

From: Mark C. Brandenburg
Sent: 4/24/2015 5:06:54 PM
To: sdianne.reed@gmail.com
Cc: John W. Rosa; Eugene Paluso; William B. Ashworth; COL Allison Dean Love; blivingston@gregoryelectric.com; COL Dylan W. Goff; Gregory A. Lapointe; LT GEN John B. Sams, Jr.; COL Eugene L. "Gene" Pinson; COL Myron C. Harrington; Spearman, Molly; Stanley L. Myers; Haley, Nikki; COL Peter M. McCoy, Sr.; Fred L. Price; COL Robert H. Nuttall, Sr.; COL Tee Hooper, Jr.; LT GEN W. Michael Steele
Subject: FW: College Response to Request for For Reconsideration From Cadet Jonathan Reed

Ms. Reed

Lt Gen Rosa has received your emails concerning your son. He has asked me to respond. I apologize I have not responded sooner. I have taken the time to collect and review information in response to your inquiries.

You first ask for a description of the training your son received concerning hazing. As a junior, your son has received considerable training on this subject, over the past three years.

During his freshman year, Cadet Reed attended multiple training sessions led by TAC officers and cadet leaders during the cadre training week. He also heard from Lt Gen Rosa, President of The Citadel, and Col Leo Mercado, who was the Commandant of Cadets at the time. All of these officials preached a consistent message: unauthorized treatment of cadets, to include unauthorized physical training, is hazing. Indeed, as do all cadets, Cadet Reed signed a statement acknowledging his understanding of this teaching. And, he keeps a card on his desk which acknowledges it as well.

Cadet Reed received the same messages on his return as a sophomore last year. He received even more training when he returned for cadre preparation in August of 2014. Multiple classes during that training specifically address hazing. Perhaps most importantly, though, CAPT Paluso, Commandant of Cadets, met with upperclassmen at least three times during the fall semester this year, and repeatedly emphasized that unauthorized physical training would not be tolerated. Lt Gen Rosa spoke with the upperclassmen twice last semester as well, and he provided the same message.

You next ask for an identification of the evidence that supports the school's conclusion that your son committed the disciplinary violation of hazing. In short, your son admitted to requiring multiple freshmen to perform multiple exercises at unauthorized times and locations. Several of those freshmen corroborated those admissions. However, even if Cadet Reed honestly believed requiring standard physical training exercises was not hazing, he admitted to requiring several freshmen to hang from furniture in those cadets' rooms, and again, those freshmen confirmed he had done so. The Citadel has never endorsed this activity, therefore by definition, it is unauthorized; requiring subordinates to perform it, in turn, is conduct of a "tyrannical, abusive, shameful (and) an insulting nature." See College Regulations, Section IV, Paragraph 11 "(Hazing is prohibited. Hazing is... any other unauthorized treatment by one student toward another student of a tyrannical, abusive, shameful, insulting, or humiliating nature...")

In short, your son has been trained numerous times over the last three years that unauthorized physical training is a disciplinary violation at The Citadel. Multiple disciplinary violations, including requiring subordinates to perform activities which are patently prohibited, constitutes hazing. Your son admitted to all of these activities. As a result, Lt Col Sberna concluded he had committed the disciplinary violation of hazing, CAPT Paluso concurred, and Lt Gen Rosa agreed as well. Lt Gen Rosa elected to impose the punishment of dismissal. While he has yet to review your son's appeal, he has seen no information to date which would warrant alteration of those decisions.

The Citadel seeks to provide a challenging environment for all cadets. Even more importantly, though, The Citadel seeks to provide a safe environment in which all of its students can learn and become principled leaders. Ending the behavior which your son has admitted to committing is necessary for the achievement of that goal.

If you have any further questions on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mark

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From: John W. Rosa

Sent: Friday, April 24, 2015 1:38 PM

To: Eugene Paluso; Mark C. Brandenburg

Subject: Fwd: College Response to Request for For Reconsideration From Cadet Jonathan Reed