FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dateline: March 23, 2015

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PHI KAPPA PSI FRATERNITY CLEARED BY CHARLOTTESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity thanks the Charlottesville Police Department for its thorough report today. The department’s investigation of the purported sexual assault that Rolling Stone magazine reported had occurred at the Virginia Alpha Chapter in Rolling Stone’s November 19, 2014, reflected the Fraternity’s belief in the falsity of "Jackie’s" alleged story in the Rolling Stone article.

That Rolling Stone sought to turn fiction into fact is shameful. The discredited article has done significant damage to the ability of the Chapter's members to succeed in their educational pursuits, and besmirched the character of undergraduate students at the University of Virginia who did not deserve the spotlight of the media. The due process rights of college students must be respected in any investigation that commences against a student or organization accused of such serious charges. The rush to judgment based upon the assertions made in the Rolling Stone article certainly disregarded such due process rights of Phi Kappa Psi’s members and other students at the University of Virginia. Phi Kappa Psi is grateful to some media outlets that responsibly investigated the merits of Rolling Stone’s "journalism" and shed light on the many insufficiencies in the article.

The Fraternity requests that Rolling Stone fully and unconditionally retract its story and immediately remove the story from its website. The Fraternity further requests that all journalists refrain from referencing Phi Kappa Psi in stories regarding the Rolling Stone article, as such references continue to damage the character of students who have been cleared of the accusations falsely leveled by Rolling Stone.

At the same time, Phi Kappa Psi is sensitive to the importance of sexual assault issues on America’s college campuses. The Fraternity does not condone violence under any circumstances; gender-based and sexual violence is particularly heinous. It is antithetical to the morals and founding principles of our Fraternity and we condemn it unequivocally. We remain actively and aggressively committed to ending these inexcusable forms of violence not only in the Greek system, but across all campus communities at large.

Phi Kappa Psi will continue to implement the many programs that are available to help its undergraduate members to better understand and address sexual assault issues. The fraternity is adamant that its undergraduate members become proactive and lead their campuses on such concepts as bystander intervention, "No Means No" and providing safe environments for their fellow students. Phi Kappa Psi members, as Brothers and gentlemen, must be leaders and a part of the solution to this nationwide problem.

The Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity is a 501(c)(7) association of men of integrity who strive to develop the individual in his intellect, in his involvement in the community and in his faith. The Fraternity was founded on February 19, 1852 at Jefferson College by William Henry Lettermann and Charles Page Thomas Moore. It currently has 103 chapters across the United States, with over 6,500 undergraduate members and over 80,000 living alumni.

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