

Omega Lamplighters **Handbook**



Welcome To
The Village
2024/2025

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Welcome Message

Thank you for your interest in the Omega Lamplighters, Inc. a young men's mentoring program. We are excited to welcome you to this year's induction class! You are embarking on a journey that will help cultivate and shape the rest of your life. Not only will you be exposed to so many things, challenged like never before. You're taking the first few steps on your rights of passage journey into manhood and we're so happy to be walking with you along the way. You're now part of our family and so includes all your family and friends. Our goal is that a relationship of guidance and mutual learning will result from these connections between Superheroes (staff members and volunteers).

We look forward to your participation in Omega Lamplighters mentoring program.

Together We'll Do The Impossible.

Royle King II

Psalm 119:105 – "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path"



Royle King II

About the **Omega Lamplighters**

The Origin

We pay homage to the late Sherman B. Whites and Dr. Richard J. Strachan whose mission to of cultivate academic excellence, service, and brotherhood to young men in 1995 in Miami, FL is apart of our DNA.

Omega Lamplighters

Omega Lamplighters, Incorporated (#OLL) is a 501c3 youth leadership organization for young men in grades Fourth through Twelfth founded in 2008 by Royle King II. Tuesday, September 15, 2008, Omega Lamplighters was founded by Royle King II in Tallahassee, FL. The program was the brainchild of King II who participated in two mentoring programs in his high school years. The Omega Sparks program created by the Theta Alpha Foundation (Dallas, TX) and the Dallas Fort Worth Association of Black Journalists Urban Journalism Boot Camp, a member chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists. From this experience King II said he would later create something that was as impactful in his life but with a twist and inclusion of fun and things he wanted to do more of as a teen mixed with the additional things, he knew he needed as a African American male in America.

About the Omega Lamplighters

Omega Lamplighters –Cont'd.

The program was piloted with 12 young men from the Big Bend area. Six from Wakulla H.S., two from Godby H.S., two from Lincoln H.S., one from Florida H.S. and one from Leon H.S. Simeon Nelson was appointed as the programs first Director. The first three and a half years set the foundation for the program and the formal in-duction process was birthed from these experiences leading to the first class of Omega Lamplighters. Sunday, February 15, 2012, the first official class, "Optimus 20", of Omega Lamplighters was inducted into the program. During this time, the official logo, colors and shield design was adopted. The Big Bend Area (Florida) chapters include Leon (Tallahassee), Wakulla, Gadsden and Jefferson County.



Mission & Vision

Mission

To prepare young men to be responsible citizens through a village of community mentors teaching perseverance, self-awareness, and confidence.



Vision

To be the premiere organization building a village that empowers & supports young men to achieve more than they thought possible.

About the **Omega Lamplighters**

Principles:

Leadership, Academics, Maturity, and Perseverance

Program Colors:

Purple and Silver

Alternate Colors:

Black, White, and Green

Nickname:

Light Team (#OLL)



Motto:

"Turning Good Young Men into GREAT Young Men. It Takes a Village."

About the Omega Lamplighters

MEET TALLAHASSEE'S FAVORITE, FUN-LOVING LION

Lightning The LAMP Lion!



When he's not in The Light House motivating and encouraging youth to believe in themselves and pursue their dreams, you can always find him bringing countless smiles to faces throughout Leon County and the surrounding area. You can also find him traveling with the #LightTeam, the official step team and creative arts program of the Omega Lamplighters. Whether it's helping provide food for needy families, teaching children the importance of character education and staying active, or bringing his humor, goofiness, and upbeat attitude to add to a special event, he's always looking for new adventures and new people to meet! Lightning was born for the sole purpose of encouraging youth to use the arts to manage any trauma or suppressed emotions.

Lightning's Profile

Home: The Light House

Age: A lion never tells

Birthday: September 15th

Hair: All over the place

Eye Color: Black

Shoe Size: Massive |

Dream Job (besides being the mascot for the Omega

Lamplighters): King of the Jungle

Favorites:

Color(s): Purple, silver, black, & green

Movie: The Lion King

TV Channel: Animal Planet & Discovery Channel

Book: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe

Song: "Rolling in the Deep New Orleans Bounce" (the Lamplighters Stroll Song)

Lamplighter: All of them

Jersey Number: 00

Position: Official Mascot

Height: Taller than your average lion

Weight: Heavy

College Degree: Majored in Mascotology with Minors in Selfie Science & Shenanigans

Meet
Lightning
The LAMP
Lion

Omega Lamplighters Creed

I am an Omega Lamplighter,
I represent myself, my family, and my
community.

Leadership is my motivation

Academics is my foundation,

Maturity is my inspiration, and

Perseverance is my dedication.

As an Omega Lamplighter, I pledge to

Serve my community,

Focus on my Academics,

See it through my struggles and

Be a bridge builder for others.

Omega Lamplighters Creed

Light of the World

– OLL Hymn

When the night falls through
And the angels cry
I will shine my lamp
As a son of Light

Through Fear and Greed
Through Anger and Death
I will see it through
Till my last breath

When the dark appears
To test my Might
I will shine my Lamp
As a son of Light

If the journey's tough
And my brothers fall
I will carry them
Through it all

As we strive to march
Each day and night
I will shine my Lamp
As a son of Light

**Click the link below
to listen to the hymn:**

[Light of the World](#)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be they name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

- **Matthew 6:9-13**

Don't Quit

By Edgar Albert Guest

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
when the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
when the funds are low and the debts are high,
and you want to smile but you have to sigh,
when care is pressing you down a bit - rest if you must, but don't
you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns.
As everyone of us sometimes learns.
And many a fellow turns about when he might have won
had he stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems slow - you may succeed
with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than it seems to a faint and faltering
man;
Often the struggler has given up when he might have captured
the victor's cup; and he learned too late when the night came
down,
how close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out - the silver tint of the clouds
of doubt, and you never can tell how close you are,
it may be near when it seems afar;
so stick to the fight when you're hardest hit - it's when things
seem worst, you must not quit.

See It Through

By Edgar Albert Guest

When you're up against a trouble,
Meet it squarely, face to face;
Lift your chin and set your shoulders,
Plant your feet and take a brace.
When it's vain to try to dodge it,
Do the best that you can do;
You may fail, but you may conquer,
See it through!

Black may be the clouds about you
And your future may seem grim,
But don't let your nerve desert you;
Keep yourself in fighting trim.
If the worst is bound to happen,
Spite of all that you can do,
Running from it will not save you,
See it through!

Even hope may seem but futile,
When with troubles you're beset,
But remember you are facing
Just what other men have met.
You may fail, but fall still fighting;
Don't give up, whate'er you do;
Eyes front, head high to the finish.
See it through!

Excuses

By Author Unknown

Excuses are tools of the incompetent.
They build monuments of nothingness.
Those who choose to use them
seldom amount to anything.



**EXCUSES ARE THE
TOOLS OF THE
INCOMPETENT.**

Better Fellow

Lamplighter Commands

Call: You Are

Response: GREAT
(2X)

Call: We Are

Response: KINGS
(2X)

Call: We on

Response: FIRE
(2X)

Call: Am I My Brother's Keeper

Response: Yes I Am
(2X)

Call: Ordinary or Exceptional

Response: EXCEPTIONAL
(2X)

Lamplighter Commands

Call: Why do we wear shades

Response: Because our future's
bright
(2X)

Call: Stand Tall

Response: Like the L
(2X)

Call: Strive High

Response: Like the A
(2X)

Call: Lead Wise

Response: Like the M
(2X)

Call: Never Quit

Response: Like the P
(2X)

Lamplighter Commands

Call: Who Gotchu

Response: I Gotchu
(2X)

Call: Light Team

Response: It's Time
(2X)

Call: Who You Wit

Response: Light Team
(2X)

Call: Who You Wit

Response: AYE L-A-M-P

Membership Handbook

Preamble

The Omega Lamplighters Code of Conduct serves as a foundation of values designed to develop and promote the principles upon which Omega Lamplighters was founded. Young men who join the Lamplighters voluntarily accept membership into an organization of young men dedicated to the advancement of the principles of Leadership, Academics, Maturity, and Perseverance through emphasis upon academic excellence, community service, and personal growth. Our standard of conduct brings an expectation higher than that of a "good person": and challenges our members to pursue "greatness" both personally and professionally.

The staff of the Omega Lamplighters expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with the organization's pursuit of its cardinal principles and national program objectives. **The integrity and brand of the organization depends upon each member's acceptance of individual responsibility and respect for the rights of others.**

The disciplinary rules described herein are to be considered the "moral minimum" within the group. This Member Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy are meant to provide strong guidance as a minimum standard with which all members should strive to exceed. CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS have been established by the Lamplighter staff to protect its mentoring purpose, to provide for safe and orderly activities and, where applicable, to safeguard the interests of the school community by asking members to uphold the rules and regulations of the schools that enroll Omega Lamplighter students.

Conduct for **Activities**

Community Service

All members of the Omega Lamplighters are required to participate, at minimum, one verifiable community service activity per month. Community service activities may include participating with the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., working at the school, volunteering at church, etc. Failure to participate in community service will be cause for dismissal from being eligible from participating in social activities, unless excused by the Omega Lamplighters staff. All community service activities will be governed by the Community Service Coordinator and tracked by the Omega Lamplighters.

Social Activities

The staff of the Omega Lamplighters must clear participation in special events, activities, trips, and/or programs as a Lamplighter. Members of the Omega Lamplighters will not be permitted to participate in any social activities if they do not attend meetings and community service, unless excused by the Omega Lamplighters staff.

Requirements for Maintaining Membership

In order to maintain an "active" status with the Omega Lamplighters, members must do all of the following:

- Maintain a minimum grade point average (G.P.A.) of 2.5.
- Adhere to dress attire for all mandatory events.
- Turn in report cards and progress reports to Omega Lamplighters staff.
- Participate in community service projects at least once per month with the Omega Lamplighters.
- Participate in quarterly church service with the Omega Lamplighters.

Conduct for Activities

Attire

Due to the fact the Omega Lamplighters have multiple events during the month, the attire for each event will be communicated for that event. However, unless otherwise stated by Omega Lamplighter staff the attire for the following events is as follows:

- **Dress 4 Success (1st Monday of each month)** – OLL Blazer, white or black dress shirt, black slacks, black belt, OLL tie, black dress shoes, and black or OLL dress socks
- **Dress 4 Success (3rd Monday of each month)** – OLL Polo and Khaki pants or shorts
- **OLL Workshops** – White or Black dress shirt, OLL tie, black slacks, black belt, black or OLL dress socks, and black dress shoes
- **Community Service** – Comfortable bottoms and any OLL T-shirt (Unless a specific T-shirt is stated by OLL Staff)
- **Manhood Mentoring** – Comfortable bottoms and any OLL T-shirt (Unless a specific T-shirt is stated by OLL Staff)

A belt must be worn anytime pants or shorts with belt loops are worn by Program participants.

When jeans are worn they CANNOT be “distressed” meaning there should be NO HOLES OR RIPS.



Conduct for Activities

General Code of Conduct

All participants of the Omega Lamplighters are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that represents their family, their community, and the OLL Program in a favorable manner, as well as demonstrates their understanding and commitment to abiding by the L.A.M.P. principles (Leadership, Academics, Maturity and Perserverance). They also reflect on the student's moral character, one of the prime considerations for admission to the program. The disciplinary action taken in each case of Code infractions are serious matters which may lead to suspension or expulsion from the Program.

The following violations will result in immediate suspension:

- Three infractions of academic rules and regulations set forth by the OLL Staff.
- Four infractions of the dress code during the Program year.
- Two or more tardies to mandatory events, or four absences without appropriate notification. (Appropriate OLL Staff should be notified of any absences 24 hours prior to the event.)
- Flagrant use of profanity and/or inappropriate sexual language or conversation during any Program or Organizational meeting/workshop, activity, in-town or out-of-town outing, or community-facing event.
- Repeated insulting or harassment (verbal, physical, or cyber) participants in any Program or Organizational meeting/workshop, activity, in-town or out-of-town outing, or community-facing event and/or OLL Staff members.
- Bullying another Lamplighter or another member of any Program within the Omega Lamplighters organization, at school, or within any other organization. Bullying is defined as "unwanted, repeated, and aggressive behavior, (physical, verbal, or cyber) that involves a real or perceived power imbalance"

Conduct for Activities

General Code of Conduct–Continued

- Participating in a physical/verbal altercation with members of Lamplighters, OLL Staff, schoolmates/classmates/peers, and/or any other groups not mentioned.
- Inappropriate photography or sharing of inappropriate photos, videos, or digital content of any person regardless of Organizational affiliation.
- Engaging in conduct or behavior that demeans or degrades another person. This includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - Making fun of someone who has an intellectual, physical, or mental disability
 - Making inappropriate gestures toward another Lamplighter, OLL Staff member, parent, or another organization in person or on social media
 - Using inappropriate language or slurs against or in reference to someone based on their sexual orientation
 - Forcing or coercing someone into actions or behaviors that undermine their self-worth (e.g. hazing, servitude, etc.)
- Use of alcohol and/or drugs (including marijuana) during Omega Lamplighter events, workshops, meetings, etc. Attending any Lamplighter meeting, event, workshop, community service, etc. intoxicated or under the influence of drugs is prohibited.

If a violation of any of the Code of Code is deemed too egregious or results in a significant safety risk for another Program participant/member, staff member, or member of Da Village, the offender(s) will be immediately expelled from the Program.

Conduct for **Activities**

Good Academic Standing

In order to maintain "Active" status with the Omega Lamplighter program, Lamplighters must maintain minimum grade point average (G.P.A.) of 2.5 per quarter (9 Weeks). A student whose G.P.A. falls below a 2.5 will be placed in "Academic suspension" status and be required to attend mandatory tutoring. A student who remains in "Academic suspension" status for three (3) consecutive quarters will be expelled from the program.

Code of Academic Conduct

The standards of academic conduct for Omega Lamplighters are distributed to all students to ensure that there is no gap between students' customs in the conduct of their behavior as they continue into the program and the standard of integrity expected of future members in the program. Furthermore, the community benefits from an explicit statement of standards of the program's academic integrity. However, all language is subject to varying interpretation, and if any question exists in the mind of any student as to proper conduct in any specific instance, the student is required to clarify the matter by appropriate inquiry or to adhere to the strictest possible interpretation.

Infractions of this Code are serious matters which may lead to expulsion, and/or suspension. They also reflect upon the moral character of the student, one of the prime considerations for admission to the program. The Omega Lamplighter program has a duty to reflect in a student's record proven instances of infractions regardless of the disciplinary action taken in the particular case.

Conduct for Activities

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Additionally, if a Lamplighter receives a "D" or an "F" in any subject he will have to attend mandatory tutoring until the grade is a "C" or above.

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Penalties

Defined

Probation

A member on probation shall do the following:

- Follow the limitations, restrictions, and terms of the probation
- Attend all required functions (missing a required function while under probation may result in indefinite suspension).

Suspension

A member who is suspended shall do the following:

- Surrender to the Program Director or his designee any of the Omega Lamplighter paraphernalia that was given as a conditional use for members for a defined period of time to be determined by the Advisory Council. Program paraphernalia will be returned when the conditions of the suspension have been completed.
- Not attend any social events, Program trips, extracurricular Program activities (e.g. stepping), or special events unless expressly permitted by the Program Director or his designee.
- Cease to identify himself with the Omega Lamplighters in any manner on or off campus until expressly permitted to do so by the Program Director or his designee.

Expulsion

A member who is expelled shall do the following:

- Surrender to the Program Director or his designee any of the Omega Lamplighter paraphernalia that was given as a conditional use.
- Not attend any meeting or events held by the Omega Lamplighters.
- Cease to identify himself with the Omega Lamplighters in any manner on or off campus.

NOTE: There are no refunds of dues or fees when a member is expelled.

Penalties

Defined

Peer Disciplinary Council

When violations of the Code of Conduct are reported to the program, they will be forwarded to the OLL Peer Disciplinary Council for review. The OLL Peer Disciplinary Council shall be comprised of the following elected OLL officers:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Chaplin
- Sergeant-at-Arms
- Senior Class Representative
- Induction Class Representative

The peer disciplinary council will review the infraction in accordance with the Code of Conduct and will recommend disciplinary action. The recommendation will be forwarded to the Assistant Program Director and Program Director for the final decision on discipline.



About Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. is the first international fraternal organization to be founded on the campus of a historically black college. The fraternity was founded on November 17, 1911 by three Howard University juniors, Edgar Amos Love, Oscar James Cooper, and Frank Coleman, and their faculty adviser, Dr. Ernest Everett Just.

From the initials of the Greek phrase meaning "**Friendship is Essential to the Soul**," the name Omega Psi Phi was derived. That phrase was selected as the motto.

Principles:

Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift

Colors:

Royal Purple and Old Gold

Motto:

Friendship is Essential to the Soul

Symbol:

Lamp



About Dr. Ernest Everett Just

- Ernest Everett Just was born in Charleston, South Carolina.
- Just received a Bachelor of Arts Degree, Dartmouth College (Phi Beta Kappa).
- Just was awarded the Spingarn Medal by the NAACP in 1915.
- Just received a Doctor of Philosophy Degree from the University of Chicago in 1916.
- Just became the 19th honoree in the U.S. Postal Service's Black Heritage Stamp Series on February 1, 1996.



About Dr. Oscar James Cooper

- Oscar James Cooper was born in Washington, D.C.
- Cooper graduated from M Street High School in Washington, D.C.
- Cooper received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Howard University in 1913.
- Cooper received a Doctor of Medicine Degree from Howard University in 1917.
- Cooper practiced medicine in Philadelphia for more than 50 years.



About Professor Frank Coleman

- Frank Coleman was born in Washington, D.C.
- Coleman graduated from M Street High School in Washington, D.C.
- Coleman received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Howard University in 1913.
- Cooper received a Master of Science Degree from the University of Chicago.
- Coleman served as Professor and Head of the Physics Department at Howard University.
- Coleman served as a U.S. Army Officer in World War I.



About Bishop Edgar Amos Love

- Edgar Amos Love was born in Harrisonburg, Virginia.
- Love received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Howard University in 1913.
- Love received a Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University in 1916.
- Love received a Bachelor of Sacred Theology Degree from Boston University in 1918.
- Love served as a U.S. Army Officer in World War I.



Meet Our Team



Royle King II



James Ezekiel



Keith Berry



Terence McCray

Contact Us

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at:

- **Phone**



+850-3297079

- **Message**



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