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Off-Campus = Off-the-Hook?

It's summertime! Many of you may be heading home, pursuing internships or jobs, or traveling. Chapter or recruiting events may be held off-campus at a lake, a rental, or a private home. Does being off-campus mean that you are off-the-hook as far as risks? No.

Off-campus activities have many risks for you individually, as well as your chapter:



Criminal laws, like hazing statutes and drinking laws, apply on- and off-campus. In fact, being out-of-town could be worse for the offender. Police and courts don't look fondly on those who bring crime to their jurisdiction. An [off-campus party in Maryland](#) may lead to 110 charges of underage drinking and \$275,000 in fines.



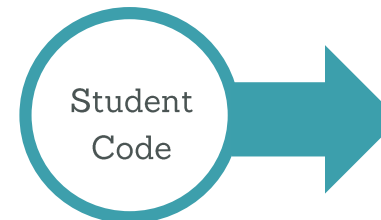
Is security sufficient? Are the premises safe? The same rules of good events apply at your chapter house and off campus.



Will your chapter insurance protect your group for events off-campus? Do you need a special event policy? Better check.



Even if it's not "your" event, your reputation may be ruined by off-campus misconduct. Remember the OU bus chant? Or the FAMU band hazing? Both occurred off-campus.



Your student code of conduct allows punishment for certain off-campus wrongs.

Summer can be a time of great freedom and fun. But, don't mistake it for a time that is free of risk or responsibility. Off-campus does not mean off-the-hook.