

MEMORANDUM FOR Corps of Cadets

SUBJECT: Policy Letter #8, Hazing

1. Hazing is against the law. **At North Georgia, hazing is considered a suspendable offense. Therefore, hazing is a zero tolerance issue!** Cadets who fail to adhere to this policy will be subject to sanctions administered by the Office of the Commandant of Cadets, including suspension or expulsion.

2. **At North Georgia no cadet:**

- a. **Shall be treated in a cruel or abusive manner, i.e. "bullying."**
- b. **Shall be purposely struck, with or without an instrument, for the purpose of inflicting pain or bodily injury.**
- c. **Shall be required to commit any action, which results in bodily injury or incurs a risk of bodily injury.**
- d. **Shall be required to commit senseless or meaningless tasks, especially while under duress.**
- e. **Shall be intimidated or placed in an environment which causes fear.**

3. In addition to the guidelines above, the NGCSU Corps of Cadets will abide by the university's hazing policy for student organizations. This policy forbids all students to participate in any "hazing activity," which is defined as follows: **"Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off campus, to produce unnecessary mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule.** Such activities include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts or senseless road trips; wearing of apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with academic achievement, military order and discipline, or the regulations and policies of NGCSU, the Corps of Cadets, the Board of Regents, and state/federal law." See NGCSU Student Handbook for details. The Commandant of Cadets will investigate all alleged hazing incidents, which appear to meet the definition of "hazing activities." Cadets who are accused of hazing will be referred to a university conference officer to determine whether or not the case is valid. If hazing is apparent, the student will be offered the opportunity to plead "guilty" or "not guilty," and he/she will be allowed to choose to appear in front of a university disciplinary board or a hearing officer. Either the board or the hearing officer is authorized to impose sanctions, including suspension or expulsion. Appeals may be made to the VP for Student Affairs within three business days.

4. **Commissioning.** Contracted cadets are reminded that the SMC Brigade Commander has stated that AR 600-20 is applicable. Further, participation in college "traditions" that are cruel, senseless rights of passage are expressly forbidden. If you decide to participate in hazing activities because they are a word of mouth tradition, then "you do not belong in the U.S. Army." (letter, USACC, 10 February 2010).

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5. **Punishment.** No cadet may “punish” another cadet except with demerits, tours, room arrest or restriction to campus, and only when adjudicated by a member of the Commandant’s Staff. Physical punishment of any sort is unauthorized and may be construed as hazing.

6. **Corrective training** is supervised military training that is educational in nature, and is commensurate to the offense, or shortcoming. For example, if a cadet fails to properly clean his or her weapon, the cadet could be required to teach a class on weapons maintenance or he/she could be required to clean additional weapons. Corrective training does not constitute hazing. A member of the Corps of Cadets with rank who is in a position of authority must supervise corrective training. Also, any NCOA graduate in the rank of SGT or above may administer a limited number of designated PRT drills who continually demonstrate minor infractions. **See Corrective Training SOP. RESTRICTIONS APPLY.**

7. **Physical Training.** Supervised military physical training does not constitute hazing. Cadets may conduct physical training to the standards of TC 3-22.20 as long as the training is supervised by a NCO or officer who fully participates in the training. Physical training will not be conducted for any purpose other than to improve the physical performance of a cadet (or a unit). **Physical training will not be used as a means of punishment under any circumstances.**

8. **Reporting Procedures.** Every cadet has a responsibility to report all incidents of hazing to his/her chain of command. However, if the individual does not feel comfortable reporting the incident to the cadet chain of command, he/she should report directly to a TAC NCO, company advisor, staff chaplain, Assistant Commandant, or any Military Science instructor. Failure to report a hazing incident constitutes a violation of an order.

9. **Sanctions.** Cadets who are found guilty of hazing may be suspended or expelled by a disciplinary committee or a hearing officer IAW University policy. Further, cadets who haze will be removed from their military unit, including co-curricular units, never to return. All cadets who haze will lose their rank and duty position.

JAMES T. PALMER
COL, USA (Retired)
Commandant of Cadets

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