**Various Methods to Support Collection on Accounts**

There are various types of rules and regulations used by chapters to stimulate collection of dues from delinquent members. The Finance Committee and/or the Treasurer should review the ideas below and determine which would work best for the chapter.

Rules & Regulations to Consider:

* Read the names of those who are financially delinquent at an active chapter meeting.
* Delinquent members must appear before the Finance Committee to discuss their delinquency and plan of action to make payment.
* Assess fines for delinquent members and post their names on a bulletin board.
	+ Fines are typically based on a per diem, percentage of the delinquent balance, or flat rate basis.
* Deny delinquent members meals without refund.
* Deny delinquent members the right to vote at chapter meetings.
* Deny delinquent members the right to attend social events.
* Advise the parents or guardians of delinquent members immediately by email.
* Refer delinquent accounts to the house corporation, chapter advisor, or to a collection agency for action.
* Request that the university or college withhold the grades of such members.
	+ Note: Some institutions will do this, and others have policies against it.
* Propose the expulsion of such members from the fraternity by invoking the Laws of Acacia: Section I, Article 1906.
* Require a cash deposit of a specific amount at the beginning of each school year for any member who is delinquent.
* Require payment of the first and last month’s chapter bills at the opening of each semester or quarter.
* Require seniors to pay all outstanding debts before they leave school or have them sign a promissory note for their debts.
* Suspension of social privileges
* Suspension of voting privileges
* Engaging parents/guardians to ensure payment and/or discuss the outstanding amount owed

There are cases where members may face unexpected financial strain or may need an alternative payment plan. Treasurers make an effort to provide alternative opportunities for these members to pay which includes, but is not limited to, the following ideas:

* Connecting the member with financial aid resources on campus to determine if there are any loans or scholarships the member qualifies for
* Creating a mutually agreeable written payment plan which includes specific dollar amounts and due dates, signatures of Treasurer, Finance Committee Members, and delinquent member, and automatic penalties for missed payments.
* Creating different Billing Cycles for members who need to pay at different times or in different intervals (once a week vs once a month)