



ALPHA SIGMA PHI FRATERNITY
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SAFE TRANSPORTATION FOR CHAPTER FUNCTIONS

We suggest each local chapter and/or provisional chapter implement a policy eliminating the use of:

1. Members' vehicles for transportation of members and guests from fraternity functions.
2. Leased or rented vehicles operated by members to transport members and guests from fraternity functions.

We understand that each of the above referenced precautions is done with the best intentions; however, for numerous reasons, they have not produced the intended results. The only acceptable and safe alternative is using professional transportation services.

Outlined below is one of many examples of how a good intention can turn into a tragedy:

A local chapter of a national fraternity in Oregon held an off-premise social event. In an effort to provide a safe and fun environment, the chapter rented a 15-passenger van to transport members and guests to and from the location of the event. During one of the return trips, the sober member who was driving the van lost control and struck a telephone pole. The result was one passenger fatally injured and one seriously injured. Litigation soon followed and ultimately, a substantial settlement was paid out on the claim. From the description of the measures taken it would appear that everything was done correctly. What went wrong?

- The driver of the vehicle was unfamiliar with the van. Think about the times you jumped into a friend or family member's vehicle and searched for the light switch, the air conditioning controls, or how to dim the lights.
- The driver was not a professional driver; while he might have been sober, his passengers were not. Dealing with the distraction of passengers can be difficult, even for professional drivers.
- The General Liability Hired and Non-Owned Auto Coverage afforded under the international fraternity's liability policy was immediately put into play due to the rental company and driver's insurance having insufficient limits to pay the entire amount of damages.

This is just one of many examples. Because of situations like this, we are requesting only professional drivers and transportation be utilized. We recommend the following requirements for any selected vendor employed to provide transportation to members and guests:

- Commercial Auto Insurance that provides coverage for transporting people and property for a fee.
- Commercial Auto Insurance that provides, at a minimum, primary coverage of \$1,000,000.00 combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage.
- A professional driver who has a valid commercial vehicle operator's license in the state in which the driver is located.

The standards set forth should be addressed in a formal undergraduate chapter business meeting. By working together to consistently meet these standards, we will be providing safe transportation that all previous measures had failed to accomplish and, together, we will be reducing the exposure to our brothers, chapters, and our Fraternity.