#### **INFORMATIONAL LINKS:**

Police, non-emergency 333-8911 Police, Fire, Ambulance,

EMERGENCY 911

Office of the

Dean of Students 333-0050 Emergency Dean (24/7) 333-0050

http://www.odos.uiuc.edu/

Interfraternity Council 333-7062 http://www.illiniifc.com/

Panhellenic Council 333-7062 http:www.illiniphc.com/

Student Legal Service 333-9053 http://www.odos.uiuc.edu/sls



STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE 324 Illini Union

Office Open:

8:30am-Noon, 1-4:30pm http://www.odos.uiuc.edu/sls

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The information contained herein is <u>not</u> intended as a substitute for legal advice.

Students who are confronted with legal problems or who need specific advice are encouraged to seek assistance from a licensed attorney at Student Legal Service.



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STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE

# HAZING

Tt's not "just a Greek thing"!



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### **Hazing is:**

According to Illinois law, a person commits hazing by knowingly requiring another person in any educational institution to perform an act for the purpose of joining any organization connected with that institution, if such act results in bodily harm to anyone.

The University of Illinois defines hazing as an act that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of any person OR that defaces, destroys, or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in, any group or organization. It is obviously a much broader definition than state law.

# **Penalties for Hazing:**

Under Illinois law, the penalty for hazing is up to 364 days incarceration and up to a \$2,500.00 fine. Should hazing result in gross bodily harm or death, the penalty increases to 1 to 3 years imprisonment and up to a \$25,000.00 fine.

In Illinois, hazing is not a commonly charged offense. For conduct resulting in bodily harm or death, charges relating to battery or homicide are much more likely to be brought. These can, of course, have much more serious consequences.

Hazing activities can result in dismissal from the University of Illinois. Criminal charges need not have been brought for the University to take



action, as the disciplinary process is completely independent of the court system.

While organizations which sponsor or condone hazing may be held responsible, individuals

who participate in hazing are not protected by such organizational responsibility, and can and will be treated as individual offenders. Being caught in the "pack mentality" does not excuse personal behavior when it comes to hazing.

#### **Examples of Hazing:**

The U of I Interfraternity Council has set forth some examples of hazing. They include, but are certainly not limited to, the following:

- alcohol use,
- paddling,
- excessive fatigue,
- scavenger hunts,
- road trips,
- conspicuous apparel, and
- humiliating activities.



Many of them are clearly not likely to result in bodily harm of any sort, but are simply not wholesome or uplifting standards of behavior.

# What Do I Do If I Have Been Subjected to Hazing?

No one deserves to be hazed. Think about it: Why would you want to be included in any group that behaves this way?

If you have been the victim of hazing, you should call the Dean of Students' office (333-0050) and report it.

If your hazing experience was fraternity related, the Interfraternity Council should also be informed (333-7062).

Finally you should report such activity to the police department for investigation

Emergency 911 Non-emergency 333-8911

This is imperative if any physical trauma occurred as a result of hazing.

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