

**BYLAWS
OF GAMMA SIGMA SIGMA
NATIONAL SERVICE SORORITY**

**ARTICLE I.
Membership**

Section 1. “The membership of Gamma Sigma Sigma National Service Sorority shall consist of Collegiate, Alumni, Auxiliary, and Honorary Members. No eligible individual shall be denied membership

Section 2. Collegiate membership in this sorority shall be open to students of all races and creeds who are duly enrolled in good standing, and eligible as defined by their respective accredited colleges or universities at the undergraduate or graduate level. Collegiate members shall be accepted by the chapter/colony solely on the basis of their commitment to service upon completion of the membership requirements prescribed by the chapter, national sorority and in compliance with college/university requirements.

Section 3. Member-in-Training Process

- a. Membership policies shall be inclusive. Requirements for membership include being in good standing per school criteria, payment of chapter/colony dues, national fees and travel pool, attendance at Member-in-Training meetings, and performing service hours as set forth in the chapter/colony bylaws, which shall conform to national bylaws.
- b. Conferring of Member-in-Training status shall be accomplished according to the Official Induction Ceremony. A non-refundable national member-in-training fee established in Article XI, Section 3 shall be payable to the national Treasurer or designee within the first week of the member-in-training period. Included with payment will be the member-in-training roster and signed Standard Policy of Risk Management.
- c. Hazing, informal induction activities or activities which may be construed as hazing are strictly prohibited. Chapter betterment hours shall not be required for membership or assigned as punishment. Any mistreatment of Members-in-Training at any time shall be considered a violation of the purpose of the sorority.
- d. A Member-in-Training must perform a minimum of ten (10) hours of service and shall not be required to perform more than twenty (20) hours of service in order to become a member of the sorority.
- e. Members-in-Training shall complete a member-in-training period of a minimum of three (3) weeks and a maximum of ten (10) weeks. Member-in-Training periods shall be held a

minimum of once per academic year unless otherwise directed by the National Board of Directors.

- f. Conferring of lifetime membership on Members-in-Training of chapters shall be accomplished according to the Official Activation Ceremony.

Section 4. Service Hour Requirements

- a. Collegiate members will be required to perform a minimum of fifteen (15) hours but cannot be required to perform more than thirty-five (35) hours per academic semester to remain active members.
- b. Collegiate members will be required to perform a minimum of ten (10) hours but cannot be required to perform more than twenty (20) hours per academic quarter/trimester to remain active members.
- c. Alumni members will be required to perform a minimum of ten (10) hours but cannot be required to perform more than twenty (20) hours annually to remain active members.
- d. With chapter approval, an active collegiate member or active alumni chapter/colony member who is partially incapacitated by a long term serious illness, serious accident, or other extenuating circumstance, may be excused from full participation in service hours and attendance while retaining all privileges of active membership. The District Director, National Service Director, the National Membership Director, and the National Alumni Director shall be informed of this decision in writing.

Section 5. Members may be granted inactive status in their chapter/colony, but shall be considered members of the national sorority and be required to pay national fees and assessments, but are not required to fulfill the national service hour requirements.

Section 6. A chapter/colony shall have the power to place on probation or expel a member for: non-completion of prescribed service hours, lack of attendance at chapter meetings, or non-payment of chapter dues and national fees in accordance with the chapter's bylaws. Any violation of the sorority's policy regarding hazing or violation of college or university rules or policies that might endanger recognized organizational status for the chapter on campus will result in expulsion from the sorority. Expelled members are barred from rejoining the sorority at any level.

- a. Notice of probation and conditions of probation of the member(s) shall be provided to the District Director or Membership Director within thirty (30) days. Upon reinstatement

of a member on probation, notice shall be provided to the District Director or Membership Director within thirty (30) days.

- b. Notice and explanation of expulsion and the date of expulsion of the member(s) shall be provided to the District Director, Vice President, and Database Coordinator within thirty (30) days of expulsion. Such action automatically shall bar the individual from alumni membership. If the chapter/colony fails to submit the documentation, the member(s) shall still be considered a member(s) of the chapter/colony. The chapter/colony shall also list the expelled member(s) on the Graduating/Separating Members report.

Section 7.

a. Collegiate chapter members who have graduated, transferred or have been honorably separated from their college or university, and have met all chapter requirements of a member in good standing, are considered alumni members. If a student transfers to another college/university at which there is a collegiate chapter/colony, they may join without going through another member-in-training period. Alumni members may become a part of an alumni chapter or colony or become an alumna-at-large.

b. Any collegiate chapter member who is confronted with off campus, or extended education requirements or other extenuating circumstances may become an alumni member with the endorsement of the collegiate chapter.

Section 8. The National Board of Directors shall have the power to expel any member from the sorority for violation of the sorority's Standard Policy of Risk Management by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote, after charges have been investigated. The members will be notified in writing by the National President within thirty (30) days of the vote.

Section 9. Article 1 section 8: Alumni chapter auxiliary members may become members of the alumni chapter, shall be eligible to vote and hold office in the alumni chapter and be delegates to National Convention. Alumni chapter auxiliary members shall not be eligible to hold a national office. Following a period of membership in good standing of six (6) months and a maximum of eighteen (18) months an auxiliary chapter member shall be granted active alumni membership status, and afforded all the rights, privileges and obligations thereto. The number of alumni chapter auxiliary members shall be limited to one-half of the membership of the alumni chapter.

Section 10. Chapter honorary membership may be conferred by the chapter by a three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) vote, upon persons whom it chooses to distinguish with such honor. Chapter honorary members shall have none of the obligations of membership in the sorority but shall be entitled to all privileges except those of making motions, voting, and holding office.

Section 11. National honorary membership may be conferred by the Board of Directors, by a three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) vote, upon persons whom it chooses to distinguish with such an honor. A

national honorary member shall have none of the obligations of membership in the sorority but shall be entitled to all the privileges except those of making motions, voting, and holding office.

ARTICLE II. Officers and Duties

Section 1. The officers of the sorority shall be President, Vice President, Treasurer, Service Director, Membership Director, Alumni Director, Program Director, Marketing Director, District Directors and Parliamentarian, all of whom, except the Parliamentarian, are elected at Convention. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the sorority.

Section 2. The President shall serve as chair of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Committee, preside at all Conventions, enforce a due observance of these bylaws and perform other duties as directed by the sorority. The President shall be ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee. The President appoints a Parliamentarian with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President and perform other duties as directed by the President or the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the maintenance of the sorority's financial records, the receipt and disbursement of all sorority funds and investment of funds in accordance with directives of the Board of Directors. At the end of each fiscal year, which is established as June 1 to May 31, a Certified Public Accountant shall review the financial records of the sorority and issue a compilation or review report, which shall be distributed to the sorority.

Section 5. The Service Director shall facilitate the sorority's service publications and be responsible for the overall planning, execution and evaluation of the sorority's service program.

Section 6. The Membership Director shall be responsible for membership services, coordinating and planning collegiate colonization activities and development of programs and resources. The Membership Director shall coordinate staff activities dealing with membership materials, and expansion activities.

Section 7. The Alumni Director shall be responsible for alumni services, coordinating and planning alumni colonization activities and development of programs and resources devoted to the recruitment and retention of alumni members for a lifetime commitment. The Alumni

Director shall be responsible for alumni education and training programs. The Alumni Director shall coordinate staff activities dealing with alumni materials, and expansion activities.

Section 8. The Program Director shall be responsible for collegiate education and training programs. The Program Director shall coordinate all conferences and may assist in spirit days and district activities.

Section 9. The Marketing Director shall be responsible for all publications used for internal and external communication and public relations activities.

Section 10. Each District Director shall facilitate the activities of their district and represent it in the conduct of National affairs.

Section 11. The Parliamentarian shall interpret the bylaws and policies of the sorority, advise on all parliamentary issues at the Convention, meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee and shall review all chapter bylaws and standing rules for conformance to these bylaws. The parliamentarian shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors..

Section 12. The Immediate Past President shall serve on the Board of Directors as an advisor, without vote, for one (1) year following their term of office as President.

Section 13. The sorority shall hire an independent contractor, National Administrative Assistant, to provide administrative support to the NBD.

ARTICLE III. Nomination and Election of Officers

Section 1. Additional nominations for office may be made from among alumni who have submitted an application for office within the preceding two (2) years. Candidates who have not submitted a complete application to the Nominating Committee prior to the meeting of the committee or who have not filed an application within the two (2) years preceding the National Convention, must submit an application to the Chair of the Nominating Committee at least one (1) month prior to the opening session of the National Convention in order to be eligible for nomination from the Convention floor. All candidates shall declare their intention to run from the floor by this same date.

Section 2. Only members who are alumni members of the sorority prior to the convening of Convention shall be eligible for election to office at that convention.

Section 3. Candidates for the positions of President or Vice President shall have served a full term on the National Board of Directors.

Section 4. Officers shall serve for the two (2) year period between conventions or until their successors are elected, and their term of office shall begin at the close of the convention at which they are elected.

Section 5. No member may hold more than one (1) office at a time, and no elected officer shall be eligible to serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office. District Directors may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same District but may be elected as a District Director to another District

Section 6. Election of officers shall be by ballot except when there is a single nominee for an office, then the vote may be conducted by voice.

Section 7. Vacancies

- a. A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the Vice President.
- b. In the event of a simultaneous vacancy in the office of President and Vice President, the Service Director shall assume the duties of the President until a new President has been elected. If the Service Director were unable to assume these duties, they would then be assumed by the National Treasurer until a new President has been elected.
- c. A vacancy in all other offices shall be filled by majority vote of the National Board of Directors. In the event of a vacancy within the last 6 months of the biennium, the National Board of Directors may vote to absorb the responsibilities of the position, and take no action to fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE IV. Removal from Office

Section 1. Officers may be removed from office for misconduct or non-performance of duties. Charges must be submitted in writing to the members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. All charges shall be investigated by the Board of Directors and following the investigation, the Board of Directors, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, shall remove an officer from office.

Section 3. An officer may appeal the action of the Board of Directors at the next convention or meeting of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V. Convention

Section 1. A convention shall be held biennially in odd numbered years. The location of the convention shall be rotated among the three sectors in the following order: NE, W, and SE. The Board of Directors may change the location, cancel or postpone any convention due to the existence of a local or national emergency, or if the bid is unable to physically support the sorority's needs.

Section 2. The Convention shall be open to all members of the sorority. The privilege of voting shall be limited as follows:

- a. Each member of the Board of Directors, except the Parliamentarian, shall be a delegate and have one (1) vote, with the exception of District Director elections.
- b. Each active chapter shall have two (2) delegates and two (2) votes. If an active chapter has only one (1) delegate present, the delegate shall have two (2) votes. Each alumni colony that has been in existence six (6) months or more shall have one (1) delegate and one (1) vote. Each collegiate colony that has been in existence twelve (12) months or more shall have one (1) delegate and one (1) vote.
- c. Alumni-at-large shall elect two (2) delegates, each to have one (1) vote, from among the alumni-at-large members in attendance at Convention.
- d. Voting members in the District Director elections shall be limited to those listed in Article V, Section 2b.
- e. If there is no candidate or no one is elected to one of the elected board positions at Convention, the newly elected Board of Directors shall seek applications for the opening(s) and shall vote to fill the position(s) before the Training/Planning meeting or within 30 days of the adjourning of Convention whichever is later.

Section 3. One-third (1/3) of the active chapters and a majority of the members of the Board of Directors must be represented at the Convention to constitute a quorum for the Convention.

Section 4. The order of business for the Convention shall be approved by the Board of Directors prior to the opening session and shall be approved by the Convention at the opening session.

Section 5. The Convention shall establish membership fees, Member-in-Training fees and other assessments deemed necessary for the conduct of affairs of the sorority.

Section 6. The Convention shall establish and approve all official insignia including, but not limited to: coat of arms, active membership badge and member-in-training badge.

Section 7. The Convention shall be empowered to enact legislation for the conduct of sorority affairs.

Section 8. A report of the Convention shall be distributed to all chapters and officers within ninety (90) days of adjournment.

ARTICLE VI.
Board of Directors

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers outlined in Article II, Section I as voting members and the Parliamentarian and the Immediate Past President as non-voting members.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall have all power and authority over the affairs of the sorority during the interim between conventions and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the sorority, except as authorized in these Bylaws.

Section 3. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be called by the President or upon the request of the majority of the members of the Board.

Section 4. Reports of actions taken at Board of Directors meetings shall be distributed to all chapters/colonies within ninety (90) days of each meeting.

Section 5. Any business requiring action of the Board of Directors between meetings may be transacted by any method as determined by the National Board of Directors where a hard copy may be made. Report of actions taken by Board of Directors between meetings shall be distributed to chapters/colonies within fourteen (14) days of each decision.

ARTICLE VII.
Executive Committee

Section 1. The President, Vice President, Service Director and Treasurer shall constitute the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The Board of Directors may authorize the Executive Committee to perform such duties, as the Board may, from time to time, deem expedient. The Executive Committee shall perform the duties assigned by these Bylaws.

Section 3. The business of the Executive Committee shall be transacted by mail or electronic transmission where a hard copy may be made, except in an emergency when the President may call a meeting. It shall make a complete report at each meeting of the Board of Directors within fourteen (14) days of each decision.

Section 4. The Board of Directors may overrule any action of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII.
Charters

Section 1. Ten (10) or more prospective members, eligible for membership as described in Article I., Section 1 of these Bylaws, may petition the sorority to become a collegiate colony.

Section 2. Prospective collegiate colonies shall submit a collegiate colony petition form to the Membership Director.

Section 3. The Membership Director shall examine each collegiate colony petition submitted. If the petition is complete the Membership Director shall accept the group as a collegiate colony.

Section 4. A new collegiate colony or reactivating chapter may not hold Rush or take new members for at least ten (10) academic weeks after the filing and acceptance of a petition.

Section 5. The colonization period for a collegiate colony shall be a minimum of one (1) year and a maximum of two (2) years. If a colony has less than the required number of members for chartering, a third year of colony status may be granted by the NBD, providing all other requirements have been met and are up to date.

Section 6. During the colonization period, a collegiate colony shall submit the same reports required of active chapters, bylaws, standing rules, and member-in-training policy, pay all membership fees and have a membership of at least twelve (12) at the time the National Board of Directors votes on granting the collegiate colony's charter.

Section 7. The Membership Director shall submit a report of a collegiate colony's activities to the National Board of Directors prior to the end of the colonization period and shall request action within sixty (60) days on the collegiate colony's petition for a charter.

Section 8. If a collegiate chapter was previously active at the college or university, a group meeting the requirements set forth in Article VIII, Sections 1 and 2 may petition for reactivation, unless the charter was revoked, and shall follow the same procedures as for colonization. The reactivating group shall use the former chapter name.

Section 9. Six (6) or more alumni may petition the sorority to become an alumni colony.

Section 10. Prospective alumni colonies shall submit an alumni colony petition form to the Alumni Director.

Section 11. The Alumni Director shall examine each alumni colony petition submitted. If the petition is complete, the Alumni Director shall accept the group as an alumni colony.

Section 12. The colonization period for an alumni colony shall be a minimum of one (1) year and a maximum of two (2) years. If a colony has less than the required number of members for chartering, a third year of colony status may be granted by the NBD, providing all other requirements have been met and are up to date.

Section 13. During the colonization period, an alumni colony shall submit the same reports required of the active chapters, bylaws, standing rules, pay fees and have a membership of at least six (6) at the time the National Board of Directors votes on granting the alumni colony's charter.

Section 14. The Alumni Director shall submit a report of an alumni colony's activities to the National Board of Directors prior to the end of the colonization period and shall request action within sixty (60) days on the alumni colony's petition for a charter.

Section 15. By a majority vote of the National Board of Directors, a colony shall be granted a charter. The President shall designate an officer to conduct the Chartering Ceremony and present the charter.

Section 16. The requirements of active chapter/colony status shall be waived for chapters/colonies adversely affected by natural disaster, catastrophic event or national emergency that renders them unable to function on their campus. A chapter / colony may request in writing this waiver from the National Board of Directors, The waiver period shall not be included as a part of the colonization period for the collegiate colony, alumni colony or reactivating chapter.

Section 17. Inactive Status for Chapters

- a. A chapter may request, in writing, inactive status from the Board of Directors. After notification to the National Board of Director, the President may declare the chapter inactive
- b. A chapter may be deemed inactive by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors if the chapter is in violation of the Bylaws of the sorority for non-submission of reports (*as defined in Article IX, Sections 3 or 4*), non-payment of national dues, fees, and assessments (*as prescribed in Article XI, Sections 2, 3, and 6*), non-completion of member requirements for service hours (*as prescribed in Article I, Section 3*), and/or non-submission of chapter bylaws, standing rules, and member-in-training policies with the National Parliamentarian (*as per Article IX, Section 2*), and efforts to contact the chapter members (*and advisors and administration of the college or university, if appropriate*) either fail or produce evidence that the chapter is no longer functioning.
- c. If a chapter has been on probation for two consecutive semesters or three consecutive

quarters, the National Board of Directors may, at their discretion, vote to place a chapter on inactive status based upon the recommendation of one or more NBD members.

- d. The President will forward notice of inactive status to the chapter (*and school administration, if appropriate*), by certified mail. Inactive chapters have no vote at Convention and are not required to pay national dues, fees, assessments, submit reports and bylaws, standing rules, and member-in-training policies, or complete member requirements for service hours.

Section 18. Revocation of a Charter

- a. A chapter's charter may be revoked after it has been determined that the chapter is in violation of the Bylaws of the sorority.
- b. Charges against the chapter must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors.
- c. Within ten (10) days of receipt of such charges, the President shall send a written notice of the charges to said chapter.
- d. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of such charges, said chapter shall be given an opportunity to submit to the Board of Directors a written response to the charges.
- e. The Board of Directors shall review the charges and the chapter's response. By two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors, the charges and the chapter's response shall be submitted to the active chapters for a vote.
- f. By a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors and a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active chapters, a charter shall be revoked.

ARTICLE IX. Chapters

Section 1. Chapter bylaws shall not conflict with these bylaws and shall conform to the model bylaws used by the sorority.

Section 2. Chapter bylaws, amendments to chapter bylaws, standing rules, and Member-in-Training policies shall be submitted to the National Parliamentarian for approval no later than January 31 of each year. The National Parliamentarian and/or designee shall review these documents within six (6) months of receipt. When bylaws, standing rules, and Member-in-Training policies become delinquent the chapter will automatically be placed on probation unless an extension of up to three months has been granted to the chapter by a member of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The President's Report, Service Report, Treasurer's Report, and Report of Graduating/Separating Members shall be submitted semiannually to the Board of Directors be each collegiate chapter and colony. When reports become delinquent the chapter will automatically be placed on probation unless an extension of up to three months has been granted to the chapter by a member of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The President's Report, Service Report, and Treasurer's Report shall be submitted annually to the Board of Directors by each active alumni chapter and colony. An additional Treasurer's Report shall be submitted semiannually to the Board of Directors by each active alumni chapter and colony. When reports become delinquent the chapter will automatically be placed on probation unless an extension of up to three months has been granted to the chapter by a member of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. The Membership Roster shall be submitted with national dues. When this roster becomes delinquent the chapter will automatically be placed on probation unless an extension of up to three months has been granted to the chapter by a member of the Board of Directors

Section 6: A chapter may be held responsible by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors for the completion of educational or developmental sanctions for the purpose of rectifying the following: policy violations, failure to follow correct procedures, or serious organizational concerns that negatively impact the success of the chapter. Sanctions may be required of all members of the chapter, or may be specific to individual members. Failure to complete the prescribed sanctions may result in further disciplinary measures, including chapter probation, inactive status, or revocation of charter.

Section 7: A chapter or colony may be placed on probation by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors for failing to comply with the Bylaws or policies of the national organization.

ARTICLE X. Active Chapters

Section 1. An active collegiate chapter is defined as a chapter that has submitted reports (*as defined by Article IX, Section 3*), has paid all national dues, fees, and assessments (*as prescribed in Article XI, Sections 2, 3, and 6*), has met member requirements for service hours (*as defined in Article I, Section 3*), and has current chapter bylaws, standing rules, and member-in-training policies on file with the National Parliamentarian (*as per Article IX, Section 2*).

Section 2. An active alumni chapter is defined as a chapter that has submitted reports (*as defined by Article IX, Section 4*), has paid all national dues, fees and assessments (*as prescribed by Article XI, Sections 2 and 6*), has met member requirements for service hours (*as prescribed in Article I, Section 3*), and has current chapter bylaws and standing rules on file with the National Parliamentarian (*as per Article IX, Section 2*).

Section 3. The requirements of active chapter status shall be waived for chapters adversely affected by natural disaster, catastrophic event or national emergency that renders them unable to function. A chapter may request in writing this waiver from the National Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI.

Finance

Section 1. Each colony or reactivated chapter requesting a replacement charter shall pay a \$75 charter fee to the Treasurer prior to its chartering or re-chartering as a chapter.

Section 2. Membership fees for all members of the sorority including auxiliary members shall be as follows:

a. non – refundable annual dues of \$50 shall be payable to the Treasurer by collegiate members and members – in –training upon activation into a collegiate chapter or colony.

b. Annual membership dues for members of collegiate chapters and colonies shall be payable on November 1, or upon activation, to the Treasurer unless an extension of up to thirty days has been granted by a member of the Board of Directors. When fees become delinquent the chapter will automatically be placed on probation. When fees become more than 60 days in arrears a service fee of \$15.00 may be assessed against the chapter as a single entity each month until they are paid.

c. Collegiate colony members shall pay the annual membership dues upon acceptance as a colony and annually thereafter, but not more than once during each fiscal year of the sorority.

d. Alumni chapter and alumni colony members shall pay an annual non-refundable \$20 fee.

e. The annual alumni chapter or colony member fees shall be payable to the Treasurer on November 1 or upon affiliation with an alumni chapter or an alumni colony unless an extension of up to thirty days has been granted by a member of the Board of Directors. When fees become delinquent the chapter will automatically be placed on probation. When fees become more than 60 days in arrears a service fee of \$15.00 may be assessed against the chapter as a single entity each month until they are paid.”

Section 3. A non-refundable national Member-in-Training fee of \$25 per Member-in-Training shall be payable to the National Treasurer or a designee the first week of the Member-in-Training period.

Section 4. Convention Registration/Travel Pool assessments for collegiate and alumni chapter and colony members and participating alumni-at-large, shall be \$20 per fiscal **year** payable to the Treasurer on November 1 of each year, unless an extension of up to thirty days has been granted by a member of the Board of Directors. When fees become more than 60 days in arrears a service fee of \$15.00 may be assessed against the chapter as a single entity each month until they are paid.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall place all Convention Registration/Travel Pool assessments into a Fund, which shall be used for Spirit of Service Day and Conference Travel Pool, and to subsidize costs for Convention.

a. Chapters and Colonies meeting all requirements of an active chapter or colony attending Spirit of Service Day or Conference are eligible for Travel Pool.

b. Chapters and Colonies meeting all requirements of an active chapter or colony 60 days prior to Convention, and Alumni-at-Large, are eligible to receive up to two (2) quad registration fees for attendance at Convention.

c. The Treasurer shall close and distribute the fund at least one (1) month prior to Convention. The travel pool allotment for chapters and colonies that do not attend the Convention shall be placed into the National Treasury.

d. A chapter/colony shall be responsible for returning Convention Registration/Travel Pool monies received from the national organization in the event that the **Spirit of Service Day**, Conference, or Convention is not attended by the chapter/colony. Chapters/colonies will be placed on probation within 30 days following the event and until forfeiture of funds. Extenuating circumstances will be reviewed and decided upon by the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Chapter dues, Member-in-Training fees, penalties for non-payment of dues, and provisions for assessments on members shall be established in each chapter's bylaws.

ARTICLE XII.

Districts

The country shall be divided into districts as determined by the Convention. Each District shall have a District Director elected by the Convention.

ARTICLE XIII.
Conferences

Section 1. Conferences are one of the sorority's vehicles for the education and leadership training of its members as well as the fostering of communication and membership. Spirit Days are one of the sorority's vehicles for fostering friendship and creating networking opportunities between chapters.

Section 2. Chapters/Colonies shall receive packets with Conference information and materials sixty (60) days prior to a Conference from the Program Director. Spirit Day information and materials will be distributed by the District Director 60 days prior to the event. Upon receipt of this information, chapters/colonies are held responsible for the completion of registration requirements and participation in order to receive travel pool reimbursement.

Section 3. Each conference shall be attended by at least two (2) National Board of Directors members.

ARTICLE XIV.
Committees

Section 1. There shall be a Finance Committee with the following permanent members: the Treasurer as chair, the President, and a non-NEC member of the National Board of Directors, for a two (2) year term. Three (3) at-large members shall be appointed for a three (3) year term, and two collegiate members, for a two year term, by the President, with the approval of the National Board of Directors. One-third (1/3) of the at-large members shall be appointed by the President annually, in July.

- a. It shall be the duty of this committee to prepare the budget for the two (2) year period between conventions and to submit it to the sorority within ninety (90) days of adjournment of the Convention.
- b. The Finance Committee shall meet in the year between conventions, via a communication method determined by the Committee, in conjunction with the Board of Directors to review the two (2) year budget plan, advise the Board of Directors on financial matters, and perform such duties assigned by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. There shall be a Bylaws Committee composed of a Chair and three (3) members of the Board of Directors, appointed by the President, plus representatives with credentials from each District in proportion to the number of chapters registered, at Convention. Each district and the alumni-at-large shall elect their representatives to the Bylaws Committee at meetings held at the Convention using the following formula:

Number of Chapters Registered per District	Representatives to Bylaws Committee
1 to 4	1
5 to 8	2
9 to 12	3
13 to 16	4
Alumni at-large	1

This committee shall meet during Convention. It shall be the duty of this committee to review all proposed amendments to these Bylaws after presentation to Convention, and provide recommendations on them to the Convention.

Section 3. There shall be an Awards Committee composed of a Chair and two (2) other members appointed by the President. It shall be the duty of this committee to coordinate the sorority's awards program.

Section 4. Such other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as the sorority or Board of Directors shall from time to time deem necessary to carry on the work of the sorority. The President shall be ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Section 5. A Nominating Committee consisting of five (5) members, at least two (2) of whom would be collegiate members, and three (3) alternates, at least one (1) of whom would be an alumni member, shall be elected by the Board of Directors.

- a. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall be appointed from among the elected committee members, by the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors.
- b. The Nominating Committee shall meet prior to March 15 of the Convention year and shall nominate a candidate for each office to be filled at the next Convention. The committee shall send a report of these nominations to each chapter by April 1 of that year.

ARTICLE XV. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the sorority in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the sorority may adopt.

ARTICLE XVI.
Amendment of Bylaws

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any Convention, provided the amendment has been submitted in accordance with Article XVI, Section 2 or 3.

Section 2. Each proposed amendment to these Bylaws shall be submitted in writing to the Parliamentarian by February 15 of the Convention year. The Parliamentarian shall submit all proposed amendments to the chapters, colonies, and members of the Board of Directors by March 15 of the Convention year.

Section 3. A unanimous vote taken prior to the convening of the Bylaws Committee at Convention shall be required to submit an amendment to the Bylaws Committee for consideration if requirements set forth in Article XVI, Section 2, have not been met.

Amended July 10, 2015
32nd National Convention
Nashville, TN