THE CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL
OF VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

PREAMBLE

We, the Interfraternity Council, being the supreme body of jurisdiction over the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) member fraternities, Fraternity Leadership Association (FLA) member fraternities, and all other fraternities not affiliated with an existing council shall promote the interests of fraternities in general, shall ensure cooperation between fraternities and the University, and shall insure cooperation among the different fraternities on campus.

ARTICLE I

NAME

This organization shall be known as the Interfraternity Council (IFC) of Vanderbilt University.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be to develop and maintain fraternity life and interfraternity relationships, and in doing so to:

A. Promote excellence in scholarship as basic to intellectual achievement

B. Act in conjunction with member fraternities and the University to promote and maintain high social and moral standards

C. Provide programs and services to member fraternities

D. Act as a liaison between member fraternities and other student organizations, the student body, the faculty, and the administration of this University

E. Foster the development of a positive relationship between the community and member fraternities

F. Institute policies and rules that will further the pursuit of these such stated objectives

G. Follow such rules established by said Council so as not to violate the sovereignty, rights, and privileges of member fraternities

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ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1
All undergraduate NIC, FLA and other fraternity chapters recognized by the University that are not members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council may be eligible for membership on this Council.

Section 2
Each fraternity shall be represented by the president or a representative of their chapter and is responsible for having one person attend all meetings. If the president is unable to attend a particular meeting of the Council the next ranking officer should attend for that fraternity and shall serve as the voting member.

Section 3
IFC Executive Council officers shall not be allowed to represent their fraternities in place of an absent president or IFC representative, or vote on behalf of their chapter.

Section 4
Any local fraternity, colony or new chapter of a national fraternity will be admitted as a full member into said Council following official application and acceptance to the University as a functioning organization. However, the colony president can petition to have a vote at IFC meetings.

Section 5
No fraternity may resign from the Council. If a fraternity resigns from the Council, the Council shall automatically recommend that the University revoke its charter.

ARTICLE IV

AUTHORITY

This Council shall have the authority to legislate on any matter of common interest to its member chapters and to adjudicate any matter set forth under the provisions of the Judicial Policy. In other words, the Council has the authority to enforce party patrol, recruitment violations, scholarship standards, hazing, alcohol violations, trash violations, and other matters explained in the judicial section.

ARTICLE V

TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS

A quorum for the transaction of any business by the Council shall consist of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members of the Council. Concurrence by a simple majority of the quorum shall be required for making any action of the Council binding upon the member fraternities.

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS/ELECTIONS

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Sections 1
There shall be an Executive Council comprised of eight (8) positions: the President, Executive Vice President, Attorney General, Vice President of Recruitment, Vice President of New Member Development, Vice President of Finance and Records, Vice President of Programming, Vice President of Housing.

Section 2
Each elected officer of the Council shall hold office for one calendar year from the date of officer turnover unless he is removed from office or he has been appointed to fill a vacancy.

Section 3
Elections shall take place at the end of the fall semester. Turnover will occur during the first two weeks of the spring semester.

Section 4
Vacancies shall be filled by the following process: Nominations are to be given from the floor during an IFC meeting and voted on by the Fraternity Presidents following the same procedures as outlined in Article IV of the Bylaws.

Section 5
Officers of this Executive Council shall:
1) Direct the activities of the Council
2) Be governed by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Council
3) Not at any time make a decision or take action which is to the benefit of his own fraternity
4) Maintain confidentiality of all judicial investigations and other fraternity matters.
5) Be subject to an investigation if the specific duties described in Article VI Section 6 are not fulfilled or if said official exceeds the limits of his responsibility and/or authority
6) IFC executive officers will be expected to fulfill all duties of office, including a mandatory attendance policy. Each officer is permitted to miss three (3) Executive Council or Regular meetings/semester, however only one (1) of those three (3) may be the meeting with the Presidents.
7) Maintain an Officer Notebook that can be passed down during their transition each year.
8) Support chapters in their accomplishment of the VU Fraternity and Sorority Standards throughout the year.

Section 6: Officers
1) The President of the Council shall:
   a) Have overall responsibility for the maintenance of this Council.
   b) Call and preside over all meetings of this Council and the Executive Committee.
   c) Serve as an ex-officio officer of all Council committees, including but not limited to the IFC Judicial committee.
   d) Maintain a complete and up-to-date notebook that will contain a copy of the current Constitution, By-Laws, and policies; current correspondence and materials received from various University officials and organizations; and minutes from all Council meetings during the academic year.

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e) Promote the abidance of all rules and recommendations made by said Council.
f) Oversee the transition of responsibilities to the newly elected Executive Council.
g) Represent the Interfraternity Council on the Greek Life Excellence Review Board.
h) Attend all meetings, events, programs, retreats, and conferences in serving as an IFC or Vanderbilt IFC Executive Board member liaison unless otherwise agreed with the Director of Greek Life and/or IFC advisor.
i) Meet with the Director of Greek Life Office and/or IFC advisor once a week or as scheduled for one on one meetings.
j) Serve as a representative for the president equivalent of each chapter and retain availability to meet with them accordingly.
k) Additional duties as assigned through the course of position tenure.

2) The Executive Vice President shall:
a) Perform all duties of the President in his absence, inability to serve, or when deemed necessary by either the President or the Greek Advisor.
b) Serve as a member of the IFC Judicial Team, issuing charges and sanctions to chapters that have violated IFC and/or University policy.
c) Be involved in fraternity investigations.
d) Assist chapters in meeting the Risk Management Standard in the VU Fraternity and Sorority Standards.
e) Oversees any business pertaining to voting and elections.
f) Attend all meetings, events, programs, retreats, and conferences in serving as an IFC or Vanderbilt IFC Executive Board member liaison unless otherwise agreed with the Director of Greek Life and/or IFC advisor.
g) Meet with the Director of Greek Life Office and/or IFC advisor once a week or as scheduled for one on one meetings.
h) Serve as a representative for the vice president equivalent of each chapter and retain availability to meet with them accordingly.
i) Additional duties as assigned through the course of position tenure.

3) The Attorney General shall:
a) Meet with the Director of the Office of Student Conduct once a week to discuss possible judicial infractions stated in the by-laws.
b) Serve as a member of the IFC Judicial Team, issuing charges and sanctions to chapters that have violated IFC and/or University policy.
c) Assist in investigations of infractions.
d) Report to IFC on the current problems and probations.
e) Assist chapters in meeting the Risk Management Standard in the VU Fraternity and Sorority Standards.
f) Collect guest lists and sign in sheets for all IFC Fraternity social events.
g) Schedule Party Patrol rounds for IFC.
h) Meet with the Director of Greek Life Office and/or IFC advisor once a week or as scheduled for one on one meetings.
i) Attend all meetings, events, programs, retreats, and conferences in serving as an IFC or Vanderbilt IFC Executive Board member liaison unless otherwise agreed with the Director of Greek Life and/or IFC advisor.
j) Serve as a representative for the risk manager or judicial equivalent of each chapter and retain availability to meet with them accordingly.

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k) Additional duties as assigned through the course of position tenure.

4) The Vice President of Recruitment shall:
   a) Be responsible for recruitment registration and the organized structure of fall
      and spring formal recruitment including but not limited to Open Dores,
      community service opportunities, leadership, risk management, and more.
   b) Plan workshops and regular meetings with fraternity recruitment chairman
      throughout the year.
   c) Promote all recruitment rules and recommendations made by said Council.
   d) Maintain and distribute recruitment rules to all fraternity presidents, fraternity
      recruitment chairman and Executive Committee officers.
   e) Oversee all fraternity Recruitment Chairmen including holding a reoccurring
      meeting with the recruitment chairmen from the chapters.
   f) Meet with the Director of Greek Life Office and/or IFC advisor once a week or
      as scheduled for one on one meetings.
   g) Attend all meetings, events, programs, retreats, and conferences in serving as
      an IFC or Vanderbilt IFC Executive Board member liaison unless otherwise
      agreed with the Director of Greek Life and/or IFC advisor.
   h) Serve as a representative for the recruitment chair equivalent of each chapter
      and retain availability to meet with them accordingly.
   i) Additional duties as assigned through the course of position tenure.

5) The Vice President of Member Development shall:
   a) Assist chapters in meeting the Education Standard in the VU Fraternity and
      Sorority Standards.
   b) Assist chapters in meeting the Leadership Standard in the VU Fraternity and
      Sorority Standards.
   c) Coordinate program(s) for fraternity and sorority new members (ex. Greek
      Training Camp) with the Panhellenic New Member Educator.
   d) Coordinate training program for fraternity New Member Educators.
   e) Coordinate the submission and approval of all fraternity new member
      education programs.
   f) Meet regularly with the Greek Advisor Monitor the academic progress and
      achievement of fraternity New Members/Associates during their New Member
      education period.
   g) Attend all meetings, events, programs, retreats, and conferences in serving as
      an IFC or Vanderbilt IFC Executive Board member liaison unless otherwise
      agreed with the Director of Greek Life and/or IFC advisor.
   h) Meet with the Director of Greek Life Office and/or IFC advisor once a week or
      as scheduled for one on one meetings to discuss the current academic status of
      member fraternities and individual fraternity members.
   i) Serve as a representative for the new member educator equivalent of each
      chapter and retain availability to meet with them accordingly.
   j) Additional duties as assigned through the course of position tenure.

6) The Vice President of Finance and Records shall:

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7) The Vice President of Programming shall:
   a) Assist chapters in meeting the Campus Involvement Standard in the VU Fraternity and Sorority Standards.
   b) Coordinate Greek-wide activities with NPHC and the Panhellenic Activities Chair.
   c) Meet with the Community Affairs Committee of SGA on a monthly basis.
   d) Assist chapters in meeting the Chapter Operations Standard in the VU Fraternity and Sorority Standards as it relates to website development and alumni involvement.
   e) Be responsible for all publicity of Council events and activities including but not limited to social media, newsletters, website, etc.
   f) Facilitate other opportunities to publicize activities and accomplishments of the Greek community both within and outside Vanderbilt.
   g) Assist chapters in meeting the Community Service/Philanthropy Standard in the VU Fraternity and Sorority Standards.
   h) Meet with the Philanthropy/Community Service chairs at least once a semester to discuss possible projects and connect them with the Office of Active Citizenship and Service.
   i) Develop and implement Greek community wide community service programs.
   j) Attend all meetings, events, programs, retreats, and conferences in serving as an IFC or Vanderbilt IFC Executive Board member liaison unless otherwise agreed with the Director of Greek Life and/or IFC advisor.
   k) Additional duties as assigned through the course of position tenure.

8) Vice President of Housing

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a) Assist chapters in meeting the Chapter Operations Standard in the VU Fraternity and Sorority Standards as it relates to fraternity housing.
b) Serve as a representative for all fraternity house managers and retain availability to meet with them accordingly.
c) In conjunction with Vanderbilt University, publish on an annual basis the “Greek Facility Management Program Guidelines.”
d) Conduct routine tours of the fraternity houses.
e) Assist with Plant Operations event coordinating for fraternity events and maintenance program.
f) Meet with the Director of Greek Life Office and/or IFC advisor once a week or as scheduled for one on one meetings.
g) Attend all meetings, events, programs, retreats, and conferences in serving as an IFC or Vanderbilt IFC Executive Board member liaison unless otherwise agreed with the Director of Greek Life and/or IFC advisor.

ARTICLE VII

MEETINGS

Section 1
Regular meetings of the Council shall be held weekly during the regular school term and shall be open to all Council members and any invited guests.

Section 2
All special meetings shall be called at the discretion of the Executive Council and shall be open to all Council members and any invited guests.

Section 3: Order of Business
A. Regular Meetings: 1) Roll Call, 2) Reading of the minutes and action thereon, 3) Officers and Committee Reports, 4) Unfinished Business, 5) New Business, 6) Adjournment.
B. Special Meetings: 1) Roll Call, 2) Statement of the Special Business, 3) Action thereon, 4) Adjournment.

ARTICLE VIII

IMPEACHMENT AND EXPULSION

Section 1
Any officer of the Council may be impeached or removed from office for continual failure to fulfill the responsibilities of his office as described in Article VI Section 5, for accepting bribes while acting as an officer of said Council, if his grades fall below the requirement specified in Article IV, Section 10 of the By-Laws to be eligible for office, or if he is placed on disciplinary probation by the University.

Section 2
A petition of impeachment signed by at least one-half (nine presidents) of the voting representatives shall be placed into the hands of the IFC President or Vice President who shall present it to the Council at a regular meeting. At the following
meeting the trial shall take place during which the officer in question will have the opportunity to rebut the charges against him. The Vice President shall preside if the President is on trial. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total membership of the Council (Presidents and IFC Executive Council members) shall be required for expulsion.

**ARTICLE IX**

**AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to this Constitution shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the IFC Executive Council and Presidents, and must be approved at an IFC meeting.

**ARTICLE X**

**RATIFICATION**

This Constitution shall become effective when ratified by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Presidents of the fraternities. As of the date of the ratification of the Constitution, any and all of the previous Constitution and By-Laws will be null and void.
BY-LAWS OF THE
INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL OF VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

ARTICLE I

ADDITIONS

The Council shall adopt a proposed By-Law, as it deems necessary and proper for the effective operation of the Council in accordance with the Constitution by a simple majority vote of Presidents at one meeting of this Council.

ARTICLE II

FEES

Section 1
All member fraternities are required to pay IFC dues of ten dollars per active member per semester due within the first month of regularly scheduled Council meetings.

Section 2
Each member fraternity is required to pay an assessment of twenty dollars ($20) per new member that accepts a formal bid in either the Fall or the Spring semester.

Section 3
Failure to meet these deadlines will result in social probation until the Treasurer receives the payment.

ARTICLE III

OFFICER ELECTIONS

Section 1
Prospective candidates shall complete and submit a standard IFC Candidate Form no later than one week prior to the election. Submission of an IFC Candidate Form does not necessitate the nomination of the candidate. Nominations for any or all of the offices will be accepted on or off the floor given that an IFC Candidate Form has been submitted one week prior. Candidates can only be nominated by fraternity president or the next ranking fraternity officer.

Section 2
All voting shall be done by secret ballot.

Section 3
No proxy votes or absentee voting is permissible. If the fraternity president or another representative is not in attendance at officer elections, the fraternity forfeits its voting privilege.

Section 4
Each candidate will be given an opportunity to make a brief statement and shall have the option of having another person present to deliver a seconding statement. No members of the Executive Council shall give a seconding speech for any candidate.

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Section 6

Any candidate who does not win their given election can run for any two positions which follow. A total of three given elections per candidate shall not be exceeded.

Section 7

All candidates for the Office of President, Vice President, and Attorney General shall have completed their sophomore year. All other candidates shall be undergraduate active fraternity men from any class.

Section 8

All candidates must be a member of an officially recognized IFC fraternity in order to be eligible to run for office.

Section 9

If the fraternity of an elected IFC office has its official University recognition terminated or has its charter revoked by its national office while said official is in office, he must resign immediately. This vacancy will be dealt with in the manner described in Article VI, Section 4 of the Constitution.

Section 10

All candidates must have a minimum G.P.A. of 2.5 and not be on academic or disciplinary probation in order to run for office.

Section 11

Candidates shall be elected by a majority vote. If one candidate does not receive a majority vote, the candidates or candidate with the lowest number of votes will be eliminated in the subsequent run-off. In the event of a tie, the Executive Council will vote. In the event of a tie of the Executive Council, the IFC President’s vote will signify the winner.

Section 12

No member of the Executive Council shall hold the office of President, Vice President, Social Chairman, New Member Educator, Recruitment Chairman, House Manager, or Treasurer (or any position equivalent) within his own fraternity. It is allowable for an officer to have held such a position as long as the end of his term in that position ends before the term of his Executive Council position begins. No member of the Executive Council can live in their fraternity house. Exceptions can be considered and should be done in writing to the IFC President for consideration. It would be expected that any candidate for IFC step down from their position within their fraternity in order to fulfill the IFC responsibilities.

Section 13

Newly elected officers will be installed at the next regularly scheduled Council meeting after the conclusion of the officer elections. Both outgoing and incoming Executive Council officers will be in attendance at that meeting as the official transition will be the predominant item of business at said meeting.

Section 14

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Each newly elected officer is required to meet the outgoing official of the same position between the time of the election and the meeting of transition and attend all transition events, meetings, and retreats.

ARTICLE IV

AMPLIFICATION POLICY

Section 1
Requests for sound amplifiers, outdoor public address systems, or outside bands must be approved through the Special Event Registration Meeting and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Life at least two weeks before the proposed activity. Outside amplification for an approved event can go until 1 AM Friday and Saturday nights.

Section 2
Sound amplifiers may not be used in the vicinity of classroom buildings, the library, or the hospital. However, after proper approval, they may be used with activities that do not interfere with scheduled academic or administrative activities.

Section 3
Individual groups having parties primarily for the benefit of the group or at an informal recruitment function may be granted authorization for afternoon or twilight concerts or events.

Section 4
Sound amplifiers placed in the doorway or windows of a fraternity house do not require permission from the Special Event Registration Meeting and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Life. This can be done between the hours of 4 PM and 8 PM on Fridays along with 12 Noon to 8 PM on Saturdays. However, a moderate level of volume must be maintained during these hours.

Section 7
No amplification can disturb the peace and comfort of the neighboring inhabitants of any adjacent property. Any incident of this occurring, without specific permission from the Special Event Registration Meeting or Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Life, shall be considered a violation of this policy and subject to disciplinary action.

ARTICLE V

ALCOHOL AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Section 1
This Council prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by any undergraduate fraternity active at any event, both on and off campus, which is sponsored by a member fraternity.

Section 2
The member fraternity is directly responsible for any personal injuries or property damages resulting from misconduct committed by underage, intoxicated
students if said fraternity has unlawfully provided such an individual with the alcoholic beverages.

Section 3
Member fraternities must abide by the University and IFC/Panhellenic Alcohol Policy (attached). The officers of member fraternities are ultimately responsible for compliance with these policies.

ARTICLE VI

HAZING

Section 1
This Council strictly prohibits hazing. Any failures to comply with this policy will result in disciplinary action. Disciplinary measures shall follow the protocol outlined in the IFC Judicial Policy.

Section 2
State law requires each college and University in Tennessee to adopt a policy prohibiting hazing. Hazing is defined in the law as “any intentional or reckless act in Tennessee on or off the property of any [college or University] by one (1) student acting alone or with others which is directed against any other student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of that student, or which induces or coerces a student to endanger his or her mental or physical health or safety. ‘Hazing’ does not include customary athletic events or similar contests or competitions, and is limited to those actions taken and situations created in connection with initiation into or affiliation with any organization.”

While including the statutory limitations of hazing above (i.e., student acts directed at students on or off campus), the University expands its definition of hazing to include any act that may produce, or is intended to produce, mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule; or any acts that are humiliating, intimidating, or demeaning, or that endangers the health and safety of another person. Such acts include – but are not limited to – paddling in any form; inducement of excessive fatigue, or physical or psychological shocks; acts of personal servitude; implementing or participation in treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, or road trips that are not approved by a University department; publicly wearing apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; drinking games; late work sessions and other obligations which interfere with scholastic purposes of the organization; and any other activity inconsistent with the purposes of the organization’s constitution, by-laws, standing rules and policies, or University policy.

Students are subject to federal, state and local laws, and policies and regulations of the University.

Section 3
This policy applies to all New Member, active, and alumni members of the fraternity.

Section 4
The IFC Executive Council reserves the right to conduct hazing rounds to ensure that University and IFC policy is being followed.
ARTICLE VII

RECRUITMENT POLICY

Section 1
Any undergraduate male with a GPA of 2.5 or above, carrying at least 12 hours during the fall semester can participate in the recruitment process. He may not however be on disciplinary probation at the time a bid is given. This cannot be appealed. If the student does not meet one or more of the requirements, he may petition IFC to permit him to participate in the recruitment process or accept a bid to a fraternity.

Section 2
Interfraternity Council Membership Cards are to be turned into the Office of Greek Life at the end of formal recruitment.

Section 3
Fraternities will observe a dry recruitment. No buying for or supplying alcohol to freshmen or to potential new members in any class. Actives will not use personal or chapter funds for this purpose.

Section 4
Transportation of rushees to off-campus establishments where alcohol is the predominant reason for its existence and which require patrons to be twenty-one (21) years of age is prohibited.

Section 5
Fraternity members may not invite freshman nor may they attend any activity with alcohol during Common VU Week (Orientation).

Section 6
Fraternities must register at least two (2) alcohol free recruitment events during the fall semester other than those scheduled by IFC.

Section 7
All potential new members must register with IFC and the Office of Greek Life prior to joining a fraternity. Registration cards and $20 payment should be received at least one week prior to the New Member education period.

Section 8
Fraternity members may not pressure rushees to participate in the recruitment process for their fraternity and should be encouraged to visit multiple fraternities throughout the recruitment process.

ARTICLE VIII

FRATERNITY HOUSING

Section 1
IFC member fraternities will follow Vanderbilt University policies with regards to housing and build parties.
Section 2
In order to maintain a certain degree of cleanliness of the fraternity houses, all organizations will be required to keep their Houses in respectable condition at all times. This includes, but is not limited to, placing all trash in receptacles at the end of the night, both inside and outside the house.

Each Friday morning, the Area Maintenance Supervisor, Greek Advisor, and/or IFC VP of Housing officer tour the Houses. If a fraternity does not maintain a level of cleanliness, the IFC VP of Housing officer reserves the right to levy a fine on the fraternity.

Section 3
In the planning and set-up of a ‘build’ party, a Fraternity must adhere to the policies published by the IFC VP of Programming/Housing Officer in conjunction with the Metro Fire Marshall. These policies dictate what decorations or arrangements can be included at a party, allowing for the highest degree of safety in the event of an emergency.

Should an organization break any of the rules in the policy, those decorations or arrangements will be promptly removed and/or a fine may be levied against the Fraternity. If the problems are of a serious nature, the party may be jeopardized.

ARTICLE IX
EXPANSION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Interfraternity Council considers the potential demise and reorganization of existing chapters or any interest in establishing a new fraternity to be normal events in the continuing evolution of a fraternity system. Such events do not happen frequently or regularly; nevertheless, their management is critical to the overall stability and constructive development of the system.

Proposals for the establishment of additional fraternities and sororities may be made to or initiated by members of the Interfraternity Council. If approved by the Interfraternity Council, the proposal is forwarded to the Greek Advisors for consideration. Upon the recommendations of the councils, the Greek Advisors, and the Vice Chancellor for Student Life or his designee, the University may invite a national organization to colonize a new fraternity or sorority.

ARTICLE X
VU FRATERNITY AND SORORITY STANDARDS

The Interfraternity Council recognizes the need for an established set of standards while at the same time maintaining autonomy to self govern the affairs of the council. This partnership between the IFC and Vanderbilt University will allow the member fraternities to maintain a consistently high level of achievement over a long period of time. The IFC will continue to play a critical role in the support of fraternities by providing educational opportunities and measures of accountability through the judicial process. The Interfraternity Council and its officers will support member fraternities in their effort to meet and exceed the VU Fraternity and Sorority Standards by working directly with chapter officers throughout the year.

ARTICLE XI
OTHER POLICIES

Section 1
IFC/Panhellenic Alcohol Policy (attached)

Section 2
IFC Judicial Policy (attached)