



**Position Paper for 501 (c) (3) Messaging**

**Overview:** In mid-June 2018, Chattanooga Alumni Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity ("CAC") Leadership Team decided to pursue a "501" designation (non-profit/exempt from federal income tax) from the IRS. This required a comprehensive re-write/recast of the CAC's By-Laws, obtaining an EIN from the IRS, obtaining "non-profit" status and appropriate filings from the State of Tennessee and being approved by the IRS. In May 2019, the CAC received the determination letter from the IRS granting full 501 (c) (3) status.

**What Does This Mean:** Donors (individuals and/or other qualifying entities) of cash, bequests, devises, transfers or gifts may deduct those contributions from their tax filings. The CAC may accept donations (as described above) and distribute those donations, based on the By-Laws. Simply put, qualified donations can be tax-deductible to the donor.

**Key Points:**

- Legal Name - Chattanooga Alumni Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity
- IRS Designation - Public Charity under Internal Revenue Code (IRC)... 501 (c) (3)
- State Designation - Non-Profit Corporation
- Key Point of Contact - Stan Stout at (770) 778-9186 or stan.stout@comcast.net
- Our "CAC" Leaders have over 30-years' combined experience managing 501's

**Messaging to Potential Donors:**

- The CAC's primary goals are to provide support to the Chattanooga Community and to University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) in the form of financial assistance and services
- Over 85% of the net donations made to the CAC go directly to qualified charities in the Chattanooga Area and/or supporting educational assistance programs at UTC
  - Some past recipients:
    - Erlanger Child Life Department
    - Chattanooga Food Bank
    - East Ridge Needy Child Fund
    - Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Chattanooga
    - UTC General Scholarship Fund and the David M. Brammer Scholarship Fund (UTC)
    - Wreaths Across America
    - Erlanger Cancer Department
- We will gladly provide copies of the State and IRS determination letters upon request
- Donors may obtain a receipt by contacting: George Vieth at (423) 432-7059 or george.vieth@voyafa.com
- Point potential donors to [WWW.SigAlum.com](http://WWW.SigAlum.com) for additional information

WE DO...	WE DONT...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimize our operating expenses to maximize our contributions</li> <li>• Quickly disperse donations</li> <li>• Live within the requirements of the IRS/State guidelines, our By-Laws and Sigma Chi Fraternity</li> <li>• Provide transparency regarding our operations and decisions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pay our officers (they are volunteers)</li> <li>• Contribute to political orgs</li> <li>• "Sit on" donations</li> <li>• Use donations outside our legal requirements (State and IRS) and CAC By-Laws</li> </ul>