TAILGATING BEST PRACTICES

Tailgating has become a popular part of sport and entertainment events. However, there are risks involved in the organization and hosting of tailgating events. It is important to follow your campus, community, and organization’s policies. On many campuses, the off-campus location of tailgates does not mean that students are exempt from their campus code of conduct.

DESIGNATED AREAS:

- Survey in advance to note the best way to rope off/control your site

HOURS:

- Have a specific starting and ending time

ATTENDEES:

- Create an invitation list prior to the tailgate that includes timeframe and instructions

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES:

- Hire professional security to control entrance and exit points and to check ID
- Have clearly identifiable sober monitors who are not consuming alcohol and are trained on how to intervene
- Review the event (talk with sober monitors) and hold people accountable for any behavior concerns

PARKING:

- Establish clear areas for parking, including information about RVs and trucks.
ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION:
- Prevent underage drinking: clearly identify those who are of legal age (e.g. non-adjustable wristband)
- No chapter funds used to purchase alcohol (Preference is to use a Third-Party Vendor; BYOB if that is not possible)
- Provide free food and water (minimum one bottle of water per attendee)
- No open bar settings, kegs or drinking games
- Have a plan for dealing with intoxicated attendees. Intervene early and call 911 if someone needs medical attention

FIPG RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY GUIDELINES:
- The possession, sale, use or consumption of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, while on chapter premises or during a fraternity event, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or at any event an observer would associate with the fraternity, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, province, county, city and institution of higher education, and must comply with either the BYOB or Third Party Vendor Guidelines.
- No alcoholic beverages may be purchased through or with chapter funds nor may the purchase of same for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of or on behalf of the chapter. The purchase or use of a bulk quantity or common source(s) of alcoholic beverage, for example, kegs or cases, is prohibited.
- OPEN PARTIES, meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members of the fraternity, without specific invitation, where alcohol is present, are prohibited.
- No members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to, or sell alcoholic beverages to any minor (i.e., those under legal drinking age).

Holmes Murphy offers this educational information to provoke thought and discussion and it should not be viewed as a mandate or requirement.

We view part of our role as an insurance and risk management professional to anticipate your needs and educate you in an effort to complement the organization’s loss prevention and control efforts, not replace the decision-making autonomy of our client organizations. We hope you find this educational piece to be of value and stand ready to discuss it further with you or any of your constituents.