

STUDENT ASSEMBLY OF THE EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

7th SESSION, 2022-2023

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 7-05

A RESOLUTION

To Request the Suspension of the Theta Chi
Fraternity as a Result of Recent Campus Events

Primary Sponsor: Director Duncan Patrick, Director Jordyn Strupp

Cosponsor(s): Director Javier Limon, Rep. Zach Rogers, Rep. Faisal Abouelhassan, Director Adriana Cowell, Rep. Xavier Wright, Rep. Max Wimberly, Rep Tory Rose Harris, Rep Mya Pratt, Rep. Kayla Cornett, ASG Liaison Sarah Wright, Treasurer Allison Schaefer, Rep Olivia Rose, Director Anderson Ward, Rep Caitlin Kysar

First Reading: 09/14/2022

Referred to: University Affairs

Second Reading: 09/28/2022

1 *Be it resolved by the Student Assembly of the Student Government Association of East Carolina*
2 *University,*

3
4 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE**

5
6 *This Resolution may be cited as the “Theta Chi Suspension Resolution”*

7
8 **SECTION 2. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE SUSPENSION OF THE EPSILON IOTA**
9 **CHAPTER OF THETA CHI.**

10
11 **WHEREAS,** On September 13, 2022, ECU PD received a report¹ alleging drink tampering
12 (aggravated assault under the Clery Act) of two people, one of which led to a
13 sexual assault at the Theta Chi Fraternity House. “The incident was reported to
14 have taken place on 08/20/2022 and the alleged perpetrator is known to the
15 victim²”, and;

16
17 **WHEREAS,** These reports have resulted in protests outside of Theta Chi’s residence, and at the
18 Main Campus Student Center³, including the reactivation of an account,
19 @protestingthetachi on Instagram, an account filled with reported survivors
20 stories of people who claim to be victims to other incidents within the Theta Chi
21 fraternity. This has, once again,³ resulted in protests at the Theta Chi fraternity
22 house and on campus calling for the removal of Theta Chi from ECU’s campus,
23 from organizations such as Find Your Voice, and;

24

¹ ECU Police: Drink tampering, sexual assault reported at fraternity

² ECU Alert – 9-13-22

³ Protest held outside ECU Theta Chi frat house after report of drink tampering & sexual assault

25 **WHEREAS**, This is the third allegation of drink tampering against the Theta Chi fraternity in
26 the last three years (August 2022, October 2021 and September 2020)⁴, and;
27

28 **WHEREAS**, Previously the Student Government Association of East Carolina University
29 passed AR 6-04 on November 17, 2021, condemning the actions of the Theta Chi
30 fraternity and recommending that the university take action⁴, and;
31

32 **WHEREAS**, Theta Chi has developed a record⁵ of allegations for sexual assault and drink
33 tampering. East Carolina University Police Department received reports of drink
34 tampering alleged to have occurred on September 24th, September 26th, and
35 September 30th of 2020⁶, and;
36

37 **WHEREAS**, One report of aggravated assault and one report of sexual assault which happened
38 on October 29th⁷ were filed with ECU PD in the Fall of 2021. Most recently,
39 another allegation of aggravated assault reportedly occurred on August 20th of this
40 year. Reports on the Instagram page, @protestingthetachi, also share similar
41 experiences from the Theta Chi house, and;
42

43 **WHEREAS**, The Epsilon Iota chapter of Theta Chi has been through the University Conduct
44 Process with the following history: disciplinary probation effective January 23rd,
45 2019 through May 31st, 2019 (Alcohol Endangerment), disciplinary probation
46 effective April 5th, 2021 through October 1st, 2021 (Endangerment, Hazing,
47 Disruptive Conduct, Hindering University Conduct Process, Violation of
48 University Policies), and disciplinary probation effective March 11th, 2021
49 through October 1st, 2021 (Alcohol, Endangerment, Disruptive Conduct,
50 Violation of University Policies)⁸, demonstrating a pattern of behavior that is
51 inconsistent with the standards set by the National Chapter of Theta Chi and East
52 Carolina University.
53

54 *Now, therefore, be it,*
55

56 **RESOLVED**, The student population should be able to feel safe enough to go to events at ECU
57 related organizations, and;

58 *Be it, further,*
59

60 **RESOLVED**, That the Epsilon Iota chapter of the Theta Chi Fraternity at East Carolina
61 University has failed to meet the standards that they have set for themselves that,
62 "The members of Theta Chi aspire to and are expected to live by high moral
63 values, including having regard for all people as being worthy of respect. It is
64 because of the adherence to such moral values that the members of Theta Chi

⁴ [A RESOLUTION To Address the Current Events on Campus Regarding the 10/29 Theta Chi Incident](#)

⁵ [Chancellor: ECU takes Theta Chi allegations seriously](#)

⁶ <https://www.witn.com/2020/10/22/ecu-investigating-alleged-drink-tampering-at-fraternity-house/>

⁷ <https://www.wbtv.com/2021/11/09/ecu-alleged-drink-tampering-frat-house-led-sexual-assault/>

⁸ <https://studentengagement.ecu.edu/chapter-status/>

65 reject and will not condone sexual assault, sexual misconduct, and harassment.⁹”,
66 and;

67
68 *Be it, further,*
69

70 **RESOLVED**, The East Carolina University Student Government Association understands and
71 respects the rights and protections of students to receive fair and due process, as
72 well as the privacy of the parties involved pursuant to Title IX protections.
73 However, the demonstrated pattern of allegations regarding drink tampering and
74 sexual assault at the Theta Chi Fraternity house seems to pose a risk to campus
75 safety and demonstrates a possible cultural issue within the organization and that
76 there seems to be a current inability for the organization to maintain a safe and
77 positive presence on campus, and;

78
79 *Be it, further,*
80

81 **RESOLVED**, "As students of East Carolina University, all students have the responsibility to
82 abide by the Student Code of Conduct. which includes the policies on alcohol,
83 disruption, drugs, harassment, hazing, etc.¹⁰", and;

84
85 *Be it, further,*
86

87 **RESOLVED**, That when incidents of aggravated assault occur and/or are repeatedly ignored,
88 they have an overall community effect that is detrimental to the university as a
89 whole and to the value of every student’s degree, and;

90 *Be it, further,*
91

92 **RESOLVED**, That the Student Government Association of East Carolina University
93 recommends a 4-year suspension of the Epsilon Iota chapter of the Theta Chi
94 Fraternity pending the outcome of the investigation from East Carolina
95 University, and;

96 *Be it, further,*
97

98 **RESOLVED**, That the Student Government Association of East Carolina University stands with
99 all survivors of sexual assault, and;

100
101 *Be it, further,*
102

103 **RESOLVED**, Upon passage, a copy of this legislation shall be sent to the Theta Chi National
104 Headquarters in Indiana, The Epsilon Iota Chapter of Theta Chi Advisor, The
105 President of the Epsilon Iota Chapter, Chancellor Philip Rogers, Dr. Virginia
106 Hardy, Dr. Lynn Roeder, John Mountz, Hank Bowen, the Interfraternity Council
107 of East Carolina University, The East Carolinian, WITN, WNCT, WCTI, The
108 Daily Reflector, Office for Equity and Diversity, ECU Police Department, and the
109 Board of Trustees of East Carolina University.
110

⁹ We Are Theta Chi
¹⁰ Policies and Procedures

111 **SECTION 3. DATE EFFECTIVE.**

112

113 This Resolution shall be effective upon its passage by a majority affirmative vote of the Student
114 Assembly and its signing by the Student Body President.

115

116 **Final Vote:**

117

118 **I hereby certify that this Motion was read and adopted in the Student Assembly of the East**
119 **Carolina University Student Government Association, this the 29th of September, 2022.**

120

121

122

123 **X** 
Tyler West, Speaker of the Student Assembly

124

125 **WITNESSED:**

126

127

128 **X** 
Rutvi Sachania, Student Body Secretary

129

130 Action Taken by the President: (ENACTED) (VETOED)

131

132 **I hereby signify my approval of this Motion as adopted by the Student Assembly of the**
133 **East Carolina University Student Government Association, this the 29th of September,**
134 **2022.**

135

136

137 **X** 
Ryan Bonnett, Student Body President
