Potential New Member Code of Ethics and Agreement of Mutual Respect, and PNM Bill of Rights at Lamar University College Panhellenic

“We, as Undergraduate Members of women’s fraternities, stand ... for maintenance of fine standards...for service through the development of character inspired by the close contact and deep friendship of individual fraternity and Panhellenic life. The opportunity for wide and wise human service, through mutual respect and helpfulness, is the tenet by which we strive to live.”

This is accomplished by abiding to the following agreements:

• A potential new member (PNM) shall attend recruitment orientation and all membership recruitment events for which she receives invitations.
• Respect for the membership recruitment process is expected at all times. This includes respect toward chapter members, recruitment counselors, Panhellenic officers, faculty and staff, chapter members and other potential new members. PNMs should refrain from sexist, homophobic, racist or otherwise abhorrent conversations.
• I understand my rights under the PNM Bill of Rights and if I experience discrimination, I know how to report it to the College Panhellenic.
• Potential new members as well as sorority members must do their best to not touch or shake hands in any way. This helps prevent the spread of illness.
• Membership recruitment is a substance-free process. Women may not use or be in the presence of drugs and alcohol during the membership recruitment period. Violation of this rule will result in immediate removal form the membership recruitment process.
• Potential new members should be fully aware of the financial obligations of membership before accepting a bid. It is to the PNM’s advantage to ask questions during recruitment events if there are questions about finances.
• Potential new members agree to treat the chapter videos and virtual recruitment parties as confidential. Potential new members will not share any video or virtual recruitment event, including a video in its entirety, or recordings, clips, screen shots, and/or quotes from video or virtual recruitment event. Potential new members understand that any breach of this agreement could result to disciplinary action.
• Potential new members understand that if they sign a Membership Recruitment Acceptance Binding Agreement (MRABA) after preference round, they are bound to that document and the chapter that extends them a bid. This means that the PNM is ineligible for an invitation to membership from another NPC organization until the next primary recruitment on that campus.

Failure to abide by the expectations stated above will result in the review of your status as a potential new member. The first offense will result in a warning from Panhellenic Recruitment Staff. The second offense will result in being released from the 2020 Panhellenic Recruitment process. If the first offense is determined to be
severe enough by the Panhellenic Recruitment Staff, a potential new member could be subject to an immediate release from the Panhellenic Recruitment process.

*This code serves as a guide for all sorority members, financially inactive members, alumnae, and potential new members (PNMs) to promote honesty, respect, and sisterhood. All concerned are responsible for observing the rules proposed by the Lamar University College Panhellenic Council and agreed upon by each member organization, and thereby agree to the following:*

**In agreement with NPC Unanimous Agreements and Lamar University College Panhellenic Council Guidelines:**

1. NPC sorority members shall not suggest to any PNM that an invitation or bid is assured from their chapter, nor encourage a PNM to list only one choice on her Preference List.
2. The use of alcoholic beverages and the participation of men in membership recruitment and Bid Day activities are prohibited.

**It is in accord with the dignity and good standing of sorority members:**

1. To avoid disparaging remarks about any sorority or non-sorority women
2. To create and encourage friendly relations between sorority and non-sorority women.
3. To lay aside competition and strive for respect, mutual trust, and cooperation amongst Greek organization.
4. To prevent negative publicity regarding the Greek community.
5. To not exploit personal relationships for recruitment purposes. The best interest of the PNM should be kept in mind at all times.

**As sorority women, we will abide by the NPC Unanimous Agreements in addition to the Lamar University Panhellenic Standing Rules. This includes, but is not limited to:**

1. PNMs may not enter the personal residence of an active sorority member.
2. Active sorority members may not enter the personal residences of PNMs.
3. Sorority members may not spend money on PNMs, nor give or accept gifts from PNMs. This includes but is not limited to food, rides, or photos.
4. Off campus meetings between sorority members and PNMs are not permitted.
5. Intentionally separating a PNM and engaging in inappropriate, intimidating conversation and/or being in a situation where there are 3 or more active members in the same sorority with one PNM is considered hotboxing and is not permitted.
6. The use of any social media platform is not to be used between sorority women and PNMs, with the exception of chapter accounts.
7. To clarify, one may not be “Facebook friends” with or “following” a PNM unless the Instagram/Twitter/Facebook friendship predates the PNMs acceptance to Lamar University.

8. The distribution of alcohol, drugs, and fake IDs is strictly prohibited.

According to the NPC Manual of Information, “NPC believes that normal, social contacts should not be disrupted in the case of long-standing friendships by prohibiting all contacts between sorority women and potential members.”

Normal contacts include relatives, friends, neighbors, and co-workers prior to attending Lamar. However, each sorority is charged with the responsibility of seeing that unfair advantage is not taken of such contacts.

It is everyone’s responsibility to observe these rules. Any violation of these policies is considered an infraction and should be reported to the College Panhellenic Council.

Potential New Member’s Bill of Rights

• The right to be treated as an individual
• The right to be fully informed about the recruitment process
• The right to ask questions and receive true and objective answers from recruitment counselors and members
• The right to be treated with respect
• The right to be treated as a capable and mature person without being patronized
• The right to ask how and why and receive straight answers
• The right to have and express opinions to recruitment counselors
• The right to have inviolable confidentiality when sharing information with recruitment counselors
• The right to make informed choices without undue pressure from others
• The right to be fully informed about the NPC Unanimous Agreements implicit in the membership recruitment acceptance binding agreement (MRABA) signing process
• The right to make one’s own choice and decision and accept full responsibility for the results of that decision
• The right to have a positive, safe and enriching recruitment and new member experience.