

LAW OFFICES
FOSTER D. ARNETT
1210 HAMILTON NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

TELEPHONE 2-4155

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SPECIAL DELIVERY

Edward C. Fowler, Esquire
4105 Towanda Trail, SW
Knoxville, Tennessee

PERSONAL

Dear Ed:

All of us Fiji alumni have talked with you at such great length concerning your choice of a fraternity, that it seems a little bit of a futile thing that I am doing in writing this letter. However, I feel that I cannot let you come to a final decision in the matter without writing you this note to summarize my personal feelings as to your pledging Kappa Tau Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta.

I really believe that your choice of a college fraternity will be the most important decision that you will be called upon to make during your college career. I am also personally convinced that your choice of a fraternity will determine not only whether or not you have a pleasant tenure at the University during all or part of the next four years, but will also determine whether or not your fraternity will exercise a continuing influence for good upon you in the many, many years which will follow your college graduation. Accordingly, I urge you to consider most seriously the tremendous implications of the decision which you are about to make.

Your decision will be governed by a consideration of the following standards:

1. How old is the fraternity and what national ranking does it have ---- Phi Gamma Delta is over a hundred years old and is one of the most outstanding national fraternities from coast to coast.
2. How old and what is the standing of the local chapter ---- our chapter is sixty-five years old and for years - as you know - has been one of the outstanding chapters on the Hill.
3. Of what type men does the active chapter consist ---- this is a matter which you have had these many months past to observe and draw certain conclusions about.
4. What type men comprise the alumni of the fraternity ---- surely you, better than anyone else, should be able to judge about this.

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5. What is the nature and extent of the influence which a fraternity is able to exert upon its members and alumni ---- Phi Delta Gamma's influence in this regard is far too well known to warrant a detailed comment upon this aspect of the matter.
6. Does a fraternity have a spiritual purpose ---- the profound and remarkable influence of Phi Gamma Delta upon its members is living proof of the purpose of our fraternity.
7. Does the fraternity promise an entertaining collegiate career or does it give a promise of that and more ---- the large number of ministers, professional people, and outstanding business men who, through the years pledge anew their faith in our fraternity and its ideals, bear dramatic witness to the influence of our fraternity.

Surely Phi Gams whom you have known all through the years are far too busy and have far too many serious responsibilities to justify their spending large amounts of their time on fraternity matters if they did not consider the purpose of the fraternity to be a fine one and if the influence of the fraternity was not a very real and continuing influence upon their respective lives. A fraternity is truly the finest expression of manly love for one's brothers, and this is exemplified by our beautiful motto, "Friendship, the Sweetest Influence". A fraternity exists, not as an end in itself; that is, simply for the purpose of affording a house and a dining room and a dance hall for college men to dance and eat and gather, but rather for the purpose of uniting brother to brother with a firm bond of friendship, replete with the most noble instincts which man can know and cleave to. It, like your church and your family, should thrive, not on mere social pretence, but on those qualities of character and an appreciation for Christian qualities in one another which have served to make the church and our homes enduring shrines for the development of character and leadership.

Certainly you should pledge that fraternity which, in your judgment, most nearly fulfills your fraternity ideals. If, however, the experience of your family and friends who have gone before is any yardstick, then I have no personal doubt that you will want to join with us as another link in our golden chain.

May I wish for you a college career and a future life complete with happiness, character and achievement, and to this end may I commend to you from the bottom of my heart the precepts of Phi Gamma Delta which have meant so much to me and my friends, and which can mean a very great deal to you.

Most sincerely yours,

John

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✓ bcc: Robert M. Sims, Esquire