

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION

POLICY OR PRECEDENT

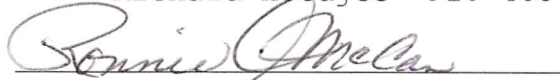
SUBJECT:

DATE: 1 January 2009

Suspension and Expulsion of Association Members

| POLICY NUMBER | ORIGINATING SECTION | ORIGINATOR | PHONE NUMBER |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| SFA-06 | Vice President | Richard Hotujec | 910-485-5433 |

APPROVED: Ronnie A. McCan, President



Melvin H Smith, Secretary



-
- PURPOSE:** To establish Special Forces Association policy for Suspensions and Expulsions of Association members.
 - SCOPE:** This policy applies to all members within the Association and is governed by Article IV, Section VII, Termination of Membership of the Constitution.
 - GENERAL:** Any suspension or expulsion of Chapter members will be the responsibility of the duly elected officers of the each Chapter. They will review and ascertain whether a hearing is warranted to consider suspension or expulsion of a member. Members-at-Large will be the responsibility of the Association. The President of the Association will appoint a five-member panel (Disciplinary Committee for members-at-large) to investigate and bring about a decision as to suspension or expulsion of at-large member. Consideration of suspension or expulsion of a member is a serious matter and is to be conducted in a professional manner. If a formal complaint is filed against a member, the elected Officers are required to investigate and ascertain the facts of the case. If the officers determine the complaint is warranted they will determine a course of action.
 - Falsification or misrepresentation in an application; violation of Article IV, Section IV. Obligations of Membership.; or any arbitrary actions, deeds, or behavior, by a member which brings discredit, humiliation, or embarrassment upon the Association or any chapter shall be grounds for expulsion from the Association. A member expelled forfeits all dues and all fees paid prior to expulsion. Any members charging a member or members with grounds for expulsion must substantiate such charges.
 - A member or Chapter may be suspended from engaging in any or all Association activities while undergoing investigations stemming from any charges arising from violations as outlined in the above paragraph. National will determine if a Chapter will be suspended from any Association activities if needed.
 - A member suspended or expelled may request a hearing before the Appeals Panel. Any and/or all reports of investigations, or other written reports, documents, tapes, or any other information or witnesses must be made available in their entirety to the Appeals Panel. The Appeals Panel consists of the Association Officers. The judgment of the Appeals Panel is final.
 - PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES:**
 - Chapter Officers will investigate fully any charges or accusations concerning a member in SFA in a discreet and professional manner.

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION

b. Appointment of a disciplinary panel will be established to investigate a suspension or expulsion regarding at large members.

c. Chapter Presidents may request a copy of the member's record if it is in the course of investigating a formal complaint. No member may arbitrarily request a copy of a member's record.

d. If by a consensus of the Chapter Officers, a finding of fact merits that a hearing is warranted:

(1) A letter ("Notice of Hearing") will be drafted to the member, stating the charges.

(2) A date and time for the hearing and any other pertinent information that the Officers deem appropriate.

(3) In the notice, the member should be notified that he may submit evidence on his behalf.

(4) Pending a hearing, the member may be suspended from participating in or attending any SFA events and functions. This will be stated in the "Notice of Hearing".

e. The date is set by the Chapter Officers or the designated panel. Sufficient notice should be allow to the member to respond and attend the hearing, but should not exceed 30 days. The Chapter will provide a copy of the Notice of Hearing to the National Board of Officers. All correspondence should be via certified mail.

f. The hearing is a closed hearing and should not be discussed outside of the Chapter Officers and/or concerned parties. Only individuals or members that have information and facts pertinent to the action will be allowed or permitted before the board. This is intended to protect the member whom the complaint has been lodged. The Sergeant-at-Arms should be present to control access.

g. Chapter officers may offer the member an opportunity to submit a "Letter of Resignation for Cause", in which case, the hearing will be terminated. It will be so stated in the "Notice of Hearing". If the member submits a "Letter of Resignation for Cause", he forfeits his right of appeal to National.

h. One of two conditions will exist on conclusion of the hearing:

(1) The Chapter Officers may determine that after reviewing all evidence, no action is warranted. If so, the Chapter Officers will notify the member of their decision and reinstate their membership privileges.

(2) If the charges are determined to be true, the Chapter Officers may elect either suspension, expulsion, or a Letter of Reprimand to the member. The member will be notified in writing by certified mail and informed about his "Right to Appeal" to the National Board of Officers.

i. In the event of suspension or expulsion is assessed, the Chapter will forward all completed documents/records, correspondence, minutes of the hearing pertinent to the charges to National that relates to the action for filing.