POTENTIAL HARM TO OTHERS POLICY

Policy Statement

The Department of Residence Life maintains the right to take any action necessary to protect students from potential harm by others.

Reason for Policy/Purpose

This policy is required for the effective communication of university policy regarding potential harm to others.

Who Needs to Know This Policy

All students of The University of Southern Mississippi community living on campus.

Website Address for this Policy

www.usm.edu/institutional-policies/policy-stua-res-036

Definitions

Policy/Procedures

Protecting students from potential harm may include, but is not limited to, removal from residence hall, arrest and/or required counseling. Individuals who are deemed to be in need of medical or psychiatric help will be referred to the appropriate treatment facilities and will be financially responsible for transportation and treatment received. Acts of violence, such as fighting, may result in the immediate removal of all involved residents from the residence hall.
Students involved in violent acts in the residence halls may be referred to the Office of the Dean of Students for consideration for suspension from the university.

ACTS OF AGGRESSION

Acts of aggression such as, but not limited to, assault, fighting, sending, making or delivering a threatening message are prohibited. A student found responsible for any of these actions may be immediately removed from the residence hall in order to safeguard others. The Department of Residence Life reserves the right to forward these cases to the Office of the Dean of Students for further action.

DISRUPTIONS TO THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

The Department of Residence Life will take swift action to ensure the residence halls are conducive to a quality living-learning environment for all. When a student is identified as exhibiting behavior that disrupts the community, the student may be temporarily removed from the residence hall. These behaviors include, but are not limited to, endangerment, obscene or indecent behavior, physical violence, stalking or threatening behavior, or verbal or written abuse directed at another community member. Incidents of this nature may be forwarded to the Office of the Dean of Students for further action.

Review

The Director of Student Housing Administration is responsible for the review of this policy every four years (or whenever circumstances require immediate review).

Forms/Instructions

N/A

Appendices

N/A

Related Information

N/A

History

03/15/13: Formatted for template. Minor editing throughout.  
Amendments: Month, Day, Year – summary of changes
Authorization

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As the Responsible Officer, I have reviewed this policy and believe it represents the current policy.

[Signature]

Responsible Officer

[Signature]

Date

March 22, 2013