



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®
Theta Rho Omega Chapter



Chapter Committee Meeting Agenda
September 20, 2025

B.A.D.D.I.E.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| I. Call to Order | Soror Carolyn Levystein |
| II. Meditation | Soror Jean Rogers-Yates |
| III. Adoption of Agenda | |
| IV. Minutes | Soror Renita Craig |
| V. Officer Reports | |
| Basileus | Soror Stephanie L. Ivey |
| Anti-Basileus | Soror Carolyn Levystein |
| Pecunious Grammateus | Soror Kamela Fulbright |
| Tamiouchos | Soror Vanessa Vavasseur |
| Hodegos | Soror Danielle Hill |
| VI. Committee Reports | |
| Fundraising | Soror Kamela Fulbright |
| Nominating | Soror Brittany N. Wilson |
| Unfinished Business | |
| New Business | |
| Announcements | Soror Lolita Liggons |
| Adjournment | Soror Carolyn Levystein |



SEPT 20, 2025

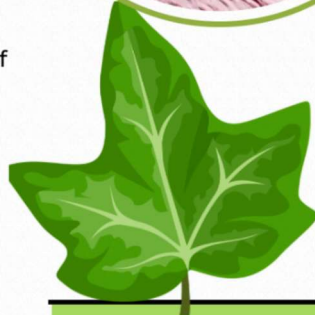
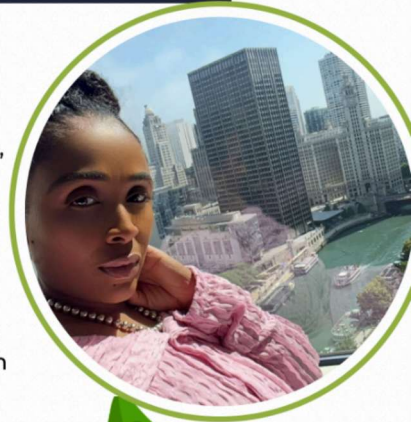
BADDIE UPDATE

REPORT/NEWSLETTER

Basileus Message

Greetings my sorors,
 Welcome back to the business of AKA. I hope your summer was filled with fellowship, family, good views, eats, relaxation, laughter and love. I know for some of us, there were several transitions taking place. As I sent my first child off to college there was the presence of nervousness in my spirit. But I found peace in knowing that this is her test and my evaluation as a mother. I'm sure she will do well and I will continue to pray for her many successes. Sorors we are back in grind mode and we will continue to forge our way through the second half of the year in service together. I'd like to thank each and every one of you for putting in the work to make THETA RHO OMEGA 💕💚 chapter so successful in all of our endeavors. None of this will be possible without your dedication, time, talent and assistance. I hope that you are prepared to roll your sleeves up and continue to serve selflessly as we conclude the second half of the year in the B.A.D.D.I.E. administration. Welcome back!

Stephanie L. Ivey
 Basileus



**BE A BADDIE
 AND PAY
 YOUR
 ASSESSMENT
 PLEASE
 REMIT
 \$300.00
 VIA WILD
 APRICOT**

PAGE 1

MEMBERSHIP EXPERIENCE

I will be attending the Membership Experience certification training on September 19 through the 20th 2025 in Washington DC



SEPT 20, 2025

BADDIE UPDATE

NEWSLETTER

Anti Basileus Message

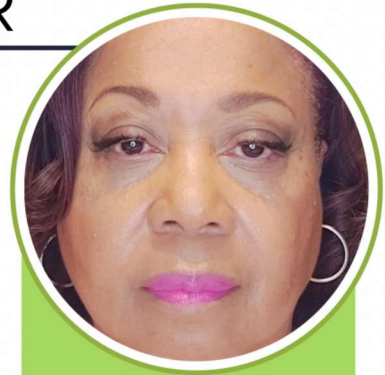
Greetings Theta Rho Omega Chapter. It is already September. Sadly, summer is over, and fall has begun. As the daylight hours shorten, and temperatures cool, we prepare ourselves for another season of service to our community. We are looking forward to our chapter retreat, cluster retreat, and our day party. All of these activities promote increasing our knowledge, promoting enthusiasm and supporting the spirit of sisterhood we feel for our beloved sorority. We have much hard work ahead and I am looking forward to a renewed dedication to service.

Our programs are ramping up for new projects and activities that we all can participate in. Our day party is shaping up and tickets are going fast. Please go to Wild Apricot and get your tickets before they are sold out. Do not delay.

As I reflect over the summer of 2025, I remember that TRO Sorors were still working during our hiatus. Kudos to Soror Jennifer for attending the Leadership Conference in Anaheim, CA, as well as Soror Danielle for hosting Teacher school supply packing sessions at her home and for coordinating distribution of those supplies at Rickover High School in Sauk Village. Thank you Soror LeShelle for organizing a CHIPP distribution at Work Study Enterprises in Matteson and distribution of more CHIPP bags at Colin Powell School in Matteson during their back to school event. Thank you Soror Tondalaya for participating in voter registration during the Country Club Hills Back to School parade. Also, thank you to Sorors Amanda and Alexis for planning a wonderful and fun Field Day event with our sisters from Chi Omega Omega Chapter.

Finally, the sorors of TRO took time out to have some fun this summer at two wonderful concerts. One was at Soror Jean's church, and the other was at GSU. Yes, summer is over, now it is time to get back to work with renewed energy.

Soror Carolyn Levystein
Anti-Basileus



2025 COMMITTEE SIGN-UP

Know where you want to serve! Sign up sheets will be available during Chapter Meeting.

Let's get our 2025 Chairmen up for success with winning service teams. Please consider joining at least one committee.

SEPT 20, 25

BADDIE UPDATE

NEWSLETTER

Chapter Updates

MEMBERSHIP EXPERIENCE

WE WILL BE VOTING IN OCTOBER PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND CHAPTER MEETING. MEMBERS MUST BE PRESENT TO VOTE

NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN !!

LEARN, RUN, LEAD

WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS OPEN:

- Ivy Leaf Reporter
- Epistoleus
- Grammateus
- Anti Grammateus
- Pecunious Grammateus

CHAPTER ATTENDANCE

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE ON TIME FOR CHAPTER MEETINGS. SIGN-IN LIST WILL BE PULLED AT 10:30 AM, THIS ENSURES THAT ATTENDANCE IS CALCULATED FAIRLY EVERY MONTH.

PROTOCOL REMINDERS

PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE REQUIRED CHAPTER ATTIRE.

THE PROTOCOL MANUEL STATES CHAPTER ATTIRE IS BUSINESS ATTIRE. UNLESS SPECIFIED THAT IS THE EXPECTATION! NO JEANS, NO LEGGINGS.

CHAPTER RETREAT IS SEPT 20, 2025 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CHAPTER MEETING .

SEPT 20, 2025

BADDIE UPDATE

NEWSLETTER

Region/International Updates

**OFFICIAL BOULE
2026 DATE CHANGE!!!**

**BOULE WILL TAKE
PLACE IN LAS VEGAS,
NEVADA JULY 18-
JULY 24, 2026**

**CRC 2026
registration will
open in
December.
Indianapolis
Indiana**

**CRC CLUSTER VIII
RETREAT SAVE THE
DATE**

September 26-28 2025
Double Tree Hotel
Alsip, IL.

**Business casual ATTIRE
NO JEANS THIS WILL
BE A WORKING
MEETING! NO JEANS**



JUNE 28, 2025

BADDIE UPDATE NEWSLETTER

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ EVENTS/ THANK YOU'S



Bronze Sponsors
Matteson Wine & Spirit
Senator Michael Hastings
Student First Consulting Group

In-Kind Sponsors
A Trio Creation
Alpha Kappa Alpha
Amazing Transformation Ministry
Sigma Gamma Rho
Ecolab
In His Hands Resource Center, Inc.
VisuCom Graphics



JUNE 28, 2025

BADDIE UPDATE

NEWSLETTER

2025 CHAPTER OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Basileus – Soror Stephanie L. Ivey
Anti Basileus – Soror Carolyn Levystein
Grammateus – Soror Renita Craig
Anti Grammateus – Soror Brittany N. Wilson
Tamiouchos -Soror Vanessa Vavasseur
Pecunious Grammateus –Soror Kamela Fulbright
Epistoleus – Soror Lolita Liggons
Hodegos – Soror Danielle Hill
Parliamentarian – Soror June Cole Boulware
Historian – Soror Imani Crenshaw
Ivy Leaf Reporter –Soror Tondalaya Lloyd
Chaplain - Soror Jean Rogers-Yates
Philacter -Soror Rose Lee

TRO DIRECTORY -

<https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/286217e3-022b-4d06-afd9-c8c0346b3490/Theta%20Rho%20Omega%202024%20Directory%20-1026.p-172a76a.pdf>

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Protocol -Soror Gabriella Hayes
AKAPE'- Soror Fabienne Williams Neiman
Membership -Soror Jaqueline Brown***
Standards - Soror Gloria Pleasant
Bylaws - Soror June Cole Boulware
Leadership Development- Soror Jaqueline Brown
Connections - Soror Tondalaya Lloyd
Generation Next- Soror Amanda Mitchell /Alexis Lenoir
Fundraising-Soror Kamela Fulbright
Logistics- Soror June Cole Boulware
Nominating - Soror Brittany N. Wilson
Risk Management-Soror Chanay Mackey
Scholarship - Soror Telia Chilton
Technology - Soror Vanessa Vavasseur
Archives - Soror Stacy Johnson
Communications-Soror Lolita Liggons
Public Relations - Soror Tondalaya Lloyd
NPHC - Soror Shatina Edwards

PROGRAM/INITIATIVE CHAIRMEN

Empower Our Families - Soror LaShelle Royster
Advocate for Social Justice - Soror Tondalaya Lloyd
Build Our Economic Wealth- Soror Renita Craig
Enhance Our Environment - Soror Diane Robinson
Uplift Our Local Community - Soror Danielle Brasfield
Strengthening Our Sisterhood/Sisterly Relations- Soror Bridget Lynch Alderson

**ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA Sorority, INC.
Theta Rho Omega Chapter**

Date: Saturday, June 28, 2025

Chapter Meeting No. 6

The meeting was held on June 28, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 10:20 AM by the Basileus Soror Stephanie L. Ivey. Anti Grammateus, Soror Brittany N. Wilson was present. The meditation was presented by Soror Jean Rogers Yates. A quorum was established (X) yes () no. There were 48 members present and one visitor in attendance. See attached attendance list.

I. The agenda was adopted by general consensus.

II. The minutes were approved with one correction to update May Chapter Meeting minutes to reflect the Anti Basileus as the presiding officer and removing the Basileus line item.

III. Officers Reports

A. Basileus - Soror Stephanie L. Ivey presented the Basileus report:

- Congratulations on the 2025 Pink Summer Soiree was amazing! Received lots of positive feedback, kudos to the committee.
- As a reminder, the submission window to turn in vouchers for 2025 CRC Delegates reimbursements has closed. Please note there is a 60-day deadline to turn in vouchers.
- 2025 Assessments are due, please remit your payment as soon as possible if you still owe a balance.
- There is a Leadership Development workshop immediately following this event. Sorors are encouraged to attend.
- There was a \$900 false check made to the chapter's account. It is currently under investigation, but it was not a member of the chapter. We are in the process of creating a new account. The Tamiouchos will further explain in her report.
- An Internal audit was conducted and an external audit is scheduled to take place. Kudos to the Tamiouchos and Pecunious Grammateus for keeping great records. But there are some actions sorors should remember to take:
 - Ensure original receipts are turned in with vouchers
 - Ensure your checks are properly numbered

- There is an ad hoc committee being formed on Chapter Foundation exploration. Reach out to the Basileus if interested in serving on the committee.
- Over the summer, a Membership Experience workshop will be held in July or August. Be on the lookout for the date in the Bulletin.
- Safe travels to sorors attending leadership.
- Cluster Retreat is in September, be on the lookout for registration from the region.
- September meeting is a welcome home membership initiative. The Basileus is requesting you Rep Your Alma Mater for a membership reactivation event. A list was sent to the Basileus, over 10K inactive sorors in Central Region and we want to reclaim our lost pearls.

B. Anti-Basileus Report– Soror Carolyn Levystein presented the report. Our programs are on target. A June 29th meeting of the program chairmen will be held to submit stats for Q2 International program reports.

C. Pecunious Grammateus Report - Soror Kamela Fulbright presented the report. In the month of May, the chapter collected \$4,465. Of that total, \$4,110 was collected for fundraiser assessment, \$40 for NPHC picnic, \$55 in 50/50 raffle and \$260 for Sistah Fest in June.

The Pecunious Grammateus Report will be filed for audit and placed online in the Members Only section of the TRO website.

D. Tamiouchos - Soror Vanessa Vavasseur presented the Tamiouchos report. For the month of May 2025, the chapter accounts reported the following:

- Operations Account
 - Beginning balance \$45,031.49
 - Deposits - \$1,765
 - Disbursements - \$11,768.84
 - Ending Balance - \$35,027.65
- Program Account
 - Beginning balance \$37,456.15
 - Deposits - \$10,397.83
 - Disbursements - \$3,781.60
 - Ending Balance - \$44,072.38
- Contingency Account balance \$3,348.02, no activity.

- Fraudulent Check had been cashed on 5/13/2025. The person created an image modeling our check. The following was incorrect on the check:
 - Check number 12842, operations checks are 4 digits.
 - No info on the memo line
 - Symbol on the check that is not on the check
 - Signatures don't match

The following actions were taken immediately:

- Checking account has been closed.
- Affidavit submitted by the bank.
- The bank is investigating
- A new account has been opened for Operations
- Platform Sales tax on Wild Apricot will begin in July. We will gain clarity on what this may mean for sorors but believe it will not impact soror fees to use the site.
- Committee chairman, be prepared to submit your budget requests for 2026.

The Tamiouchos Report will be filed for audit and placed online in the Members Only section of the TRO website.

E. Hodegos Report - Soror Danielle Hill presented the report.

- Birthdays, initiations and anniversaries for the month of June & July were shared and celebrated with applause.

I. Committee Reports

A. Membership Report - Soror Marsha Carthan presented the report.

- Sistah Fest was held on June 14, 2025. There were 46 chapter members and 7 guests present (inactive/general members).

B. Fundraising Report - Soror Kamela Fulbright presented the report.

- The 2025 Pink Summer Soiree was a success. The committee thanks all involved. The event raised over \$30,000 and counting.
- Save the Date: The Pretty Affair Day Party will be held on October 4th at R Lounge.

C. Uplift Our Local Community – Soror Danielle Brasfield presented the report. The committee is requesting donations and assistance in August to support in distributing school supplies. Donations are still being accepted over the summer. Please see the chairman to support with donations or drop off in August.

The committee will be hosting an event targeting healthy weight loss upon return from hiatus.

Motion: Soror Danielle Brasfield moved to request \$200 from the program account to purchase school supplies for teachers in Sauk Village. It was properly seconded by Soror Jean Rogers Yates.

After debate, the motion was rescinded. The Executive Committee will address over the summer.

D. Nominating Committee - Soror Brittany Wilson presented the report

- Five positions will be open this year
- Open in June and close in September
- Grammateus
- Anti-Grammateus
- Pecunious Grammateus
- Ivy Leaf Reporter
- Epistoleus

III. Unfinished Business: None

IV. New Business: None

V. Announcements:

- Soror Danielle shared she has an office space in Richton Park where she will hold teacher trainings. July 19th from 930a-1130a will be the next training. 4137 Sauk Trail, Richton Park

- Community Shred Day in Hazel Crest today and Sept 20 in Cook County will be the next.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.

Soror Stephanie L. Ivey, Basileus

Soror Brittany N. Wilson, Anti Grammateus

Date Accepted _____

Attendance: June 28, 2025

Alderson	Bridget Lynch	No
Beckham	Jennifer	no
Blakemore	Ericka	yes
Brasfield Knight	Danielle	yes
Breedlove	Leigh	no
Broomfield	Jayla	no
Brown	Jacqueline	yes
Burks Johnson	Beverly	no

Byrd	Danielle	yes
Carr	Brandi	no
Carthan	Marsha	yes
Chilton	Telia	yes
Cole Boulware	June	yes
Collins	Rashonda	yes
Craig	Renita	no
Crenshaw	Imani	yes
Darey	Amanda	no
Davis	Dawn	yes
Davis	Ti'Kyla	no
Doriety	Michelle	yes
Edwards	Shatina	yes
Foster	Virginia	no
Fulbright	Kamela	yes

Garnett	Marie	no
Gary	Carolyn Wheatfall	no
Gilbert	Bridgette Lomax	yes
Gill	Teresa Pennix	no
Guthrie Purchase	Monica	yes
Harmon	Anita	no
Hayes	Gabriella	yes
Henderson Frierson	Cynthia	no
Hill	Danielle	yes
Hillard	Lakisha	yes
Holifield	Mildred	no
Holmes	Shelia	yes
Hubbard-Green	Sonya	no
Hudson	Stacey	yes

Ivey	Stephanie	yes
James Lewis	Jacqueline	no
Johnson	Jennifer Renae	yes
Johnson	Stacy	no
Jones	Anna	no
Jones-Barlow	Sheila B.	yes
Knight	Annika	no
Lee	Michele	no
Lee	Rose M.	no
LeNoir	Alexis	yes
Levesque	Chasitie	no
Levesque	Shanee	yes
Levystein	Carolyn	yes
Lloyd	Tondalaya	yes
Liggons	Lolita	yes

Mackey	Chanay	yes
Macklin	Claudette	no
McCrary	Tiffany	no
Madison	Darraah	no
Mitchell	Amanda	yes
Nichols	Dana	no
Parker	Jacquelyn Heath	yes
Patterson	Julia	yes
Pleasant	Gloria	yes
Richardson	Cheryl	yes
Richardson	Jacqueline	no
Robinson	Diane	no
Rogers-Yates	Jean	yes
Royster	LaShelle	yes
Russell	Latrece	no

Sanders	Andrea	no
Scott	Marilyn	no
Senter	Lauren	yes
Shackelford	Cheryl	no
Smith	Marie	no
Smith	Yolanda	no
Smith-Thomas	Pamela	yes
Spears	Kienya	no
Taylor	Rhonda	yes
Terrell-Perkins	Faye	no
Thomas-Smith	Debbie	no
Torian	Mechelle	yes
Vavasseur	Vanessa	yes
Walker	Erika	yes
Warr	Stephanie Falls	yes

West Paul	Sherry	yes
Williams Neiman	Fabienne	yes
Wilson	Brittany	yes
Wilson	Eileen	no
Woodson	Erin	yes
Wright	Leonis	yes



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®

Theta Rho Omega Chapter

Officer/Committee Report

Soror: Carolyn Levystein

Date: September 15, 2025

Officer/Committee: Program Anti-Basileus

Updates:

Greeting Theta Rho Omega Chapter . It is September. Summer is over and fall has begun. We are looking forward to our chapter retreat, cluster retreat and our Day Party. We are embracing the work that lies ahead of us as we begin this new season.

Even though we were on hiatus during the summer months, TRO was still at work. A "Thank You" goes out to Soror Jennifer for attending the Leadership Conference in Anaheim, CA. Soror Danielle hosted teacher school supply packing sessions at her home and coordinated distribution of those supplies at Rickover High School in Sauk Village.

Soror LeShelle organized a CHIPP bag distribution at Work Study Enterprises in Matteson and the distribution of more CHIPP bags at Colon Powell School in Matteson for their back to school event. Soror Tondalaya participated in a voter registration drive in Country Club Hills at their back to school parade.

And, Soror Amada and Soror Alexis planned a fun-filled Field Day with sorors from Chi Omega Omega. We also had fun-filled days at two summer concerts. One was at Soror Jean's church and the other was at GSU. Both were relaxing and provided the sorors of TRO time to spend with each other during our summer. Sadly, summer is over and we must get back to work with renewed energy.

Sisterly Submitted,

Soror Carolyn Levystein

Anti-Basileus

Officer/Committee: Hodegos

<u>August Birthdays</u>		
Jennifer Beckham	3rd	
Bridget Lynch Alderson	10th	
Danielle Byrd	28th	
Dawn Davis	22nd	
Rose M. Lee	30th	
Stacy Johnson	24th	
Stephanie Ivey	15th	
Vanessa Vavasseur	20th	
<u>August AKaversaries</u>		
Gloria Pleasont	Beta Mu	1966
<u>Wedding Anniversaries</u>		
Anita Harmon		
Julia Patterson		
LaShelle Royster		
Leonis Wright		

Sonya Hubbard-Green

<u>September Birthdays</u>

Jacqueline James Lewis	8th
Pamela Smith Thomas	13th
Yolanda Smith	14th
Michelle Doriety	15th
Annika Knight	23rd
Amanda Darey	26th
Elizabeth Hayes	30th

<u>September AKaversaries</u>

Marilyn Scott	Theta Rho Omega	1993
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<u>Wedding Anniversaries</u>

Claudette Macklin

Kamela Fulbright

Stacey Toney-Hudson

Tondalaya Lloyd

Officer/Committee: Fundraising

Updates

The Fundraising Committee met on September 11, 2025.

We began with a recap of the Pink Summer Soirée, highlighting both the successes and lessons learned. The event was well received, with the scholarship appeal tied directly to the presentation of scholarships, ensuring strong engagement. Soror Monica excelled as host, though it was noted that having a co-host with similar energy and a pre-event prep session would strengthen the program. The photobooth was a crowd favorite, and our hostesses carried out their duties with excellence. For future planning, we identified opportunities to add live music, improve visibility for the silent auction, and secure assistance from someone familiar with the storage unit to manage inventory. We also discussed venue-related considerations, such as incorporating the cost of chair covers and sashes into the ticket price, requesting full-length tablecloths, and relocating the cigar vendor to a weather-protected space.

- Highlights:
 - Photobooth, host performance, strong hostess team
- Needs for next year:
 - Live music, improved silent auction placement, venue adjustments
- Financials:
 - Final fundraising numbers presented; open assessment balance discussed

The discussion then turned to final planning for A Pretty Affair Day Party. The committee confirmed the event timeline and volunteer roles, as well as milestones for ticket sales and outreach. Decoration plans were finalized to create a polished and engaging atmosphere, including:

- Mini pink/green tea lights
- Green doilies

- Pop-up banner
- Pink/green wristbands
- A reserved table for the Basileus

Volunteer shifts and day-of logistics were also outlined to ensure smooth operations.

We briefly touched on nonprofit updates and began discussions on end-of-year fundraising activities, which will be expanded on in future meetings.

Before adjournment, several important reminders were shared:

- Sorors should log into Wild Apricot to review and pay their Fundraising Assessment Fee invoices.
- Early Bird tickets for A Pretty Affair Day Party are available for \$35.
- VIP Tables:
 - - 4-seater: \$200
 - - 5-seater: \$250
- Prices increase after Chapter Meeting:
 - - General Admission: \$45
 - - 4-seater VIP: \$250
 - - 5-seater VIP: \$350

The meeting concluded with all members aligned on action items and next steps to continue our strong fundraising efforts.

With Sisterly Love,
The Fundraising Committee

Sisterly Submitted,
Soror Kamela Fulbright
Soror Brittany Wilson
Soror Lakisha Hillard

Officer/Committee: Nominating

Updates

The Nominating Committee will be collecting applications for open positions through the end of today at 11:59pm. Please turn in your nomination packet to myself or a member of the Nominating Committee. You may also complete electronically using the link provided in your email or listed below.

<https://form.jotform.com/242137706999066>

Candidates will be certified by the Nominating Committee and made aware via email. All candidates will be asked to present their candidate statement at the October Chapter Meeting.

Sisterly Submitted,

Soror Brittany N. Wilson

Officer/Committee: Advocate for Social Justice

Updates

Our Committee met in July 2025 and September 8, 2025.

Our Expungement Seminar entitled: Second Chances: Navigating the Expungement Process and Bail Bond and Beyond: Demystifying Pre-Trial Release will be held on Saturday November 1, 2025 at Prairie State College in conjunction with JASSAC of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. We will have VA Safe Foundation, PACE, CTA CeaseFire, Cook County Clerk's Office (voter registration), Cook County Courts, Cabrina Green Legal Aide, Mayor House, Cook County Clerk Monica Gordon, Representative Justin Slaughter, Rep. Bill Davis, Mayor Jada Curry and State Senator Willie Preston.

Volunteers sign up for people to help with Expungements. There will be training session in October for people to help with Expungements

Volunteer sign up for volunteers for registration, set up and break down will also be sent out.

Please display your yard signs! Primaries are in March and it will be here before you know it.

September 16 is National Voter Registration day: we will do a social media campaign with a voter toolkit for what offices are up for election and other information.

Letter Writing Campaign to take place at October's Chapter meeting.

Separate Topics

September 23, 2025 is AKA International Public Policy Forum in Washington DC. We have two of our members that will attend.

Theta Rho Omega Chapter

Officer/Committee Report

Date: September 20, 2025

Abby Phillips in Conversation,, CNN Correspondent will be here October 20, 2025 at the Temple 77 W Washington. Info in the chat. She will be speaking with Luvvie Ajaye about the Jesse Jacksons legacy and the movement that began in Chicago. Tickets are between \$40 and \$80. Please let me know if you would like to attend.

Sisterly Submitted,

Soror Tondalaya Lloyd

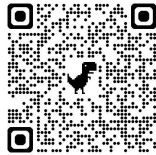
Officer/Committee **Build our Economic Wealth**

Updates:

- **Monthly Black Dollars**

- [September 2025](#)

- **[TRO Business Directory](#)**



- **Sister Circles**

- Budgetnista Tips
 - [The Budgetnista Shares Tips to Eliminate Debt and Grow Savings](#)
- Savings Sister Circles



- **TRO Business Directory Spotlight**

- Would you like to be Spotlighted?
- Contact Soror Renita Craig: renitacraig423@gmail.com

Officer/Committee: Foundation Discovery

Updates

The Foundation Discovery ad hoc committee met this summer to explore options for establishing a Chapter Nonprofit organization. This ad-hoc committee was established to explore the feasibility of forming a chapter foundation/non-profit organization. This includes understanding the guidelines and recommendations from the Sorority, benefits to the chapter and its members, etc. In addition to the chairman, members of the Committee are: Sorors Vanessa Vavasseur, Soror Kamela Fulbright, Soror June Cole Boulware, and Soror Amanda Coleman Mitchell.

During the summer, we met, researched, met with a legal professional (IL sitting judge) and learned our options are critical as it speaks to how we move forward financially. I'll dive into some basic background info, share the options, then we will have to decide as a chapter, how we'd like to move forward.

For the first time, the Sorority has released a Chapter Foundation guide. This guide touches on the basics of a foundation, their purpose, relationships between chapter and the charitable arm, and importance of structured governance and compliance. Some key takeaways from the Supreme Basileus:

- There is an official Chapter Foundation Resource Guide to provide clarity regarding chapter foundations.
- An International Foundations Committee has been established to review and refine guidelines.
- There are a host of benefits to establishing an affiliated charitable arm.

Sorors are encouraged to purchase the document via Members Only to stay informed.

Basic information regarding AKA chapters and fundraising:

- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is a 501(c)(7), social organization
 - A 501c7 relies primarily on membership for funding and to dictate its activities.
- Chapters are designated as 501(c)(7) social clubs
 - They primarily serve their members' interest
 - Cannot offer tax-deductible donations
- Social Organizations should not engage in fundraising activities that involve non-members
- To ensure compliance with IRS rules and regulations:
 - Chapter fundraising should be conducted through a properly structured 501(c)(3) foundation/Non-Profit Organization (NPO)

What's Changed: The sorority has provided written guidelines on Chapter Foundations (can be purchased on AKA Members Only). The Corporate Office has given some leeway for chapters to incorporate reference to their foundations in the Chapter Bylaws. For instance, bylaw amendments and dissolution of the NPO may only be done by 2/3rds vote by the members

Benefits of forming a 501c3 organization:

1. Ability to purchase property
2. Tax-deductible charitable contributions for community-focused initiatives
3. Enhance fundraising capacity, enabling chapters to undertake larger projects with broader community impact
4. Greater credibility in the community, fostering trust and public donations
5. Potential to obtain Grants

Overview: In summary, in order to protect our chapter and continue hosting Fundraising events, receiving money from non-members, we must establish a Foundation (or non profit organization) by early 2026. The only other option is to fund all of our programs through our dues and hold no events for the public (unless completely free).

Risks & Challenges to establishing a charitable organization

Here's what's at risk, if we choose not to form a charitable arm:

- We will be taxed heavily and penalized by Corporate Office
- ALL of our chapter programs and scholarships will be funded by the members
- Unable to receive public grants or donations

Here's the challenges we face when it comes to forming a charitable arm:

- More work for sorors as the Foundation will have a Board, committees, etc.
- Not enough members willing to support the added workload
- Extremely tight timeline to turnaround to get stood up by 2026, ahead of our June fundraiser

The chapter must decide how it would like to move forward. If the chapters decide to move forward, here's an overview of next steps.

Immediate next steps to establish a Non-Profit organization

1. Take a chapter vote to establish a non profit @ September Chapter Meeting
2. Establish Name, Mission & Vision
3. Draft Foundation bylaws & MOU
4. Establish Initial Officers and Founding board
5. Submit application to form a Chapter Foundation to Corporate
6. Pay to reserve a name in IL w/ Sec of State (\$25)
7. Draft Articles of Incorporation & file articles with the state
8. Complete Article of Incorporate w/ State of IL and break out the state requirements
9. Receive 501c3 status
10. Begin the work to establish the organization (insurance, website, logo, etc.)

**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®
Theta Rho Omega Chapter**

Cost to Start Foundation/NPO

Item	Cost	Timeline	Comments
State of IL Articles of Incorporation	\$50 + \$25 (Expedited Fee) = \$75	24 hours	
Reservation of Name	\$25 + \$25 (Expedited Fee) = \$75	Snail mail	
501c3 Designation	\$600	varies	
IL Charitable registration	\$15		
Insurance	\$500		
Atty Retainer	\$1,000		
PO Box	\$300		
Checking Acct			
Branding (website, logo, etc.)	\$385		

Sisterly Submitted,

Soror Brittany N. Wilson