

## **University Conduct System Authority and Jurisdiction DSA.SC.300.015**

**Summary/Purpose:** To describe the authority and jurisdiction of the University conduct system.

The authority and jurisdiction of the University conduct system is established pursuant to the delegation of legal authority by the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning. In Article IX, section (5) of the Bylaws and Policies of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, the Chancellor of The University of Mississippi is charged with the responsibility of maintaining appropriate standards of conduct for students and is authorized to expel, dismiss, suspend, and/or place limitations on continued attendance and/or levy penalties for disciplinary violations subject to procedures of due process. The Chancellor exercises this delegated authority through the University conduct system and other University processes.

Student Conduct Rules and Regulations and the jurisdiction of the University conduct system apply to conduct that occurs on University premises, at University sponsored or associated events or activities, and to off-campus conduct that has institutional implications. The Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct will determine whether the University conduct system has jurisdiction to apply the student conduct rules and regulations occurring off campus on a case by case basis. This determination is final. When determining whether the University has jurisdiction to address off-campus student conduct, the following will be considered:

- Whether the student was acting as a representative of the University;
- Whether the student was traveling to or from campus;
- The degree of violence that occurred;
- Injuries to students or others;
- The extent of danger posed to the University community;
- Whether the conduct was directed at another member of the University community;
- Whether a student organization was involved;
- Whether the incident could result in a felony charge;
- Whether weapons, drugs, or alcohol were involved;
- The date of the incident;
- The conduct history of student(s) involved;
- The proximity to campus;
- Whether the student lives on campus; and/or
- The relationship the University has with the student at the time of the alleged violation.

All students are responsible for their conduct from the time of application of admission through the actual awarding of a degree, even though conduct may occur between terms of actual enrollment and even if the conduct is not discovered until after a degree is awarded.

## The University of Mississippi

The University conduct system is designed to further the University's educational mission. The conduct system is neither comparable to nor a substitute for any federal, state, or local criminal or civil court system. Even if a violation of University policy subjects a student or organization to criminal or civil liability, the determination of whether University policy was violated will be made on the basis of a preponderance of the evidence (whether it was more likely than not that a violation occurred). Any criminal or civil proceeding may use a different or higher standard of proof. It is important for students to realize that each judicial proceeding occurs on a separate track, and it is not necessary for any campus process to be delayed until off-campus proceedings are completed.