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## Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Alabama



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November 14, 2013

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## ANTI-HAZING POLICY

Hazing within the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. and A. M. of Alabama is strictly prohibited and in violation of § 16-1-23, Code of Alabama (1975). Any deviation from the approved ritual of the Jurisdiction of Alabama, which involves physical or mental hazing, is strictly forbidden. In the State of Alabama individuals committing acts of hazing can be charged with a Class C misdemeanor and can be subject to both criminal prosecution and civil liabilities. It is an offense to participate in hazing and for a *Candidate* to allow himself to be hazed or subject himself to any form of hazing. It is also an offense for a *Mason* or *Candidate* to be aware of hazing and not report it to the Grand Lodge. Any act of omission or commission shall be deemed hazing. A *Mason* or *Candidate* charged with hazing will immediately be suspended and possibly expelled. An offending Lodge is subject to having its *Charter* revoked.

The following is what constitutes hazing:

Hazing, as defined by § 16-1-23, Code of Alabama (1975), and such Section as may be amended from time to time.

Additionally, for the purpose of this Policy, hazing shall include any mental or physical requirement placed upon a person by a member of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. and A. M. of Alabama, which could cause discomfort, pain or injury including, but not limited to, striking, paddling, carrying bricks or heavy objects, offering to do bodily harm to a person with intent to punish or injure the individual, or other treatment of a tyrannical, abusive, shameful, insulting or humiliating nature.

Hazing is an action taken or situation created, whether on or off Lodge property, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule. Hazing is also considered

to be the creation of a situation, which results in or could possibly result in mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule, including involuntary servitude, often called “personal favors”.

Take notice and govern yourselves accordingly.

*Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., Esq.*

Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., Esq.  
Most Worshipful Grand Master

enclosure



# **Alabama's Hazing Law**

## *Code of Alabama (1975)*

### § 16-1-23. Hazing

(a) Hazing is defined as follows:

(1) Any willful action taken or situation created, whether on or off any school, college, university, or other educational premises, which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of any student, or

(2) Any willful act on or off any school, college, university, or other educational premises by any person alone or acting with others in striking, beating, bruising, or maiming; or seriously offering, threatening, or attempting to strike, beat, bruise, or maim, or to do or seriously offer, threaten, or attempt to do physical violence to any student of any such educational institution or any assault upon any such students made for the purpose of committing any of the acts, or producing any of the results to such student as defined in this section.

(3) The term hazing as defined in this section does not include customary athletic events or similar contests or competitions, and is limited to those actions taken and situations created in connection with initiation into or affiliation with any organization. The term hazing does not include corporal punishment administered by officials or employees of public schools when in accordance with policies adopted by local boards of education.

(b) No person shall engage in what is commonly known and recognized as hazing, or encourage, aid, or assist any other person thus offending.

(c) No person shall knowingly permit, encourage, aid, or assist any person in committing the offense of hazing, or willfully acquiesce in the commission of such offense, or fail to report promptly his knowledge or any reasonable information within his knowledge of the presence and practice of hazing in this state to the chief executive officer of the appropriate school, college, university, or other educational institution in this state. Any act of omission or commission shall be deemed hazing under the provisions of this section.

(d) Any person who shall commit the offense of hazing shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor as defined by Title 13A.

(e) Any person who participates in the hazing of another, or any organization associated with a school, college, university, or other educational institution in this state which knowingly permits hazing to be conducted by its members or by others subject to its direction or control, shall forfeit any entitlement to public funds, scholarships, or awards which are enjoyed by him or by it and shall be deprived of any sanction or approval granted by the school, college, university, or other educational institution.

(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed as in any manner affecting or repealing any law of this state respecting homicide, or murder, manslaughter, assault with intent to murder, or aggravated assault.