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C225 – White

Final Story

Dec. 14th, 2018

Gray areas in Greek life

Over 25 Indiana University Police Department crime reports.

Twenty Greek organizations involved.

Only three received sanctions.

The catch?

Seventeen organizations who were involved in crime did not. Furthermore, there are five other organizations that received restrictions and they nowhere to be found in the crime log.

This all only happened in *one* semester.

Because there are discrepancies between what organizations have sanctions and those found in the crime log, are there more issues occurring in the Greek community than are made publicly known?

“Obviously there are more prohibited activities happening in these places if organizations are receiving some sort of restriction,” IU sophomore Shira Ketayi said. “As a member of the community, I do not feel like we are given enough details to be aware of what is going on.”

Students have access to a daily crime log made available from IUPD. Under the Jeanne Clery Act, IUPD is required to maintain and make available a daily crime log. According to the

act, they may withhold any details of the crime log if the disclosure is prohibited by law, would jeopardize the confidentiality or safety of an individual, would jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation, cause a suspect to flee, or would result in the destruction of evidence.

“The log is helpful, but it is difficult to look through,” Ketayi said. “Upon reading the reports, it was the first time I heard about certain incidents.”

Student Life and Learning, a division of Student Affairs, oversees fraternity and sorority life. On their website, they maintain and share a list of organizations that are subject to discipline. The report provides little detail other than what kind of sanction an organization has received.

Take Delta Sigma Phi for example. The report states that they were suspended by their national headquarters in October. This is the most serious consequence an organization can receive, yet there is no detail as to what occurred except for one word: “hazing.”

Not only is this a violation of the University’s Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct, it is a violation of Indiana State Title 35 Article 4 which states that hazing is illegal. In this scenario, nothing was reported in the crime log. Although, something must have occurred in order for them to be suspended from hazing.

“Student Life and Learning does their best keep us updated provide us with as much detail as possible on unsafe situations,” Risk Manager of Alpha Xi Delta Mariah Truitt said. “But between IUPD and SLL, there is still some gray area which makes it difficult for me to ensure the safety of our members.”

What can be done to keep everyone more alert and safe?

“I think people need to be made aware of unsafe situations occurring not only within the Greek community, but outside as well,” Shira Ketayi said. “I just think overall students should have an easier way to find out about such incidents, that way we can avoid places where it might be unsafe.”

SOURCES

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Indiana University Police Department Clery Act Crime Log Report (**called and requested material from August 2018-September 2018 through Shari McMasters smcmast@iu.edu*)

<https://iupd.indiana.edu/clery/crimelogs/index.html>

Indiana University Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct

<http://studentcode.iu.edu/responsibilities/on-campus-personal.html>

2016 Indiana Code Title 35 <http://iga.in.gov/legislative/laws/2016/ic/titles/035/>