Same Story – Unprecedented Numbers

As first, David’s case sounds similar to so many recent cases across the United States. A pledge dies at an unsanctioned party. There are allegations of forced drinking, hazing, and a failure to call 911. Families have been broken and lengthy legal proceedings are expected.

While the story is a sad refrain and its elements are familiar, the numbers coming from David’s death have entered uncharted territory:

- **$14,000,000** – The historic settlement paid to David’s parents by the fraternity and an individual defendant
- **.351** – David’s blood alcohol level at death
- **27** – Ounces of vodka David was forced to drink
- **0** – The number of brothers who called 911
- **44** – The individual defendants to the lawsuits
  - ½ fraternity members
  - ½ visiting sorority members
- **22** – Defendants who received a criminal sentence, the largest hazing prosecution in U.S. history

The most important number in this case, of course, is **1**. That number represents the unique life that was lost. It also represents the number of people it would have taken to make a difference – to intervene – to stop the situation – to call 911. Are you willing to be that one person who makes the call and speaks up?

More Information:

- [Daily Chronicle: 22 ex-NIU fraternity members sentenced in 2012 hazing death - May 9, 2015](#)
- [Daily Chronicle: Supreme Court OKs wrongful death suit against former NIU fraternity, sorority members - Jan. 19, 2018](#)
- [Northwest Herald: $14M settlement reached in NIU fraternity hazing death - Dec. 1, 2018](#)

“This use of alcohol as a weapon of choice in fraternity hazing is . . . out of control.”

David’s father