



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Sigma Kappa National Headquarters
info@sigmakappa.org

Closure of Gamma Zeta Chapter at Northern Illinois University

Sigma Kappa Sorority is greatly disappointed to announce our Gamma Zeta Chapter at Northern Illinois University (NIU) has been suspended and placed on a three-year loss of student organization recognition from the university. This news resulted in a national council vote to place the chapter on dormant status, effective June 8, 2018.

The decision was the result of student conduct code violations which occurred in fall of 2017. Sigma Kappa aided the university in the investigation and participated in the adjudication process throughout the spring term.

Sigma Kappa provided ongoing support to the chapter throughout the process. Intentional conversations were held related to commitment, because it continues to be the Sorority's stance that our members remain committed to Sigma Kappa's values and uphold university policies.

The university's confirmation of a three-year loss of recognition ended a two-part appeal process precipitated by Gamma Zeta Chapter members' vote to appeal the sanctions imposed by NIU. National council and the corporation board assisted with the appeal.

National President **Sara Seely Chacon**, *Gamma Alpha*, expressed sadness at the final decision, but said the Sorority supported the university's right to arrive at this resolution.

"This outcome serves as a reminder that it is imperative for our members to uphold the promise to exemplify Sigma Kappa's values and to follow established policies. Failure to do so can result in actions against the chapter, sometimes beyond our organization's control. We are committed to working closely with the chapter members and alumnae during this difficult time."

Who we are *Sigma Kappa Sorority, founded in 1874, is a national not-for-profit organization of more than 172,000 women dedicated to excellence in academics, personal character, and service to society. The purpose of Sigma Kappa Sorority is to "provide women lifelong opportunities and support for social, intellectual, and spiritual development by bringing women together to positively impact our communities."*

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