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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Response to CBC Election Coverage in South Alabama

(INDIANAPOLIS) The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC.ca) published an article on November 6, 2016, featuring an interview with several collegiate members of Theta Epsilon—University of South Alabama regarding their support of Republican candidate for President of the United States, Donald Trump.

In the midst of a very polarizing and divisive presidential election, it is easy to get carried away in what feels like a harmless discussion in support of a candidate. We respect our members' freedom of speech and ask that our members consider how that speech may be misinterpreted as speaking for an entire chapter and/or every member of an organization. We encourage our members to exercise their right vote and to educate themselves on the issues at play. However, we ask that our members understand when speaking on behalf of our organization or in conjunction with it, they should not engage in political endorsements.

In the article, one member is quoted in response to a question regarding Trump's recent controversy regarding his statements involving egregious treatment of women.

"You go to a party any day, and there's fraternity guys — any guys — grabbing girls, doing this and that. I don't think it's out of the normal realm of things. I don't think it's as big a deal," she said. Alpha Gamma Delta is committed to the safety and wellbeing of each and every one of our members and shares concern with many that education must continue and is of utmost importance. We are committed to continue our education and awareness efforts to affirm that non-consensual sexual contact is unacceptable, in any setting, at any age. Our support team of volunteers and staff continues to work with our chapters and clubs to provide education and awareness that ensures the safety and dignity of each of our members.

Over the course of the past two years, Alpha Gamma Delta has taken part in various training and education opportunities related to sexual violence and consent education, supporting survivors and sexual assault awareness campaigns including the following recent programming:

- 2016-2017 It's On Us Sponsor member of Greek Leadership Council
- 2016 Academy for Chapter Presidents keynote on supporting survivors
- 2016 Academy for Chapter Advisors programming on supporting survivors
- 2016 Fraternity and Fraternity Housing Corporation staff training on supporting survivors (including house directors)
- 2015 Leadership Consultant Training training on supporting survivors
- 2014, 2015, 2016 Sexual Assault Awareness Month (April) social media campaign and resource sharing
- Ongoing/as needed chapter visits with programming for sexual violence education and supporting survivors

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About Alpha Gamma Delta

Founded in 1904 at Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York, Alpha Gamma Delta is a leading women's fraternity dedicated to excellence in education and leadership. One of the first fraternities to establish a philanthropy, Alpha Gamma Delta internationally supports diabetes awareness and education. Guided by our values, ideals and traditions, Alpha Gamma Delta is purposefully revolutionizing the membership experience with a leading-edge member education program and an emphasis on alumnae cultivation and training. Collectively, Alpha Gamma Deltas are inspiring one another to *Live with Purpose*. Learn more at <u>www.alphagammadelta.org</u>.