



September 7th, 2019

To the Student Body at Florida State University:

Dear FSU Students,

With the kick off of the new academic year underway, we wanted to connect with you regarding some state legislative changes that focus on health and safety and could impact you as a student at Florida State University.

Updated Hazing Legislation:

Florida's anti-hazing statute has expanded to include a number of important provisions such as a) expands the definition of hazing to include initiation, admission or affiliation into or with any organization operating under the sanction of a post-secondary institution; b) grants immunity to the first person to call 911 seeking medical attention for a hazing victim when that person gives their name, describes the circumstances, provides an address, and remains on the scene until first responders arrive; c) protects not only current students and members, but also a person who is a former member of an organization from hazing activity; d) allows the prosecution of persons who solicit others to commit the crime of hazing or who plan any act of hazing as if they actively participated in the hazing activity itself; and e) categorizes the crime of hazing as a third-degree felony if the hazing results in a permanent injury to the victim. (Section 1006.63, Florida Statutes)

Texting While Driving:

Law enforcement officers may now pull over motorists who are texting while driving as a primary offense. This bill replaces previous policy where law enforcement only cited motorists for texting while driving if they were pulled over for other reasons. (Section 316.305)

Medical Amnesty:

Florida law now extends medical amnesty to those who in good faith seek medical assistance for themselves or another due to an alcohol-related overdose both on and off campus. This provision grants immunity to those who seek medical assistance, remain at the scene until emergency medical services personnel arrive, and cooperate with the emergency medical services personnel and law enforcement officers at the scene from arrest, charge, prosecution, and penalization for consuming alcohol under the age of 21 or providing alcohol to an individual under the age of 21. Previous state law only provided such immunity for drug related overdose emergencies (Section 562.112 & Section 893.21, Florida Statutes)



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We encourage you to further familiarize yourself with these provisions and note that these provisions are enforced across the entire state of Florida including by Florida State University law enforcement. Please continue to take care of yourselves and one another, on and off campus and as always – Go Noles

Dr. Amy Hecht
Vice President for Student Affairs

Evan Steinberg
Student Body President

In Seminole Pride,



Evan Steinberg
Student Body President