

**Tyler Alumnae Chapter**  
**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**

September 13, 2025

The monthly meeting of the Tyler Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority was conducted at College Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Tyler, Texas.

President Tonia Bickham presided over the meeting and began with the ritualistic opening starting at 10:23 am.

The Sergeant At-Arm confirmed the presence of a quorum; Soror Alyce Randle.

A motion to adopt the agenda with the removal of policy and procedure was made by Vice President Johnita Ward and Soror Kimberly Palmer seconded the motion. Agenda was adopted.

Approval of May 2025 minutes. Minutes were loaded to the chapter's website on July 8, 2025; for the TAC members to review. The motion to approve minutes for May 2025 was made by Soror Candace Porter-Condry and Soror Kimberly Palmer seconded the motion. May 2025 minutes approved.

**President's Report**

President Tonia Bickham thanked all who were present at today's chapter meeting. The message was of encouragement and to stay committed to the work of TAC. The discussion of the monthly newsletter and the upcoming chapter meeting was presented as the following:

October 11, 2025 /In Person  
November 8, 2025/In Person  
December 13, 2025/Virtual  
January 10, 2026/In Person  
February 14, 2026/In Person  
March 14, 2026/In Peron  
April 11, 2026/In Person  
May 2, 2026/In Person

\*Second Saturday of each month except for May 2026 which will be the first Saturday.

**Emergency Response Team**

Soror Karla Thomas is the chair for ERT. Soror Karla Thomas reviewed the red envelope program and the importance of having it on your person. The review of exits at the location and the manner of exiting safely. Soror Karla Thomas stated September is National Preparedness Month. The flyer is also included in the monthly newsletter.

**Corresponding Secretary**

Soror Vivianne McGowan announced the following correspondence/announcements:

- Saturday, October 4, 2025, Community Roast and Comedy Hour will be spotlighting President Tonia Bickham. The event will be held at the Veretta and Jessie Rider Fine Art Center/African American Museum @ 6:00 pm. Tickets are sold at Eventbrite \$20.00 online and \$30.00 at the door.
- September 27, 2025, The Links Incorporated (East Texas) Jazz Concert Dinner will be at the Cascades Country Club in Tyler, Texas. 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$75.00, and sponsorship is being sought. The cost is the following: Tables for \$1000.00; Jam Session for \$2500.00; Jazz for a Cause \$5000.00 and Crescendo for \$10,000.00.
- October 2, 2025, 10:30 am to 1:00 pm is the United Hearts and Mind Luncheon at the Grove Restaurant in Tyler, Texas. Lunch will be served at 11:00 am. *RSVP at GiveButterUnitedHearts.*
- National Panhellenic meets on the fourth Saturday of the month at 2:00 pm. All financial members are encouraged to be a part.
- Tyler Community Leadership Program has opened membership for those interested in leadership. The programs will be from September to May 2026 and will meet monthly. Those interested in being a part of the program may reach out to Soror Denise Pendleton and Mr. Artis Newsom for information.
- UT Tyler School of Medicine/STEM Pre-K to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade will be serving students with its interactive bus that will allow young students to understand medical and health concepts (firsthand experience) the bus is free to come to the East Texas schools. RSVP with Sara Pearson at 903.877.1488.
- The East Texas Green Book is looking to add local Black business to the directory for Tyler, Texas. The directory will have contact information, address and the description of services offered by the business. Scan the QR to add the business.

**Budget and Finance**

Soror Hollisia Allen (Financial Secretary) presented for Budget and Finance for the following months: May, June, July, and August 2025.

Soror Hollisia Allen shared the following payments for dues received after October 15, 2025; will incur a late fee of \$10.00. The dues are the following: \$400.00 for Regular Members and \$210.00 for Life Members. Paying with a personal check to please allow for 10 days (waiting period). If paying by Pay Pal \$414.97 is needed for Regular Members. Pay Pal for Life Members is \$218.10. All payments need to be in by October 9, 2025.

TAC DST 09.13.2025

**May 2025 (Reflects April)**

May Week brought in \$5890.88 (includes tickets and tables sales)

Theta Kappa MIT brought in \$211.20.

Total Receipts: \$6102.05

**June 2025 (Reflects May)**

May Week brought in \$286.08 (ticket/tables sales)

Convention Scarves: \$54.36.

Scholarship Donations of \$509.08.

Total Receipts: \$849.52.

**July 2025 (Reflects June)**

Standing on Business brought in \$147.74.

Sisterhood Retreat brought in \$230.48

Dues of \$400.00.

Total Receipts: \$778.22.

**August 2025 (Reflects July)**

Standing on Business brought in \$152.74.

Sisterhood Retreat brought in \$2031.26

Dues of \$420.00

Total Receipts: \$2604.00

**September 2025 (Reflects August)**

Dues of \$210.00.

Standing on Business brought in \$696.82.

Ollie Crawford Estate \$2000.00.

Total Receipts: \$3706.82

A brief discussion of the money donated by the Ollie Crawford Estate on where it should be allocated was made. Soror Orenthia Mason shared how much Soror Ollie Crawford loved "Housing" and the pride she took when it came to the Delta Service Center. Soror Pam Erwin echoed the sentiment regarding Housing. Soror Orenthia made the motion of the two thousand dollars from Ollie Crawford Estate to be applied to the Housing budget. Soror Pam Erwin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Audit Report**

Soror Sonya Taylor is the Audit Chair. Soror Sonya Taylor reported the review of the first quarter for January 1, 2025 - March 31, 2025.

The review reported the following: 37 % validation, 100% receipts, 100 % disbursements and 100% membership information. One finding was noted by Southside Bank. The financial secretary report did not match the bank balances nor the treasurer's report for the quarter.

Budget and Finance reported the amount of \$42,181.62.

Southside Bank Balance reported: \$40,078.76.

Difference of \$2102.86. It was determined after reviewing the difference was from Pay Pal Fees. Recommendations as follows: All dates of the deposit need to be indicated on the financial secretary report. The conclusion of the audit reported no loss, and all is satisfactory.

The Second quarter audit April 1, 2025 -June 30, 2025.  
37 % validation, 100% receipts, 100 % disbursements and 100% membership information. No additional findings. Recommendation to include deposit dates must be entered into the Red Zone. The conclusion of the audit reported no loss, and all is satisfactory.

The Audit Team is comprised of Soror Denise Pendleton, Soror Sharmecia Mitchell-Jackson, Soror Julie Conley, Soror Marketta Richardson, and Soror Emauri Watson.

Soror Noella Cain asked about the difference, and it was explained the amount was due to Pay Pal fees not taken into consideration.

President Tonia Bickham announced the Chair for Collegiate Connection is Soror Faith Granville. The committee has met and have some great suggestions when it comes to bridging the gap with our collegiate Sorors and those with TAC.

### **Community Service**

Hats off to You, Breast Cancer Summit set for September 27, 2025, at Green Acres Cross Walk from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Sorors who are volunteering are asked to wear the shirt and Soror Melissa Williams is the contact person.

### **D.E.A.R.S**

Soror Denise Pendleton encouraged members to continue to meet in your assigned Tribes. (No changes with Tribes) Please submit the request for completing the membership profile that was assigned in January 2025. This is important because it captures your service with Delta. No Missions listed for the month of September. Please try to meet in your Tribes. Complete the survey each month. Tribe 3/ Soror Stephanie Erwin left items to donate to her Tribe, Those in Tribe 3 not interested in the items, other Sorors can receive it.

### **Economic Development**

Soror Candace Porter-Condry the Economic Chair presented the following: Standing on Business 2.0. is one week away. The fundraising goals have been met. \$10,000.00 was the financial goal. Please see Soror Candace Porter-Condry for those who have not received their duties for the day to please see her after today's meeting. It is asked for Sorors to arrive at 8:00 am so that we may be able to receive our vendors and other guests starting at 8:30 am. The event will start at 10:00 am. Please wear a black polo shirt, and/or black standing on business t shirt and comfortable shoes. Also be mindful of not addressing each other as Soror in the public setting.

TAC DST 09.13.2025

Special parking will be designated for Sorors to park, guests of the event, vendors parking, and VIP parking for the judges and guest panelists.

The next Zoom meeting is set for next week to review everything.

It will take all Sorors to work together for success. The event is set for September 20, 2025, at the CTE in Tyler, Texas.

### **Housing**

President Tonia Bickham briefly reviewed the Housing housekeeping rules. Sorors are asked to RSVP to utilize the house. There is a QR code that can be utilized to secure a time to utilize the house. Take trash out once finished, adjust the thermostat, sweep the floors, move furniture back to its original location and please do not leave any food.

“The Bless this House” will start January 2026. The details will be discussed at the October Chapter Meeting. It was briefly discussed a day of cleaning will be on October 12, 2025, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Sorors are asked to assist with the upcoming clean up.

### **Physical and Mental Health**

Soror Nerissa Cato is the Chair for Physical and Mental Health and is looking forward to bringing ideas and suggestions. September is Suicide Prevention/Awareness Month.

### **Program Planning and Development**

Soror Dorothy Jackson is the Chair for Program Planning and Development. A brainstorming meeting was held on September 9, 2025, by Zoom to discuss leadership development for those in TAC.

It is scheduled for October 19, 2025, on Sunday from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Delta Service Center. This is geared for those who are interested in being potential officers to learn more about the positions.

### **Social Action**

Soror Melissa Williams is the Chair for Social Action. Social Action Committee Members met on August 26, 2025, by Zoom to discuss the upcoming strategies and missions for Social Action. Sub committees will be created to cover the five-point thrusts to incorporate all aspects within Social Action.

(B.O.O.T.S)

**B:** Political Awareness

**O:** Educational Development

**O:** Economic Development

**T:** International Awareness

**S:** Physical and Mental Health

- 18 Sorors attended Deputy Voter Registration Training. A voter registration table will be at the Standing on Business event. **(B)**
- Dr. Kendra Bircher planning to address the disparities of health with Brown/Black communities. **(O)**

- September 9, 2025, The Rise Economic Empowerment Series by Zoom and patronized Female Black owned businesses. **(O)**
- Partnering with International Awareness to explore environmental injustices and acts of racism in our communities. Will also work with them regarding Human Trafficking. **(T)**
- September 27, 2025, Hats Off to You, Breast Cancer Summit set at Green Acres Cross Walk from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm partnering with Community Service **(S)**
- Soror Shequita Daniels and Soror Melissa Williams will travel to Lufkin, Texas to serve on a panel to discuss mental health disparities and health issues.

All are invited to “Come on Over” to Social Action.

### **Technology**

Soror Ebony Mason is the Technology Chair. Soror Ebony Mason shared the National website will be down September 21-26th 2025 for updates. If you need anything to go before the date to pull the information.

The tech tip for September: The Google Calendar to be shared for the chapter events. This allows you to stay aware of the upcoming Zoom meetings and what is going on at the Delta Service Center.

### **Youth Initiatives/ Delta Gems and Academy**

Soror April Mims and Soror Christiana Guthrie are the Chairs for Delta Gems/Delta Academy. On August 7, 2025, they attended “School is Cool” and shared it was a great turnout. They are looking forward to participating in 2026.

September 7, 2025, was the participation orientation for Delta Gems/Delta Academy. September 24, 2025, at 6:00 pm will host the Zoom committee meeting. September 27, 2025, will host the first meeting with the youths. The meeting will be at the Delta Service Center starting at 10:00 am. Applications are still being accepted to join the youth initiatives program.

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

Links request for sponsorship for their event set for September 27, 2025.

The lowest sponsorship amount is listed at \$1000.00.

Soror Valita Waits shared the event is from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Soror Ora Taylor explained the ticket sales are limited to one hundred guests and the proceeds goes to support scholarships in our community.

President Tonia Bickham posed to the members on how they would like to support the Links organization. Soror Dorothy Jackson questioned how much is currently in the budget designated to donations? Currently there is \$750.00 allocated to spend until the

end of 2025. Soror Dorothy Jackson made the motion to donate \$100.00 to Links scholarship funds in support of their upcoming program. Soror Christiana Guthrie seconded. Soror Noella Cain offered a friendly amendment to purchase two tickets to allow two Sorors to attend on behalf of TAC. Soror Dorothy Jackson declined to accept the amendment. A vote to donate \$100.00 to the Links Scholarship was placed. It passed and \$100.00 will be donated towards their scholarship funds. President Tonia Bickham encouraged Sorors to attend and purchase their tickets before the upcoming Wednesday deadline.

The discussion to vote on the amended budget from Summer 2025 was provided and explained as the following: \$4800.00 has been added to the budget. President Tonia Bickham shared the original budget did not have enough allocated for the following: housing taxes, national convention expenses, collegiate connection and a \$1000.00 towards scholarships (May Week) was added. Soror Dorothy Jackson made the motion to accept the amended budget with the new allocation towards the above. Soror Noella Cain seconded. The motion passed.

### **Shout Outs**

- Soror Valerie Palmer retired after 27 years with Gregg County.
- Soror Kendra Tuck 15 years of service with Smith County.
- September Birthdays were recognized with a birthday song.
- October 27, 2025, Boulter Middle School in Tyler, Texas will host an event to show how students learn today. The event will be held at 6:00 pm in the cafeteria.
- The meeting closed at 11:40 am and the ritualistic closing followed.

Submitted by,

Collette Stec  
Recording Secretary  
cstec@ymail.com