chapter, those Assistants, Commissioners, Counselors, Advisors and other General Fraternity Officers deemed necessary by the General Secretary or by the Board of Trustees. The General Secretary shall supervise the Chief Executive Officer. He will also carry out the other responsibilities as set out below.

SECTION 2. *Regions and Districts*: The General Secretary, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, shall divide or regroup the General Fraternity into such territorial regions or districts as he may deem advisable for effective administration.

SECTION 3. *Regional Chiefs:* The General Secretary, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, may appoint Regional Chiefs who shall be members and who shall be qualified to act as mentors and supervisors of District Chiefs. The Regional Chiefs shall serve as the direct supervisor for the District Chiefs and Assistant District Chiefs within their assigned region and shall assist the District Chiefs and the General Fraternity in conducting such educational and operational initiatives as directed by the General Secretary and the Board of Trustees. They shall report to the General Secretary or his designees and shall assist in such other tasks and shall perform such other duties (including assisting with duties of the General Secretary in chapter and membership accountability), as directed by the General Secretary and the Board of Trustees from time to time. Regional Chiefs may be required to make reports on the status of their chapters, alumni or volunteers to the General Secretary or the General Fraternity as requested by either.

SECTION 4. *District Chiefs:* The General Secretary, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, shall appoint for each district a District Chief, who shall report to the Regional Chief and who shall have authority over of all chapters within his district; subject, however, to the authority of the General Secretary except as may be otherwise provided for in the Laws of the Fraternity; and, with the same approval, shall have authority to provide such additional assistants as may be necessary for the proper performance of his duties. District Chiefs may be required to make reports on the status of their chapters, alumni, or volunteers to the General Secretary or the General Fraternity as requested by either.

SECTION 6. Chief *Executive Officer*: The General Secretary, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, shall appoint a Chief Executive Officer to direct the affairs of the Administrative Office staff.

SECTION 7. *Historian; Archivist; Chorister; Commissioners:* The General Secretary, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, may appoint a Historian, Archivist, Chorister, and other Commissioners, as necessary, with their prescribed duties and responsibilities outlined in their letter of appointment and the Code of Beta Theta Pi, subject, however, to the authority of the General Secretary except as may be otherwise provided for in the Laws of the Fraternity; and, with the same approval, shall have authority to provide such additional assistants as may be necessary for the proper performance of his duties.

SECTION 8. *Chapter Counselors and Advisors:* Chapter Counselors and Advisors shall be appointed by the General Secretary or his designee. The appointing individual shall prescribe their duties and functions and shall have and retain general supervision of all said counselors and advisors who nevertheless shall, except as the appointing individual may direct, perform their duties and functions under the supervision of the appointing individual.

SECTION 9. *Miscellaneous Duties of the General Secretary:*

A. *Special Roll Record of Former Members:* The General Secretary shall cause to be kept a special record, not for publication, of all persons who have ceased to be members of the fraternity by resignation or expulsion, with a concise statement of the facts in each case.

B. *Preparation of Petitions:* A petition presented to the fraternity from a colony seeking a charter for a chapter shall be prepared under the supervision of the General Secretary. In each instance the expense of such printing shall be borne by the petitioning body.

CHAPTER IV THE GENERAL TREASURER

SECTION 1. *Funds of the Fraternity:* The General Treasurer shall cause the funds of the fraternity to be deposited to the account of the fraternity in a bank or banks selected by him or his designee, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees. All funds so deposited shall be withdrawn by the General Treasurer or such others as the Board of Trustees may by resolution authorize.

SECTION 2. *Assistant General Treasurer:* The General Treasurer may, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, appoint one or more Assistant General Treasurers and prescribe their duties, functions and responsibilities.

SECTION 3. *Reports on Chapter Finances:* The General Treasurer shall report to the Board of Trustees and the Convention the financial position of the Fraternity. Said report shall be prepared in such form as the Board of Trustees shall approve and direct.

SECTION 4. *The Budget:* The General Treasurer shall each year and prior to the start of the fiscal year submit to the Board of Trustees a proposed budget for the ensuing year.

SECTION 5. *Expenses of Officers:* The General Treasurer shall pay the reasonable expenses of officers of the fraternity incurred in the transaction of Fraternity business and of any other member of the Fraternity deputized by the Board of Trustees or the General Convention to do special work for the Fraternity.

CHAPTER V CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SECTION 1. *Duties of the Chief Executive Officer:*

A. The Chief Executive Officer of the fraternity shall serve as the chief staff officer and shall supervise and direct the Administrative Office staff.

B. The Chief Executive Officer shall report directly to the General Secretary, subject to the authority of the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall develop and maintain policies and protocols related to the authority, supervision and evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer.

C. The Chief Executive Officer shall perform such tasks and duties as are delegated to him by the Board of Trustees including, but not limited to, the implementation of the Fraternity's strategic plan, implementation of an annual budget and associated financial reporting, administration of the risk management and insurance program, administration of fraternity communications, administration of chapter and volunteer support initiatives and adoption of necessary policies and procedures to guide the Administrative Office staff.

SECTION 2. *Chapter Rolls:*

A. *Keeping of the Rolls*: The official roll of each chapter shall contain the full name of each chapter member and shall be kept at the Administrative Office under the direction of the Chief Executive Officer. No names shall be put upon the roll save those officially reported upon the forms prescribed.

B. *Cancellation of Names from the Roll*: The Chief Executive Officer shall cancel from the rolls of the fraternity the names of all persons who have been expelled or who have resigned without deleting the number assigned, which thereafter shall remain void, succeeding numbers not being changed; there shall be noted the words “expelled" or “resigned" with the date the action was taken.

CHAPTER VI FRATERNITY MAGAZINE

SECTION 1. *Name:* The Fraternity shall publish a magazine or periodical under the name The Beta Theta Pi, which title may be printed in Greek letters.

SECTION 2. *Copies for Members:* Each member of the Fraternity shall be entitled to receive a copy of each issue of the magazine. Electronic delivery may be substituted if the member so elects.

SECTION 3. *Life Subscriptions:* Every member of the Fraternity who is a member of the Baird Fund shall be entitled to receive the magazine for life. Every member of the Fraternity not a member of the Baird Fund may become a member of the Baird Fund by paying to the General Treasurer the Baird Fund fee prescribed in Chapter XII, Section 1(A) of the Laws.

SECTION 4. *Required chapter reports:* Each academic year each chapter and colony shall prepare a reports for publication in issues of the magazine at a frequency determined by the Board of Trustees.

CHAPTER VII THE CHAPTERS

SECTION 1. *Chapter Name:*

A. *Full Name:* The full name of each chapter shall be in the following form: the Miami chapter, the Alpha of Beta Theta Pi; the University of Michigan chapter, the Lambda of Beta Theta Pi; the St. Lawrence chapter, the Beta Zeta of Beta Theta Pi.

B. *Procedure for Naming Chapters:* Chapters hereafter established shall be named in Greek alphabetical sequence. After the Greek alphabet has been exhausted chapters shall be given double letter Greek names also in alphabetic sequence. A convention which grants a charter to an inactive chapter whose chapter designation has been taken by another chapter and in other extraordinary circumstances deemed appropriate by such convention, may grant a special designation out of the preceding sequence when granting the charter to such chapter.

   Colonies chartered at the same convention shall be named in order of their longevity as a colony, with the oldest colony being named first. Should a chapter become inactive, its designation and its position on the roll of chapters shall remain intact, and its charter, records and archives shall be held by the Administrative Office.

SECTION 2. *Officers:* The officers of each chapter shall be collegiate members as defined by Chapter VIII, Section 1(B)(a) in good standing and regularly enrolled in the college or university at which the chapter is located, consisting of at least a president, secretary, pledge educator, risk manager, recruitment chair, alumni relations chair and treasurer.. The President of each chapter shall be responsible for safekeeping all property of the General Fraternity loaned to his chapter.

SECTION 3. *Treasurer; Accounting System:* The treasurer shall promptly collect all dues and assessments levied by the chapter or by the Convention. He shall keep accurate account thereof in accordance with the Chapter Accounting Standards or other Board of Trustees approved compliance options. He shall be responsible for the collection and immediate payment of General Fraternity fees, as set forth in Chapter XII, of the Laws.

SECTION 4. *Books; Inspection and Audit:* The books of the chapter treasurer or those of other chapter officers handling money shall at all times be open to the inspection and audit of the General Treasurer, the District Chief, the General Convention or the designee of any of these.

SECTION 5. *Chapter Roll:* Each chapter shall keep a roll, in the uniform official roll book of the fraternity, with entries in the order of initiation or transfer, beginning with the charter members. A number once assigned to a member shall not thereafter be changed. All entries recorded must also be submitted to the Administrative Office on the prescribed form.

SECTION 6. *Chapter Reporting:* The chapter shall conduct timely official correspondence and reporting to the Administrative Office. The Administrative Office will inform the chapter of the required method to transmit such reports.

A. Within 72 hours of election to notify the Administrative Office of the names of all officers of the chapter;
B. Send to the Administrative Office within 72 hours after initiation, an initiation report of each initiate, and within 72 hours of date of pledge induction, the notice of admission of each affiliate;
C. Report to the General Secretary and Administrative Office each expulsion or resignation from the fraternity including supporting documentation. See Discipline Chapter XIII, Section 4 for reporting requirements of Trial By Chapter;
D. Report Risk Management incidents with 24 hours of the chapter being made aware of such incident;
E. Send promptly to the editor of the fraternity magazine all items of interest relating to the welfare, progress and contemporary history of the chapter, and to see that all requests sent by the editor are answered promptly;
F. Update names and addresses of alumni in the General Fraternity directory;
G. Make such other reports as may be required by the General Secretary, Board of Trustees, Administrative Office or District Chief.

CHAPTER VIII STATUSES

SECTION 1. *Status of Members*:

A. General Categories*:* Every member of the fraternity will be either:

(a) A Collegiate Member; or
(b) A Temporarily Inactive Member; or,
(c) An Alumnus Member; or,
(d) A Suspended Member

B. Definitions:

(a) Collegiate Member:

i. Every member will be considered a collegiate member until:

1. he graduates from the college or university at which his chapter is established unless he elects to continue as a collegiate member while enrolled in a professional or graduate school of an institution where there is an established chapter of Beta Theta Pi
2. he permanently leaves the college or university at which his chapter is established unless he transfers to another chapter.
3. he is designated an alumnus member by the Board of Trustees or the General Convention.

(b) Temporarily Inactive Member: A member of the fraternity who would otherwise be a Collegiate member may become temporarily inactive for any of the following reasons:

1. Study abroad, internships or co-ops away from the city where the institution is located,
2. Missionary work required by his educational institution,
3. Financial hardship, provided the number of members of any chapter who may become temporarily inactive because of financial hardship during any academic term shall be limited to three per chapter/colony, or
4. Withdrawal from the college or university at which the chapter is established which is not considered permanent.

ii. Procedure to become Temporarily Inactive: Temporarily inactive status may be granted to a member if the chapter president reports to the Administrative Office the chapter has approved the temporary inactive status, specifies how the member qualifies for such status and certifies the member is not paying the chapter any type of dues or fees for the period of inactive status or participating in any other fraternity activities. Temporarily inactive status can only be granted for one term at a time and automatically terminates at the end of such period. Such status may be revoked by the General Secretary, District Chief or Administrative Office upon receipt of information showing grounds for such status did not exist, and any revocation shall be effective at the beginning of the period for which the status was granted. Revocation of temporarily inactive status may be appealed to the Board of Trustees.

(c) Alumnus Member: An alumnus member is a member of the fraternity who is no longer a collegiate member and is also not temporarily inactive, suspended, resigned or expelled.

(d) Suspended Member: A suspended member is a member of the fraternity whose rights and privileges of association in the fraternity have been suspended for a specific period of time as a result of a disciplinary proceeding. At the end of the period of suspension, the member's status returns to the

status he had prior to suspension. The suspension of a member shall not change the financial obligation of such member or the member's chapter to the General Fraternity, and as such in Laws Chapter XII the term collegiate member includes those in suspended status.

(e) *Expelled Members and Expulsion:* A man who is expelled from Beta Theta Pi ceases to be a member of the Fraternity. Once the expulsion is final, his name will be canceled from the roll in the manner prescribed in Chapter V, Section 1, Part B of the Laws.

C. *Reinstatement of Former Members*: No person expelled, or who has resigned from the fraternity, may be reinstated to membership except by a majority vote of the General Convention or the Board of Trustees.

D. *Maintenance of Membership:* No collegiate member of the fraternity may be a member in the Fraternity at large if he has relinquished his membership in the chapter at the institution where he continues to be a student, except by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees.

E. *Membership in Similar Organizations:* It shall be grounds for expulsion if any member becomes a member of any other similar college fraternity.

F. *Special Initiation*:

(a) *Initiation upon recommendation of the chapter:* A chapter may initiate any male non-student who exhibits the principles of Beta Theta Pi deemed worthy by his efforts and continued interest in a chapter of Beta Theta Pi provided:

i. He meets the qualifications in Article II, Section 2(a), (c) and (d);
ii. His qualifications have been presented to and approved by the District Chief, and the District Chief notifies the Chief Executive Officer of such approval;
iii. Anyone so initiated, must pay the portion of the General Fraternity membership fee payable upon initiation.

(b) *Initiation upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees*: Any male who exhibits the principles of Beta Theta Pi deemed worthy by his efforts and continued interest in Beta Theta Pi may be elected by the Board of Trustees for initiation into the Fraternity provided:

i. Those elected shall be initiated at such time as the Board of Trustees may direct.
ii. Those elected under this section shall be enrolled in the General Fraternity Roll Book.
iii. No student enrolled in an institution where there is a chapter or colony of Beta Theta Pi may be initiated under the provision of this section.

iv. Anyone so initiated shall be required to pay an amount set by the Board of Trustees, not to exceed the cost of the Badge, Shingle and the Baird Fund fee.
v. The man so elected under this section meets the requirements of Article II, Section 2(A).

G. *General Fraternity Roll Book:* There shall be created a General Fraternity Roll Book which may be used by the Board of Trustees for the initiation of certain individuals initiated under the provisions of Chapter VIII, Section 1, Part F(b).

SECTION 2. *Status of Chapters:*

A. Categories: A chapter of Beta Theta Pi will be designated as either:

a. In Good Standing;
b. On Probation;
c. Subject to Suspension
d. Suspended;
e. Under Reorganization;
f. Disbanded; or
g. Revoked.

A chapter may be designated as any status without having first received another designation, subject only to any limitations set forth elsewhere in the Constitution or Laws.

B. Definitions:

a. Chapter Operates Under Own Authority
(1) *Definition of a Chapter in Good Standing:* A chapter is in good standing if (1) it has paid or has arranged to pay all money owed by it to the General Fraternity, and (2) it has not been given a different status designation.

b. Chapter Operates Under Own Authority with Limitations. Statuses in this section allow a chapter to operate as a chapter of Beta Theta Pi under its own charter, but with such restrictions, limitations or conditions as might be imposed by the party making the designation. The letter changing the designation shall list the deficiencies the chapter needs to correct and a timetable for correction. The letter shall also state the chapter is on notice more serious action may be taken if not corrected:

(1) *Definition of a Chapter On Probation:* A chapter placed on probation is (1) a chapter that has failed to meet or has had difficulty meeting the standards of a chapter of Beta Theta Pi, and (2) has been placed on

probation by the General Secretary, the Board of Trustees or the General Convention.

(2) *Definition of a Chapter Subject to Suspension:* A chapter designated as being subject to suspension is (1) a chapter that has failed to meet or is under investigation for failing to meet the standards of a chapter of Beta Theta Pi, (2) has been designated as subject to suspension by the General Secretary, the Board of Trustees or the General Convention, and (3) is determined, by the party making the designation, to have or be at significant risk of having extremely serious deficiencies which threaten its ability to continue as a functioning chapter of Beta Theta Pi.

c. Chapter Has No Authority to Operate Except as Allowed. Statuses in this section provide a chapter no inherent authority to operate as a chapter of Beta Theta Pi except for authority specifically granted by the party making the designation:

(1) *Definition of a Suspended Chapter:* A suspended chapter is a chapter the charter of which has been suspended by the General Secretary, the Board of Trustees or the General Convention.

(2) *Definition of a Chapter Under Reorganization:* A chapter under reorganization is one which is being reorganized under the order of the General Secretary, the Board of Trustees or the General Convention to determine which members are willing to follow the standards and principles of Beta Theta Pi. The charter of a chapter Under Reorganization shall, by virtue of such designation, be suspended. As a part of the reorganization some Collegiate Members may be designated as Alumnus Members under Chapter VIII, Section 1, Part B(a)(i)(3) and other disciplinary action may be taken with respect to members as provided in the Laws.

d. Chapter Has No Authority to Operate. Statuses in this section provide a chapter may not operate as a chapter of Beta Theta Pi for any purpose and is not a chapter of the Fraternity:

(1) *Definition of a Disbanded Chapter:* A disbanded chapter is one (1) the charter of which operations has have been suspended and (2) the members of which have been ordered to disband. Said members shall be designated as Alumnus Members under Chapter VIII, Section 1, Part B(a)(iii), although other disciplinary or superseding action may be taken with respect to the members as provided in the Laws.

(2) *Definition of a Revoked Chapter:* A revoked chapter is one that once existed but does not now exist because its charter was rescinded by the General Convention under the provisions of this Code. A revoked

charter is not in the keeping of the Board of Trustees and the chapter designation is forfeit.

C. *Who May Suspend, Reorganize, or Disband a Chapter:* The charter of any chapter may be suspended, the chapter may be ordered reorganized, or the chapter ordered disbanded by the General Secretary, the Board of Trustees, or by a 2/3 vote of the General Convention. The General Secretary may delegate to a District Chief the power to suspend the charter of a chapter in his district and shall review and may modify or reverse any action taken by a District Chief under this delegation of authority.

D. *Who May Modify or Lift Designation:* A change in designation of a chapter may be appealed to the body modifying the designation or any higher body. If the appeal is denied the chapter may continue to appeal to higher authorities up to the General Convention. The General Convention supersedes the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees supersedes the General Secretary or District Chief.

   a. Appeals to the General Convention for a chapter's designation as suspended, under reorganization, or disbanded may be lifted by a two-thirds vote of the General Convention.

   b. The General Secretary, Board of Trustees, or General Convention when designating or modifying a chapter status may also provide that a chapter's designation be automatically modified or lifted in the event that certain conditions are met and may specify who would make that determination.

E. *Notice to Interested Parties of Certain Chapter Designations:* If a chapter's status is changed, notice of such change, the reasons, and notice more serious action may be taken if the deficiencies are not corrected shall be promptly sent by the Administrative Office to the parents of the Collegiate Members of the chapter, the chapter's advisors, the officers of the chapter's house corporation and such living alumni of the chapter as determined appropriate by the Board of Trustees. Notice may also be given to other parties of a chapter's designation as deemed appropriate under the circumstances.

F. *Procedure for the Disbanding of Chapters:* The General Secretary or Board of Trustees shall designate discreet persons to work with the officers of the chapter's alumni and/or house corporation to carry out the details of disbanding a chapter, including obtaining the property of the General Fraternity, relocating of residents of the chapter house, and securing the chapter house.

G. *Revocation of Charter:* The General Convention may revoke the charter of any chapter by a three-fourths vote. If the action is being taken at the recommendation of the Board of Trustees, the Chapter must have first received written notice of the recommendation.

SECTION 3. *Status of Alumni Associations*:

A. Categories*:* An Alumni Association of Beta Theta Pi will be designated as either:

(a) Active; or
(b) Inactive

B. Definitions:

(a) Active: An alumni association is active if it has completed the annual certification, as prescribing in Chapter XI, Section 2 o the Laws.
(b) Inactive: An alumni association is considered inactive if it has not completed the annual certification, as prescribed in Chapter XI, Section 2 of the Laws (1) An inactive alumni association may be considered for a change in status at any time by submitting proof of certification to the Administrative Office, for approval by the Board of Trustees.

CHAPTER IX TRANSFERS

SECTION 1. *Requirements for Transfer:* When a member in good standing leaves the institution where his chapter is situated and when such a member matriculates and registers in another institution at which there is a chapter of the fraternity, he may become a member of such chapter, provided that the chapter shall have expressed its confidence in his character and qualifications by electing him to membership by a majority vote; and provided that the chapter to which he is transferring confirms with the Administrative Office that he is officially enrolled in the fraternity. Members not so elected will be alumnus members under Chapter VIII, Section 1, Part B(c)(ii).

SECTION 2. *Report of Transfer:* It shall be the duty of the chapter to which a member is transferred to record, in the official roll book of the chapter, his admission to collegiate membership as in the case of admission by initiation, and also to report such admission in accordance with Chapter VII, Section 6.

CHAPTER X RITUAL

SECTION 1. *Pre-Initiation Practices:* Initiation and pre-initiation ceremonies in the fraternity shall be limited by the respective chapters to (1) an examination on fraternity history and lore, (2) the prescribed and printed Ritual of the fraternity including the Wooglin Ceremony, the Dragon Ceremony and the Initiation Ceremony, and (3) local ritual ceremonies submitted in writing and pre-approved by the District Chief.

None of the above shall be performed outside the chapter house or hall, unless such activities can properly and safely be performed elsewhere and prior permission has been obtained from the District Chief.

Request for such permission must be submitted in writing to the District Chief at least five days prior to the proposed ceremony. The decision of the District Chief may be appealed to the General Secretary or Board of Trustees.

Hazing activities, including, but not limited to, physical punishment, public embarrassment and distasteful practices generally, are absolutely forbidden. The District Chief is authorized to grant permission to the chapters to perform local ritual ceremonies consistent with the principles and ritual of the fraternity [except the initiation ceremony which cannot be changed under any circumstances]. Request for such permission must be submitted in writing to the District Chief at least 5 days prior to the ceremony. The decision of the District Chief may be appealed to the General Secretary or Board of Trustees.

SECTION 2. *The Bound Ritual of the Fraternity shall include all of the following:* The Ritual for Opening and Closing the Chapter Meeting (short and long form), The Pledge Ceremony, the Wooglin Ceremony, the Dragon Ceremony, the Ritual of Initiation, the Eye of Wooglin, the Fraternal Milestones Ceremony, the Founders Commemoration Ceremony, the Loving Cup Ceremony, the Allegory of the Beta Temple, the Installation of General Fraternity Officers, the Installation of Chapter Officers, the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Convention, the Oxford Cup Ceremony, the Memorial Service for the Dead, the Public Funeral Service, the Ritual Glossary of Terms, Ritual: What Every Beta Should Know, and the History of the Ritual. All of the ceremonies of the fraternity shall have such content and shall be in such form as may be approved by the General Convention from time to time.

SECTION 3. *Cauldron Scene:* The use of fire and inflammable chemicals in the Cauldron Scene is prohibited.

CHAPTER XI ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS

SECTION 1. *Organization:* Associations of alumni members of the fraternity may be organized by taking the following actions:

A. There must be at least ten alumni members interested in forming the association.

B. The interested parties must file with the Administrative Office an application form containing such information as the Board of Trustees directs.

C. Such application is approved by the Board of Trustees. At the time of such approval the Board of Trustees shall name such alumni association.

SECTION 2. *Annual Certification*: Alumni associations must certify each year at least 60 days prior to an announced General Convention.

A. The criteria for certification are:
    a. Officers: Each Alumni Association shall have a president and such other officers as it may desire, said officers having been duly elected.
    b. By-Laws: An Alumni Association shall adopt, amend, or repeal by-laws to assist it in carrying out its duties, not inconsistent with the Code of Beta Theta Pi.

c. Membership: Each Alumni Association has maintained the minimum number of members required to exist, and submit a roster of its membership to satisfy the minimum requirement.
d. Meetings: The Alumni Association holds a minimum of two functional meetings. Documentation of activities, events and participants shall be submitted to the Administrative Office, for approval by the Board of Trustees.

B. Representation at Convention: All certified alumni associations shall be entitled to representation at Convention if:
   a. They have met the requirements set for by Chapter XI, Section 1 of the Laws of Beta Theta Pi.
   b. They register a delegate with the Administrative Office at least 60 days prior to an announced General Convention.

C. The Alumni Association shall designate an official delegate and alternate delegate and submit their names to the Administrative Office. Neither the delegate, nor the alternate delegate, may be a current member of the Board of Trustees.

CHAPTER XII FEES

SECTION 1. *General Fraternity Fee:* Each chapter shall be responsible for payment to the Administrative Office of the following fees (United States Funds or equivalent);

A. *General Fraternity Membership Fee*: The membership fee shall include 1) the pledge fee, payable at the time of pledging; 2) the initiation fee payable at the time of initiation; and 3) the Baird Fund fee. The portion paid at the time of pledging shall be non-refundable. A current list of fees is located at Beta.org.

B. *Annual Dues*: Annual dues paid per each collegiate member in two equal installments due October 1 and March 1 each year shall include 1) General Fraternity Dues and 2) Heritage Fund dues. A current list of fees is located at Beta.org.

C. *Fee Adjustments*: Annually on June 1st, at the discretion of the Board of Trustees, all of the above fees and any portion thereof may be increased by a cost of living factor up to the percentage rise in the consumer price index for the previous calendar year. The calculation shall be based on the previous year's fee and rounded upward to the nearest dollar.

The total number of collegiate members in part B of this section should be based on the official chapter roll at the Administrative Office for the October 1 payment or a mid-year adjustment for the March 1 payment. This total shall also include any remaining pledges for each term after their affiliation. The Administrative Office is directed to establish, as soon as reasonably possible and in such a manner as directed by the Board of Trustees, the Heritage Fund as a perpetual endowment for the Hall of Chapters, Archives, Museum, Beta Theta Pi Foundation and Administrative Office.

D. *Exchange rate*: The Board of Trustees shall fix from time to time, the equivalent fund exchange rate as described in this Section 1.

SECTION 2. *Failure to Pay Fees:* Any chapter failing to pay fees within thirty (30) days of the billing date shall be delinquent and the Administrative Office may impose an additional fee of 1.5% per month; furthermore, after delinquency of ninety (90) days past the original billing date, the delinquent chapter will be placed on Suspension for financial delinquency. Fees for the purposes of this section shall include all fees owed by members, pledges or chapters to the General Fraternity including, but not limited to, fees for fraternity materials and supplies, workshops and conventions. To be removed from Suspension, the chapter must demonstrate fiscal responsibility to the satisfaction of the General Secretary or his designee.

SECTION 3. *Baird Fund Fees:* All Baird Fund membership fees shall be allocated to such Fund, unless during any fiscal year of the Fraternity the Board of Trustees determines that all or any part of the fees received during such year be applied for other Fraternity purposes.

SECTION 4. *Badge and Shingle:* Upon the payment of the fees prescribed in Section 1 hereof the newly initiated member will be furnished by the General Fraternity with a standard gold-plated zircon center member's badge and a standard shingle.

CHAPTER XIII DISCIPLINE

SECTION 1: *Discipline of Members, Jurisdiction:* Discipline for a member whose conduct is inconsistent with the character of a worthy member of Beta Theta Pi will fall under the jurisdiction of a chapter, colony, or the Board of Trustees as follows:

A. *Jurisdiction of the Chapter*: Each chapter shall have jurisdiction over all of its collegiate, temporarily inactive, suspended members and pledges.

B. *Jurisdiction of the Board of Trustees:* The Board of Trustees shall have jurisdiction in the following cases:

   a. Removal from office of officers of the General Fraternity;
   b. All cases of discipline of individuals no longer collegiate, temporarily inactive or suspended status;
   c. Discipline of a member where charges are filed against such member by a general officer of the fraternity or his designee;
   d. In all cases in which the chapter fails, neglects or refuses to institute discipline after request by the General Secretary or a majority of the Board of Trustees;
   e. All other cases not herein provided for.

SECTION 2: *Discipline of Members, General Provisions:*

A. A failure to perform one or more of the requirements of this chapter may be excused on appeal in a particular case, if the accused has received substantial justice.

B. A decision may be vacated or amended if requested by an Accused and if it appears that an error has been made or the interests of justice so require by a two-thirds vote provided: (1) it is within one year from the date the decision became final; and (2) the decision was not the expulsion of a member from the fraternity.

C. A charge or claim that a member of the fraternity has engaged in conduct inconsistent with the character of a worthy member of Beta Theta Pi may be brought against any member in any status by any member or pledge of Beta Theta Pi. The charge must be documented briefly describing the alleged misconduct.

   Notice: All efforts should be made to provide the accused with ample time and ability to be present and actively participate in the proceedings. Diligent effort should be made to give notice to ensure the accused knows of the charge against him and the time and place set for the hearing at least 3 days in advance. Notice may be given in person, by mail or e-mail. Regardless of how or when given, if the accused is present at the hearing, notice will be presumed to have been sufficient. Notice may be given to a member; to a chapter president on behalf of the chapter; to an alumni association officer on behalf of the alumni association, or to the Chief Executive Officer or General Secretary on behalf of the General Fraternity.

D. *Rights Of The Accused*: The Accused has the following rights:

   (1) The right to due notice.
   (2) The right at a hearing or a trial to be heard, to present evidence, to hear the evidence against him, and to be represented by an advisor or counselor who shall be a member of the fraternity.
   (3) The right to be present throughout the proceedings except when the chapter makes its decision.
   (4) The right to appeal as provided herein.
   (5) The accused may waive some or all of his rights.
   (6) The accused must be notified of the charge against him.

SECTION 3. *The Kai Committee:*

A. *Establishment of The Kai Committee:* Each chapter will establish a standing committee to conduct disciplinary reviews. The Kai Committee will be formed by election (or slate) by the chapter and will include no less than five collegiate members chaired by a member of the executive board. The committee should be representative of the membership of the chapter and should generally include the participation of advisors in the decision making process.

B. *When Used*: The Kai Committee will hear all cases. The Kai Committee may apply any penalty except expulsion of the Accused or suspension of the Accused for more than one year.

C. *Kai Committee Procedure*: The Kai Committee shall at a minimum provide the rights of the accused as outlined in Chapter XIII, Section 2(D). The procedure should provide a way for the Accused and the chapter to enter into an agreement to settle the charge.

SECTION 4: *Trial by Chapter:*

A. *When Used*: Trial by Chapter will be used when the Kai Committee determines the appropriate penalty to be expulsion or suspension for more than one year, Chapter XIII, Section 3, Part B.

B. *Charges*: The chapter must prepare the charges to be filed and forward those charges to the District Chief or Regional Chief for review in advance of presenting them to the accused. The chapter leadership will make arrangements for the District Chief or Regional Chief to host a call with the executive committee and those bringing charges to them as soon as practical. The District Chief or Regional Chief will counsel the members on the importance of accuracy, validity, and thoroughness of the charges, and other procedural issues worthy of their consideration. The chapter will then present the charges to the accused.

C. *General Procedure*: Due notice must be given to the Accused. At the time set for trial, the chapter, with a quorum present, must hear the charge against the Accused, decide whether the charge is true and fix the penalty upon a finding of guilt. The Accused may waive their right to such hearing by voluntarily admitting to the charges.

D. *Role of Kai Committee*: The Kai Committee shall organize and present the case against the Accused.

E. *Admission of Charge*: The Accused shall be given an opportunity to admit or deny the charges. If the Accused does not attend the hearing, after being given due notice, the chapter may consider the failure to appear as an admission of the charges. If the charge is admitted, the chapter will then set the penalty by a majority vote of collegiate members who are not temporarily inactive.

F. *Order of Decision*: If the Accused denies the charge, the chapter will consider the evidence and arguments presented by each side, and will then vote on the question of whether the charge has been proved. If a majority of collegiate members who are not temporarily inactive vote in the affirmative, the Accused stands convicted, and the chapter will then consider and decide the penalty to be imposed by majority vote of collegiate members who are not temporarily inactive. If not, the Accused remains not guilty.

G. *Penalties*: The chapter may expel the accused or impose suspension if found guilty based on the Kai Committee's recommendation. If the chapter determines expulsion or suspension greater than one year is not appropriate, the matter will be referred to the Kai Committee to determine the appropriate lesser penalty.

H. *Minutes Of The Trial*: Minutes shall be kept of the proceedings of the trial summarizing the evidence presented A copy of the Minutes must be provided to the District Chief, Chief Executive Officer, and the accused within 10 days of the trial.

SECTION 5: *Hearing by Board of Trustees*

A. *Establishment of Review Committee*: Rather than conducting a discipline matter directly, the Board of Trustees may establish a standing or ad hoc review committee of no less than 5 members in good standing to conduct disciplinary questions. The committee will investigate cases assigned to it by the Trustees and will make a ruling and apply any sanctions. The decision may be appealed to the Trustees.

B. *Hearing Procedure*: The procedure followed by the Board of Trustees or appointed review committee will be the same standard as the Kai Committee described in Chapter XIII, Section 3(C).

C. *Penalties*: The Board of Trustees or its committee may apply any sanctions including expulsion of membership.

SECTION 6: *Appeals*: The Accused may appeal either the finding of guilt or the penalty imposed, or both. Decisions of the Kai Committee can be appealed to the chapter. Decisions of the chapter are first appealed to the District Chief, then the Board of Trustees and then to the next General Convention. Decisions of the General Secretary are first appealed to the Board of Trustees and then to the next General Convention. If the hearing was held before the Board of Trustees, then the appeal is to the next General Convention. Any appeal to the Convention shall be treated as a committee item under Chapter I, Section 15.

A. *How to Appeal*: To appeal decisions of the Kai Committee, the Accused must give notice to the chapter president. To appeal decisions of the chapter, district chief or Board of Trustees, the Accused must give notice to the Chief Executive Officer, within the time limits herein provided, asking that the chapter, chiefs' or Trustees' decision be reviewed and stating the grounds for review. The Chief Executive Officer will direct the appeal to the District Chief, Board of Trustees or the next General Convention as the case may be.

B. *Time For Appeal*:

(1) Kai Committee decisions: The Accused will have ten days from the date of notice of the committee's decision to appeal the decision.

(2) All other decisions: The Accused will have 90 days from the date of notice of the decision in which to appeal.

C. *Final Decision*: A decision is considered final once the time for appeal expires or when the appeal process has been exhausted.

D. *Appeals To General Convention*: Appeals to the General Convention shall be heard by the General Convention in accordance with such rules of procedure prescribed by the Board of Trustees; provided, however, (1) no member whose appeal is being heard be entitled to vote thereon, and (2) each member, shall be afforded reasonable opportunity of defense and representation by a member of the fraternity. Such decision shall not be subject to further appeal or reconsideration after adjournment sine die.

CHAPTER XIV SCHOLARSHIP

SECTION 1. *Scholastic Requirement for Initiation:* Every candidate for initiation into Beta Theta Pi must obtain, for the term immediately prior to his initiation, a grade point average of not less than the minimum average grades required for graduation by the school or college in which heis enrolled. This requirement may be waived or modified by the Board of Trustees upon a showing of undue hardship to the chapter involved.

SECTION 2. *Minimum Chapter Academic Standards and Assisting Procedures:*

A. Minimum Chapter Academic Standard: Each chapter shall maintain an academic average for the chapter, consisting of all the grade point averages of all the pledges and collegiate members, equal to or exceeding the All-Men's Average (AMA) grade point for the campus. For those campuses who do not calculate an AMA, the minimum academic standard will be a 2.8 on a 4.0 grading scale or its equivalent for each calendar year.
B. Reporting Chapter Grade Point Average: The chapter (both pledges and collegiate members), shall report to the Administrative Office its overall chapter GPA within 90 days from the end of each grading period.
C. Failure to Report as Failure to meet Minimum Standard: Failure to report will constitute failing to meet the scholarship Standard Chapter Operating Expectation and will cause the chapter to be ineligible for associated chapter awards.
D. If a chapter fails to maintain the minimum scholastic requirements herein provided, the chapter shall be subject to probation status and shall be given written notice of its failure. To be removed from Probation, the chapter must demonstrate academic responsibility to the satisfaction of the General Secretary or his designee.

SECTION 3. *Minimum Member Scholastic Requirement:* Each member is required to maintain either a cumulative grade point average or achieve for the most recent grading period at least a 2.5 on a 4.0 grading scale or its equivalent. Any member who does not maintain the required average shall be required to enroll in an academic assistance program established by the chapter.

CHAPTER XV MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 1. *Purchase, Building, Alteration or Enlargement of Chapter Facility:* No chapter or alumni organization of Beta Theta Pi shall enter into or proceed with the purchasing or building of a chapter house or the major alteration or enlargement of an existing chapter house

until it shall have notified the Board of Trustees of its plans. The Board may, if it deems it necessary, require the chapter or alumni organization to submit to it the following information:

(1) the general plans and specifications of the proposed chapter house;
(2) an accurate cost estimate;
(3) a complete report of the financial status of the chapter and alumni organization at the time of submitting the plans; and
(4) a detailed plan for financing such chapter house and the extent to which such plan has been considered and approved by the chapter and its alumni.

SECTION 2. *Obligation to Register Address:* It shall be the obligation of every member of the fraternity to register his current mailing address and e-mail address with the Administrative Office and to advise the Administrative Office promptly of changes of address and within two weeks of graduation he must update his email away from a campus or .edu email address. It shall be the obligation of each chapter and colony of the Fraternity to keep current with the Administrative Office its address and the names, campus address, home address, phone number and e-mail address of all members. Further, within two weeks of graduation each graduate will receive an email to update his email address on my.beta.org.

CHAPTER XVI SEALS AND EMBLEMS

SECTION 1. *General:* A standard badge, flag, coat of arms, great seal, colors, pledge button and shingle shall be adopted by the General Convention.

SECTION 2. *Badge, How Worn and Used:* The Badge of the fraternity shall conform with the description in the Ritual. Each member will receive a standard gold-plated badge on payment of his initiation fees. The use of the official badge of the fraternity shall be limited to the pin, to be worn over the heart and in a manner befitting the honor and dignity to which the badge is entitled. The badge is not to be worn on a lapel or coat. A member of the fraternity shall permit none but his mother, spouse or partner, daughter, sister or sweetheart to wear the official badge.

SECTION 3. *Flag:* The flag shall consist of three equal horizontal stripes of blue, white, and blue, the upper stripe bearing a single white five-pointed star, and the lower blue stripe two similar stars, the three stars forming an equilateral triangle about a red dragon sejant, the fraternity crest.

SECTION 4. *Coat of Arms:* The coat of arms of the fraternity shall be: Quarterly argent and gules; a chevron azure bearing three mullets or:

Crest, a gold dragon sejant or
Motto: ___kai___

SECTION 5. *Great Seal:* The Great Seal of the fraternity shall be the coat of arms with the crest and motto, upon two rose sprigs, within a circular band, on which shall be the legend, "THE GREAT SEAL OF BETA THETA PI—1839."

SECTION 6. *Chapter Coat of Arms; Chapter Seal:* Each chapter, with approval of the General Fraternity Historian, shall adopt a coat of arms and a chapter seal.

The chapter coat of arms shall consist of the fraternity crest, the fraternity shield with the following changes—for the parent chapter, the shield without change; for each of the next nine chapters in order of establishment, the fraternity shield differenced by the heraldic mark of cadency; for each of the remaining chapters, the fraternity shield charged in the first quarter with a device to indicate the chapter—and the motto, which in each case shall consist of Greek words whose initials are the Greek name of the chapter.

The chapter seal shall consist of an equilateral triangle enclosing three stars, clasped hands, and the Greek letter or letters designating the chapter name, all within a circle, and the chapter name in the following form: Miami University, Alpha of Beta Theta Pi.

SECTION 7. *Shingle:* The shingle of the fraternity shall be a plain white card, six inches in width and eight inches from top to bottom, displaying in the center of the upper portion the coat of arms of the fraternity engraved in black. Across the middle shall be shown the member's full name in Old English letters, with the date of his initiation in similar but smaller characters just under the name. The chapter seal shall be affixed in red wax in the lower left-hand corner.

SECTION 8. *Pledge Pin:* The pledge pin of the fraternity shall be a shield of white enamel, of the same shape as the badge, bearing three five-pointed stars of gold arranged in a line running from the upper left-hand corner to the lower right-hand corner as one faces the pledge pin. The pin is to be worn similarly to the badge as described in Section 2 of this chapter, except that the pin may be worn on a lapel.

SECTION 9. *Colors:* The colors of the fraternity shall be pink and blue, in delicate shades.

SECTION 10. *Use of Emblems:*

A. The use of all emblems of the fraternity (except the badge) shall be permitted on jewelry, stationery, novelties, and wearing apparel.

B. No reproduction of the badge shall be used for any purpose except that the Board of Trustees may, upon written application to it, approve specific and limited uses of such a reproduction.

CHAPTER XVII AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. *Voting*: These laws may be amended or repealed at any General Convention by a majority vote of the Convention.

APPENDIX TO THE LAWS

SUMMARY OF DATES

SUMMARY OF VOTING REQUIREMENTS

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

1. Statement of Position on Inter-Chapter Visitation Protocol
2. Statement of Position on Legacies
3. Statement of Position on Little Sister Organizations
4. Statement of Position on Drug Abuse
5. Statement of Position on Excellence in Chapter Housing and the Safety of Members and Guests
6. Statement of Position on Sexual Misconduct and Assault
7. Statement of Position on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
8. Risk Management Policy
9. Canadian Exchange Rate Policy
10. Standard Operating Procedure for Financially Delinquent Chapters
11. Fraternal Fifties Recognition
12. Fraternal Twenty-Five Recognition
12. No Solicitation Policy

For the current award criteria and applications, please see www.beta.org/awards.

SUMMARY OF DATES

Date	Section	Name	Action
February 1	Chapter I, Section 8	Proposals for Legislative Enactment by the Convention	Proposals submitted to the Chief Executive Officer to be considered at that year's Convention
March 1	Chapter XII	Fees	Installment Due for General Fraternity Dues and Heritage Fund. Full and complete roster reporting for calculating fees
March 18	Chapter I, Section 8	Proposals for Legislative Enactment by the Convention	Recommended changes or proposal deficiencies from the Board of Trustees are sent back to amendment authors
April 1	Chapter I, Section 4	Appointment and Confirmation of Convention Officers	Board of Trustees appoints Convention Officers
April 1	Chapter I, Section 8	Proposals for Legislative Enactment by the Convention	Board of Trustees sends all proposals to chapters
May 1	Chapter I, Section 2	Expenses of Convention Delegates	Board of Trustees sets delegate mileage reimbursement rate
May 31	Article V, Section 2	Fiscal Year	End of Fiscal Year
June 1 (Approx.)	Chapter XI, Section 2	Alumni Association Annual Certification	Annual certification criteria must be met and submitted for approval.
June 1 (Approx.)	Chapter I, Section 2	Selection of Delegates	Register convention delegate
June 1	Chapter XII	Fee Adjustments	Annual update for cost-of-living increase
July 15 (Approx.)	Chapter I, Section 3	Chapters and Alumni Associations entitled to Representation at Convention	Deadline to pay fees to have representation
August 31	Chapter II, Section 1	Fixing Time and Place of Convention	Board of Trustees selects time and place for next Convention

September 15	Chapter II, Section 1	Fixing Time and Place of Convention	Board of Trustees notifies Chapters of time and place for next Convention
October 1	Chapter XII	Fees	Installment Due for General Fraternity Dues and Heritage Fund. Full and complete roster reporting for calculating fees
October 15	Chapter I, Section 7	Preparation of Proceedings	Administrative Office distributes Convention minutes to all chapters
December 1	Chapter I, Section 8	Proposals for Legislative Enactment by the Convention	Chapters notified of deadline to submit proposals for changes to Code

SUMMARY OF VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Vote	Section	Name	Voter	Action
Majority	Article III, Section 3	Establishment of Chapters	Board of Trustees	Advance a charter petition to submit to Convention
Majority	Chapter I, Section 1(B)	Sessions of Convention	Chapters	Call for a Convention within 8 months
Majority	Chapter I, Section 4	Appointment and Confirmation of Convention Officers	Convention	Confirm appointed officers from Board
Majority	Chapter II, Section 6	Disapproval of Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees	Disapprove a Convention action and force it to come again before the next Convention
Majority	Chapter IX, Section 1	Requirements for Transfer	Chapter	Elect a transferee to membership within that chapter
Majority	Chapter VIII, Section 1(C)	Reinstatement of Former Members	Convention/Board of Trustees	Reinstate membership
Majority	Chapter VIII, Section 2(D)(a)	Who May Modify or Lift Designation	Convention	Lift status probation
Majority	Chapter XIII, Section 1(B)	Jurisdiction of the Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees	Take up a disciplinary action ignored by a Chapter
Majority	Chapter XIII, Section 4(E)	Admission of Charge	Chapter/ Board of Trustees	Set a penalty when a charge is admitted
Majority	Chapter XIII, Section 4(F)	Order of Decision	Chapter/ Board of Trustees	Convict the accused, and then set penalty
Majority	Chapter XIII, Section 4(G)	Penalties	Chapter/ Board of Trustees	Impose certain penalties
Majority	Chapter XVII, Section 1	Voting	Convention	Amend or repeal Laws
Three-Fourths	Article III, Section 3	Establishment of Chapters	Convention	Grant a Charter
Three-Fourths	Article IV, Section 6(F)	Removal of Officers	Board of Trustees	Keep a trustee who has missed three meetings
Three-Fourths	Chapter VIII, Section 2(G)	Revocation of Charter	Convention	Revoke a charter
Two-Thirds	Article IV, Section 6(F)	Removal of Officers	Board of Trustees	Remove a trustee

Two-Thirds	Article VI, Section 1	General	Convention	Amend or repeal Constitution
Two-Thirds	Chapter I, Section 1(B)	Session of Convention	Board of Trustees	Omit convention
Two-Thirds	Chapter I, Section 5(J)	Reference of Resolutions, Reports or Proposals	Convention	Take up a committee item
Two-Thirds	Chapter I, Section 9	Suspension of By-Laws	Convention	Suspend By-Laws
Two-Thirds	Chapter VIII, Section 2(C)	Who May Suspend, Reorganize, or Disband a Chapter	Convention	Impose statuses suspended, Under Reorganization or Disbanded
Two-Thirds	Chapter VIII, Section 2(D)(a)	Who May Modify or Lift Designation	Convention	Lift statuses suspended, Under Reorganization or Disbanded
Two-Thirds	Chapter XIII, Section 2(B)	Discipline of Members, General Provisions	Chapter/ Board of Trustees	Amend, Modify or Vacate a decision of discipline

STATEMENT of POSITION on INTER-CHAPTER VISITATION PROTOCOL

WHEREAS, Beta Theta Pi has survived nearly 150 years with 125 chapters across the United States and Canada; and,

WHEREAS, this relationship between our chapters could not have survived without the goodwill and respect for one another;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Miscellaneous Affairs Committee of the 148th General Convention in Asheville, North Carolina, August l8-21, 1987, that the following be adopted as inter-chapter visitation protocol:

1. There must be at least one week's notice given by the chapter which is intending on visiting. The prospective host chapter has the right to denial of a requested visit if it feels unable to accommodate properly another chapter at such time.

2. If the requested visit is accepted, each chapter must designate one active member as its spokesman prior to the visit. Upon arrival, the visiting chapter's spokesman must report to the host chapter's spokesman, during which any ideas or further guidelines can be discussed and/or implemented.

3. A general itinerary of events for both chapters should be drawn up and exchanged prior to the visit. An effort should be made at this point to create an inter-chapter function which would promote good feelings between the chapters.

4. The visiting chapter is obligated to assist the host chapter in any appropriate activities which concern the interaction of the two chapters.

5. No demands may be made of the other chapter's pledges.

6. Any problems or conflicts which arise during the visit must immediately be addressed through the respective spokesmen of the chapters.

7. At the termination of the visit, the spokesman must meet and assure that the condition of the host's chapter house is the same as at the start of the visit. If the condition of the house is any worse at the termination of the visit, due to the actions of the visiting chapter, the visiting chapter must improve the condition of the house to the level at which it was at the time of its arrival.

    5. If any problem remains unsettled between the chapters after the visit, the respective District Chiefs should be notified immediately, and due process will be taken.

STATEMENT of POSITION on LEGACIES

WHEREAS, Beta Theta Pi recognizes the value of a strong heritage of legacies to the further development of our chapters; and,

WHEREAS, a legacy is defined as any potential member related by blood or marriage to any Beta who has preceded him at any chapter of Beta Theta Pi; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Committee on Miscellaneous Affairs at the 148th General Convention in Asheville, North Carolina, August 18-21, 1987, that all active chapters of Beta Theta Pi provide for a written statement of legacy policy which:

1. Provides for confirmation of legacy recommendations to the Beta who recommended the legacy.

2. Provides that any legacy be contacted and interviewed.

3. Provides that any legacy be invited to at least two rush events.

4. Provides a written notification to the referring alumni informing him of the chapter's decision.

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the General Fraternity of Beta Theta Pi provide all chapters with a statement of General Fraternity guidelines on legacies and gather the names of legacies and provide forms to the President, Rush Chairman, Chapter Advisor and District Chiefs of each chapter.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the existence of a legacy does not mandate an automatic bid, but rather, full consideration.

Modified at the 184th General Convention (August 2022)

STATEMENT of POSITION on LITTLE SISTER ORGANIZATIONS

WHEREAS, there is a concern generated from the threat of increased liability to the individual chapters who have little sister organizations; and,

WHEREAS, there is a concern of exposure of mystic symbols and rituals to members of little sisters organizations; and,

WHEREAS, the possibility of women becoming members of Beta Theta Pi; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Miscellaneous Affairs Committee of the 149th General Convention in Toronto, Canada, August 2-5, 1988, that the following positions are adopted and included in the General Fraternity's Statement of Position:

1. Beta Theta Pi will discontinue any little sister programs; and,

2. Beta Theta Pi chapters will cease all little sister rushing, ritual and pledging activities.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Beta Theta Pi is solely a male organization and will operate as such.

STATEMENT of POSITION on DRUG ABUSE

The brothers of Beta Theta Pi are dedicated to building a fraternity based upon the core values of mutual assistance, intellectual growth, trust, responsible conduct and integrity. Understanding that substance abuse contradicts our fraternal values and prevents members from achieving their full potential, the brothers of Beta Theta Pi strictly oppose all forms of substance abuse. Substance abuse includes, but is not limited to, the use of illegal drugs, the illegal or irresponsible consumption of alcohol, and the use of prescription drugs in a manner contrary to their instructions or by someone to whom they were not prescribed.

Further, all chapters of Beta Theta Pi are encouraged to collaborate with their host institutions to educate members on the ramifications of substance abuse and develop effective prevention strategies.

STATEMENT of POSITION on EXCELLENCE IN CHAPTER HOUSING AND THE SAFETY OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS

WHEREAS, Beta Theta Pi is a leader in the fraternal community, and endeavors to provide a high quality membership experience; and,

WHEREAS, there is a vested interest to ensure that affiliated houses exist at the highest threshold of safety; and,

WHEREAS, we recognize that the environment in which our members live, study, and grow should be consistent with the values of Beta Theta Pi and the Men of Principle Initiative; and,

WHEREAS, Beta Theta Pi created the Cornerstone Housing Program in 2012 to provide education, support, insurance, and resources to our chapters and house corporations; and,

WHEREAS, our chapter leaders, volunteers and host campuses strive to provide a safe and desirable environment for our members and guests; and,

WHEREAS, industry statistics indicate that the most important safety enhancement we can make to our chapter facilities is to install a fire suppression system;

WHEREAS, installing a fire suppression system reduces the cost of property insurance, reduces the amount of property damage if a fire were to occur and essentially eliminates the risk of loss of life.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following be adopted by the Beta Theta Pi 177th General Convention as the position on safe housing protocol that:

1. It is in the best interest of chapter facilities to have a fire suppression system.
2. Chapters connect with their Housing Corporation, Alumni Association and host campus to create an implementation plan to install a fire suppression system.
3. Chapters that have the financial means to implement a fire suppression system should work with their alumni, advisors, and associated house corporation or host campus to install one in a timely manner.
4. Chapters that do not have the financial means to implement a fire suppression system should work in conjunction with their alumni, advisors, House Corporation, the Cornerstone Housing Program, and the Beta Theta Pi Foundation to develop a fundraising plan, with the goal of installing a fire suppression system in a timely manner.

Adopted at the 177th General Convention (August 2016)
Modified at the 184th General Convention (August 2022)

STATEMENT of POSITION on SEXUAL MISCONDUCT and ASSAULT

WHEREAS, Beta Theta Pi recognizes that sexual misconduct and assault have become significant problems on college campuses and in our society; a problem that we can no longer turn our backs on; and,

WHEREAS, keeping in mind that our great and good fraternity has been the pioneer in the fraternity world in forthrightly addressing significant problems, which if unresolved, would affect its devotion to the principles for which it was founded, the time has come for Beta Theta Pi to set the standard for all fraternities and to lead the way as only we know how; and,

WHEREAS, we formally recognize that sexual misconduct and assault is conduct unbecoming a member of our fine fraternity; in taking a stand on this timely issue, we demonstrate not only the strength of our Beta character, but also the moral and societal awareness of our brothers; and,

WHEREAS, as a fraternity, we reaffirm that sexual harassment, misconduct and assault of any person will not be tolerated by our members. So too, conduct that is considered abusive and aggressive — be it physical, emotional or mental, including sexual acts that are demeaning to others — will not be tolerated.

WHEREAS, we must be willing to stand up as Men of Principle to address the realities of sexual misconduct and assault on college campuses — and once again Beta Theta Pi must show itself to be a leader among fraternities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 179th General Convention in Norfolk, Virginia, August 2-5, 2018, the following positions are adopted and are included in the General Fraternity's Statement on Positions:

1. Sexual assault or harassment, be it physical, emotional or mental, will not be tolerated at any extent by the Beta Theta Pi General Fraternity.

2. We commit to become leaders in educating our members and non-members to prevent sexual assault and harassment not only in our chapter houses but also on our campuses and in our communities.

3. Each chapter will commit to developing and using a proven educational curriculum to educate our collegiate members and alumni about sexual misconduct, assault and rape prevention.

4. A copy of this resolution shall be distributed to every chapter and colony that they may fully comprehend the position that the 179th General Convention has taken on the issue of sexual misconduct and assault.

5. We strongly suggest that the Beta Theta Pi pledge manual, “The Son of the Stars,” contain a statement of the fraternity’s position on the issue of sexual misconduct and assault.

6. We commit to working with university and college administrators and our criminal justice system in addressing specific incidences.

7. If the General Fraternity finds that a chapter is violating the position on sexual misconduct and assault, the General Secretary reserves the right to sanction or discipline the chapter including closure.

8. If any chapter finds that any member has violated the statements set forth in this position, the chapter holds the right to revoke their membership.

Adopted at the 179th General Convention (August 2018)

STATEMENT of POSITION on ANTI-DISCRIMINATION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

WHEREAS, Beta Theta Pi seeks to be a leader in the interfraternal world on matters of diversity, equity and inclusion; and,

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2020, Beta Theta Pi convened the Fraternity's first ever Commission on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and,

WHEREAS, Beta Theta Pi has committed to update its internal and external documents to reflect language that aspires for inclusivity; and,

WHEREAS, Beta Theta Pi believes diversity in its membership and surrounding community supports the principles upon which the Fraternity is founded;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 184th General Convention in Dallas, Texas, August 3-6, 2023, the following positions are adopted and included in the General Fraternity's Statement on Positions:

1. Beta Theta Pi re-commits to making the Fraternity and its chapters more inclusive, welcoming and safe, while fostering an environment where every member belongs, feels accepted and truly enjoys the full rights of membership.
2. Beta Theta Pi commits to educating members and volunteers to combat discrimination and bias within its chapters and communities.
3. Beta Theta Pi commits to challenge its members and volunteers toward greater understanding and to correct discovered inequities.
4. Beta Theta Pi does not tolerate racist, homophobic, sexist, xenophobic or other discriminatory activities or behaviors by its members, collegiate or alumni, and commits to restorative and appropriate accountability if such actions occur.

Adopted at the 184th General Convention (August 2023)

BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

Effective August 2023

Beta Theta Pi's core values are:

- Mutual Assistance: Betas believe that men are mutually obligated to help others in the honorable labors and aspirations of life.
- Intellectual Growth: Betas are devoted to continually cultivating their minds, including high standards of academic achievement.
- Trust: Betas develop absolute faith and confidence in one another by being true to themselves and others.
- Responsible Conduct: Betas choose to act responsibly, weighing the consequences of their actions on themselves and those around them.
- Integrity: Betas preserve their character by doing what is morally right and demanding the same from their brothers.

To that end, this risk management policy is intended to help our members and volunteers live out Beta's values and to promote the safety of our members and guests. Chapters should conduct regular education on this risk management policy and any campus policies and safety guidelines. It is the responsibility of each new member and member to know and follow these policies. We expect Beta chapters to work collaboratively with other student groups to plan safe events that comply with their risk management guidelines. In all cases where campus, IFC, other fraternity / sorority rules, or Beta policies differ, we expect members and chapters to follow the more restrictive policies.

For the purposes of this policy, "member" refers broadly to all collegiate Betas, including new members and initiated members. For the purposes of this policy, "chapter" refers to both colonies and established chapters, regardless of status.

What Defines a "Chapter Event"?

There are a variety of factors that may lead to an event being considered a chapter event. Generally, a "chapter event" is one that is:

- Planned with the knowledge and input from one or more executive officers.
- Listed on the chapter calendar.
- Paid for with chapter funds or funds pooled by chapter members.
- Announced at chapter meeting or via official or unofficial social media associated with the chapter or individual pledge classes.
- Associated, intentionally or not, with the name or brand of Beta Theta Pi.

The Beta Theta Pi event planning guide has a useful checklist for determining if an event is a chapter event and step-by-step instructions for planning events. Except for alumni events with alcohol held at chapter houses, Beta does not require chapters to gain pre-approval of events unless

required by campus or IFC rules. We strongly recommend that advisors be involved in event planning, including reviewing contracts, meeting with venue staff, and reviewing safety plans. Administrative Office staff are happy to consult on safe event planning practices as well.

Section 1: Alcohol, Drugs, and Safe Event Planning

Our Fraternity believes in allowing every member to realize his full potential. Therefore, we believe that every member should make responsible decisions about alcohol use and the use of prescription or otherwise legal drugs. Each individual bears the personal responsibility to know and abide by federal, state, and local laws regarding alcohol and drugs; campus policies and rules; and Beta Theta Pi's rules and policies.

1. The possession, use, sale, or consumption of alcoholic beverages during a fraternity event, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or at any event an observer would associate with the fraternity, must comply with all federal, state, and local laws; campus policies and rules; and must follow either:
    a. Bring Your Own Beverage (BYOB), as defined by resources and education provided by Beta Theta Pi. BYOB events must be beer and wine only. No hard alcohol (defined as anything .15 ABV and higher) is allowed.
    b. Third Party Vendor Guidelines, as defined by resources and education provided by Beta Theta Pi.
2. Rules pertaining to alcohol and other substances in chapter homes can be found under "Safety of Homes and Facilities."
3. No member can organize, encourage, or participate in drinking games, including any activity that requires drinking as part of the rules or phases of the activity. Examples include consuming shots equating to one's age, beer pong, dares, "century club," or any other activities involving the consumption of alcohol under duress or encouragement.
4. No members, individually or collectively, can purchase, serve, or sell alcoholic beverages to anyone under the legal drinking age.
5. No alcoholic beverages can be purchased with chapter funds, nor can the purchase of alcoholic beverages for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf of, the chapter.
6. Bulk quantities or common sources of alcohol are not allowed (examples include kegs, cases, or large containers of mixed drinks). Kegs are only allowed at an event if the distribution and sale is managed by a licensed caterer and sold per drink to individuals (i.e., third party vendor).
7. Alcohol is not allowed in any part of these activities:
    a. Recruitment / rush.
    b. New member / pledge events or meetings.
    c. Chapter meetings.
    d. Any ritual events, including but not limited to:
        i. Induction.

ii. Big brother / little brother ceremony or events.
iii. Pre-initiation ceremonies, or events held during initiation week.
iv. Initiation.
v. Local ceremonies.

8. Proceeds of the sale of alcohol cannot be used for fundraising or philanthropic events.

9. No chapter may co-sponsor, co-finance, or help plan a function at which alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups or organizations.

10. No chapter may sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor or bar / restaurant that serves alcohol.

11. All events planned or sponsored by the chapter where alcohol is present must have a guest list (which must include chapter members) prepared in advance. The number of persons invited to any event sponsored or co-sponsored by a chapter where alcohol is present is limited to three times the chapter size (a 3:1 ratio or 3 guests per member) or the maximum legal occupancy of the facility, whichever is less. Open parties are not allowed.
    a. Example: A 100-person chapter could have an event with 400 people maximum (100 chapter members + 3 guests per member (300 people)).
    b. Limited exceptions to this policy may be granted via written permission of the General Secretary at least 15 days in advance of the event. An example might be a smaller chapter hosting an event for their large alumni base where alcohol will be served.

12. Alternative transportation should be provided at every chapter event, especially those at which alcohol will be served. We strongly recommend using hired or third-party transportation. Designated driver programs are discouraged due to additional liability created for the driver and owner of the vehicle.

13. All events planned or sponsored by the chapter must use sober monitors, at the number or ratio of 1 per every 15 people in attendance. The sober monitors must refrain from drinking before and during the event and are there to help members and guests and the facility hosts, should assistance be needed. At least 1 officer should serve as a sober monitor at each event.

14. Chapters cannot have live animals at chapter events. Limited exceptions to this policy may be granted via written permission of the General Secretary at least 15 days prior to the event.

15. The possession, sale, distribution, or use of any illegal drugs or controlled substances while on chapter premises or during a fraternity event is strictly prohibited. This includes the abuse or distribution of otherwise legal drugs.

Section 2: Hazing and Respectful Treatment

Beta Theta Pi believes in the inherent worth of all people and that dignity and respect are the inalienable rights of each individual. Therefore, there is no place for personal degradation within our membership. The founding values of Beta show us that every person is important and has value to offer our community; esteem for yourself and others is necessary for healthy relationships; and

harassment, hazing, or bullying is detrimental to the full development of our Brothers. Beta supports the preservation of individual dignity and does not condone any activity or behavior that is inappropriate, destructive, demeaning, or abusive to any person or group.

Beta Theta Pi prohibits any activity that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a person and is inconsistent with the values and ritual of Beta or the host campus. Each member bears the personal responsibility to know and abide by federal, state, and local laws regarding hazing; campus policies and rules; and Beta Theta Pi's rules and policies.

1. No chapter, colony, collegiate member, alumnus, or volunteer shall engage in hazing activities. Permission or approval by a person being hazed is not a defense. Hazing activities are defined as any action taken or situation created intentionally or through negligence to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include, but are not limited to: use of alcohol; forced consumption of alcohol or other food or beverages; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside or inside the confines of the chapter house; wearing apparel that is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other activities that are not consistent with the values of Beta Theta Pi or the host institution.
2. Beta does not tolerate or condone any form of fighting or physically abusive behavior, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter. This includes philanthropy or fundraising events that involve boxing or fighting.
3. Beta does not tolerate or condone any form of sexist or sexually abusive behavior on the part of its members, whether physical, mental, or emotional.
4. Beta does not tolerate or condone any actions that are demeaning to other people, including but not limited to verbal or physical harassment.
5. Chapters and members cannot organize or participate in Little Sister programs (see The Code of Beta Theta Pi, Statement of Position on Little Sister Organizations).
6. Beta Sweetheart designations or awards should be given as a sign of respect and honor. People should not compete for, be required to do tasks, purchase items, or in other ways "earn" this honor.
7. Women should not be involved in recruitment or rush events, including employing women as servers or hostesses or in any other role. Reasonable exceptions include the presence of Friend of Beta advisors, campus professionals, and parents.
8. Chapters cannot employ or use strippers, exotic dancers or similar performers, whether professional or amateur, during chapter events.

Section 3: Safety of Members and Guests

1. **Good Samaritan Policy:** Members of Beta Theta Pi, through the value of mutual assistance, are called to help others. In no circumstance should someone withhold assistance due to fear of reprisal. To that end, the following policies were adopted to assure members and chapters that helping others in distress should be their first priority.

    a. **Good Samaritan Policy: Individuals.** If a member encounters someone in need of medical care related to the use or consumption of alcohol, drugs or another medical reason, that member is expected to call for immediate and appropriate assistance from a medical professional. Securing immediate and appropriate medical assistance will be considered as a mitigating factor, should that member or the individual he assisted face consequences for policy violations that may have led to the medical emergency. In all cases, members must take responsibility for their actions and be proactive and honest with medical professionals, police, campus officials and General Fraternity representatives. An individual may benefit from this policy more than once, though repeated use of the policy may receive stricter scrutiny.

    b. **Good Samaritan Policy: Chapters.** If a chapter encounters someone in need of medical care related to the use or consumption of alcohol or drugs, or another medical reason, the chapter is expected to call for immediate and appropriate assistance from a medical professional. Securing immediate and appropriate medical assistance will be considered as a mitigating factor should the chapter face consequences for policy violations that may have led to the medical emergency. In all cases, chapter officers, members and volunteers must take responsibility for their actions and be proactive and honest with medical professionals, police, campus officials and General Fraternity representatives. A chapter may benefit from this policy more than once, though repeated use of the policy may receive stricter scrutiny.

Section 4: Safety of Homes and Facilities

Beta Theta Pi believes that our environment influences our actions and behaviors and that chapters and house corporations should provide an environment that promotes academic success, personal respect and the values of the organization. Our chapter homes, regardless of ownership, should be safe and desirable.

1. Substance-Free Housing. All Beta Theta Pi chapter housing are substance-free.
    a. *Substance-free* is defined as the elimination of the possession, use, distribution or consumption of all illegal and illicit substances, alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or controlled substances without an appropriate prescription issued to the user by a licensed professional.
    b. *Chapter housing* is defined as any facility and affiliated property owned, operated or leased by the chapter directly, by its host institution for the purpose of housing chapter members or by a Beta Alumni Corporation.

2. All alumni associations may host up to seven (7) alumni events with alcohol in their chapter facility per calendar year. Alumni hosted events must:
   a. serve only beer and wine.
   b. be limited to the common or public areas of the facility.
   c. be planned and approved by the Alumni Corporation or Alumni Association president, the chapter counselor and the chapter president on behalf of a chapter in good standing using Beta's event planning guide for hosting an event with a third-party vendor.
   d. follow all local, campus, and IFC regulations and the Beta Theta Pi Risk Management Policy.
   e. be approved by the District Chief at least 14 days in advance of the event per the alumni event approval checklist.

3. No chapter may own a pet or keep animals in the chapter facility.
   a. Injuries and liability resulting from animals are the responsibility of the pet owner, whether they be a member or guest.
   b. Exceptions to this policy for service or support animals should be directed to the local house corporation or campus officials.

4. The possession or use of fireworks or explosive devices in chapter facilities is prohibited.
   c. The decision to allow firearms in a chapter facility is up to the local house corporation (or property owner / manager) and should be clearly outlined in the member lease or house rules. If allowed, firearms must be kept unloaded and locked in a storage area only accessible by the owner of the weapon.

5. Open flames are not allowed in chapter facilities. Chapters should use electric or battery-operated candles for ritual ceremonies.

6. All chapter facilities must meet local fire, health, and safety codes and be inspected / certified according to the standards of the local community, campus, and Beta Theta Pi's insurance program.

7. All chapters must distribute and post emergency numbers for fire, policy and emergency services. Evacuation routes must be posted throughout the facility.

8. Chapters and house corporations must secure dangerous areas of the facility and provide regular education about facility safety. Examples include roof access, window ledges, fire pits, and balconies.

Section 5: Incident Reports & Insurance Coverage

Filing an Incident Report

Members, chapters, volunteers and staff have a responsibility to promptly report all incidents where someone was possibly injured or damage occurred, including incidents that could result in campus, community or media attention or an insurance claim. Prompt reporting can often prevent minor incidents from developing into major problems.

The incident report is located on Beta.org.

After filing an incident report and speaking with an Administrative Office staff member, chapters should also report appropriate Risk Management Policy violations to their host campus. In cases of serious bodily injury or death to any member, new member or guest, chapters are required to notify the host institution and the associated public safety department or the local police department.

Insurance Coverage
A description of the insurance coverage provided for members, officers, and volunteers is located on Beta.org. The purpose of Beta's insurance coverage is to provide protection for members, officers, volunteers and staff for the activities they perform in the course of their regular duties and responsibilities. No insurance policy provides coverage for violations of the law, and Beta's is no exception. The key point to understand is that coverage applies when members: (1) comply with federal, state or provincial, local and institutional laws and regulations; (2) comply with the Code and policies of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity; (3) comply with the Beta Theta Pi Risk Management Policy.

Individuals who choose to violate these rules or act outside of the scope of their authority may void their protection under the Fraternity's insurance program. Their actions may jeopardize other members, other organizations, or other named insureds protected by the Beta Theta Pi General Liability Policy. The individuals involved will be personally liable and must retain their own attorneys for defense.

The general liability policy is not a health insurance or accident policy for members. If a member is injured at a chapter event, he should notify his medical carrier and seek reimbursement of his medical bills. In addition, the policy does not cover personal property owned by members, even if they are living in a chapter house. Members should seek coverage through their parents' homeowners' policy or obtain renter's insurance.

Section 6: Code Authority and Revisions to the Risk Management Policy

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Per the Code of Beta Theta Pi, the Board of Trustees is authorized to amend or modify these policies. Any change made outside of the scope of the General Convention must be distributed to all chapters and colonies within 30 days of the changes. Further, any changes made by the Board of Trustees expire at the following Convention, unless approved by said Convention.

Originally adopted in August 1987 and last modified on August 4, 2019, by the 180th General Convention.

Adopted in August 1987.
Modified at the 180th General Convention (August 2019).
Modified at the 184th General Convention (August 2023).

CANADIAN EXCHANGE RATE

Adjustment of Chapter Accounts Receivable
as approved by Board of Trustees on August 7, 1994 and adjusted on August 3rd, 2019

On a quarterly basis effective September 1, 1994, the Administrative Office will review the Canadian exchange rate. All charges will be billed at the current fee rates for the Canadian chapters and in U.S. dollars. As directed by the Board of Trustees, the exchange rate will not rise above $1.15 Canadian of $1.00 U.S. Adjustments reflecting the variance between the actual exchange rate and the base exchange rate will not be made to chapter's account until receipt of payment by the Administrative Office.

The method of payment, i.e. check, money order, bank draft, etc., must show the following:

1. rate of exchange and
2. date of purchase

Note: There will be no adjustment to the accounts receivable if the exchange rate is below $1.15 Canadian to $1.00 U.S.

Example: Today's exchange rate is $1.32 Canadian = $1.00 US.
Limit Rate is: $1.00 U.S. = $1.15 Canadian

Current bill = $5,000 U.S.
This will be billed at $5,000 U.S.

Canadian chapters will be asked to pay $5,750 Canadian in U.S. dollars ($5,000 U.S. x $1.25 Canadian - $5,750 Canadian).

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR FINANCIALLY DELINQUENT CHAPTERS

Effective August 7, 1994, the Standard Operating Procedures for Financially Delinquent chapters was passed by the Board of Trustees on August 2, 1994, and endorsed by the 155th General Convention. A chapter's charter could be suspended if it ignores its General Fraternity financial responsibility. The procedure is outlined below.

First Delinquent Notice

If payment in full is not received within 30 days of the billing date, the Finance Department will notify all chapter officers, advisors and the district chief. The Administrative Office will recommend that the financial advisor or chapter counselor perform a financial review of the chapter and notify the Administrative Office of the result of the review and when payment will be received.

The delinquent chapter will incur the standard finance charge of 1.5% per month (*The Laws* of Beta Theta Pi Chapter XII, Section 2).

Second Delinquent Notice

If payment in full is not received within 60 days of the billing date, the Finance Department will notify each active member of the chapter (excluding pledges), all advisors and the district chief regarding the financial standing of the chapter with the General Fraternity.

The delinquent chapter will incur the standard finance charge of 1.5% per month (*The Laws* of Beta Theta Pi, Chapter XII, Section 2).

Final Delinquent Notice

If payment in full is not received within 90 days of the billing date, the General Secretary will suspend the chapter charter and transfer control over all financial matters to the alumni.

The General Secretary will direct the Chief Executive Officer to notify the university administration about the suspension of all chapter and individual privileges. Since the chapter is officially affiliated with the university and Interfraternity Council, the Greek advisor and/or the IFC should suspend all group privileges such as intramural competition, homecoming activities and social privileges.

The chapter shall employ an approved outside accounting firm to manage the chapter’s financial affairs including collections. The chapter will be responsible for signing the necessary contract(s) and paying the initial cost of this service. The chapter is required to continue to employ the firm for a period of no less than twelve months after establishing good standing with the General Fraternity.

The delinquent chapter will incur the standard finance charge of 1.5% per month (*The Laws* of Beta Theta Pi, Chapter XII, Section 2).

FRATERNAL FIFTIES PROGRAM

The Fraternal Fifty tradition was established by the 1927 General Convention to recognize members of the Fraternity who achieve the enviable status of being Betas for 50 years. For more than 60 years, this great tradition has continued with over 25,000 Betas having been so recognized. Each Fraternal Fifty member receives a card on which appears his full name, roll number, chapter and initiation date; and a gold embossed seal which is to be attached to the member's original Beta shingle. In addition, the chapter or alumni association can request Fraternal Fifty lapel pins for each member in attendance at the presentation from the Administrative Office.

FRATERNAL TWENTY-FIVE

At the direction of the 155th General Convention, the Administrative Office has designed a silver seal for presentation to alumni brothers upon their 25th year of membership in Beta Theta Pi. This seal is identical to the Fraternal Fifties seal, but in silver, with reference to "fifty" replaced by "twenty-five." Fraternal twenty-five seals will be disbursed in the same manner as Fraternal Fifty seals. Alumni brothers will be instructed to place their silver seal in the middle of their membership shingle. Bothers reaching the fraternal fifty milestone would place their gold seal next to their fraternal twenty-five seal. Those brothers initiated in 1970 will be the first to be recognized in this manner. The seals will be available to other eligible Betas upon request.

NO SOLICITATION POLICY

No member, officer, chapter or affiliated entity of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity or the Beta Theta Pi Foundation shall circularize the Fraternity, its chapters or alumni associations, active members or alumni for any purpose including fundraising, advocacy and commercial solicitation without the expressed approval of the Chief Executive Officer. An exception to this policy applies to chapters, alumni associations and house corporations soliciting their own members for the purpose of obtaining contributions or dues for the benefit of those entities or the philanthropies they support.