



November 21, 2016

Samantha Valdez

Sent electronically to valdezs2@mailbox.winthrop.edu

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Regarding Case Number: 2016025601

Dear Ms. Valdez,

The Department of Student Affairs has received information which alleges you violated Winthrop University regulations. See the following item(s) under Student Conduct Code, Article IV Prohibited Conduct on page 62-64 of the 2016-2017 Student Handbook:

Item A. Actual or threatened disruption of classes, seminars, research projects, or functions or activities of the University. Behavior that disturbs the public order and peace and/or the living and learning environment of the residence halls, recreational facilities, student organizations or other learning environments is prohibited. Excessive and unreasonable requests and/or demands for university services and resources, to the extent that they limit or interfere with the ability of faculty/staff to meet other university needs and functions, are disruptive to the operations of the university.

Item E. Disorderly Conduct- Individual or group behavior which unnecessarily disturbs individuals or groups is prohibited. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome physical contact, hazing, and boisterous or threatening conduct which is unreasonable for the area, time, or manner in which it occurs.

Item Z. Violation of the University's fundraising, solicitation, canvassing, assembly, and posting policies.

In a Winthrop University Police Report dated November 13, 2016 , and a statement you submitted on November 13, 2016, it is alleged you were involved in the following:

The display your group created was in an area **not** designated for public display. In addition, the flyer you posted was not posted on an open-access bulletin board, nor cleared through the University.

Throughout the course of a University investigation, it is further alleged you were involved in the following:

By not following proper procedures for public displays, your actions unnecessarily disturbed numerous individual students and groups. Also, the area, time, or manner in which your display occurred was unreasonable.

Also, several student organizations including the NAACP, College Democrats, and Socialist Student Union, allege you used their organization's names in having involvement with the planning and/or execution of your display. Each of these organizations were questioned and confronted by their peers and/or local governing bodies and therefore issued statements repudiating your claim.

Depending on the outcome of your pre-hearing interview and subsequent hearing, this alleged violation may result in your expulsion or suspension from Winthrop University; therefore, it is your responsibility to arrange for a pre-hearing interview immediately. The purpose of this pre-hearing interview is to ensure that you will be sufficiently familiar with the University's disciplinary process in order to adequately prepare and present a response at a hearing. The rights afforded you in the disciplinary process, information concerning the allegation against you, and options for resolution of this charge will also be reviewed. You can arrange for this required pre-hearing interview by coming to 246 DiGiorgio Campus Center or by calling 803.323-4503. This meeting will need to be scheduled by December 5, 2016. Please review, print, and bring to your prehearing interview the Student Conduct Code, found on page 61-72 in the 2016-2017 Student Handbook, by using the following link on the Student Affairs page:

<http://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/studentconduct/StudentHandbook.pdf>