### **Commencement Ceremonies**

-Fall, Spring, and Summer-

Dear Graduates:

We are incredibly proud of your progress and perseverance at Florida A&M University (FAMU). FAMU is a place of aspirations, culture, and traditions. We like to say, "You can get anywhere from FAMU".

As you prepare to take the next step toward becoming alumni, we enlist your help in making the graduation experience one that is special for years to come. Be mindful as you capture these moments in photos and videos in front of the University's iconic venues; please DO NOT climb or sit inside the barriers in or around the Rattler Statue. DO NOT climb or sit on the Rattler Statue or any of FAMU's monuments. We also ask that you NOT use any foreign substances around any buildings or University property, i.e. smoke bombs, champagne, paint, confetti, glitter, or other materials that can cause damage, harm, stain, or create a costly clean-up for the University.

Additionally, members of any registered student organizations on campus who wish to sing, stroll, step, or march following graduation, please do so at your designated plot or underneath Bragg Memorial Stadium. Also, audience members are not allowed to bring signs, banners, balloons, blowhorns, strollers, etc. to the graduation venue. Our clear bag policy will be thoroughly reinforced!

By doing your part and adhering to the policies and procedures, we will protect and preserve our beautiful campus. Violations of this request will be sent to the Office of Student Conduct and Resolution, and violators will be responsible for the cost of any damages and cleaning that occurs.

Please visit https://www.famu.edu/students/commencement/index.php for additional information.

Respectfully,

Bomani Spell

Associate Vice President of Student Affairs/Dean of Students

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32307-3100

Division of Student Affairs Office of Students Activities

### **Commencement Ceremonies**

-Song Fest and Graduation Etiquette-

#### Dear Graduates,

Congratulations on reaching this significant milestone in your academic journey at Florida A&M University (FAMU). FAMU prides itself on fostering aspirations, embracing culture, and upholding cherished traditions. As you prepare to transition to alumni status, we urge your cooperation in preserving the integrity of our graduation ceremonies for generations to come.

The FAMU Fraternity & Sorority Life community will continue our cherished tradition of Song Fest to honor and bid farewell to our graduating members.

### **Song Fest Guidelines:**

- No organization may conduct chapter graduate ceremonies outside of their designated chapter plot or under the Bragg Memorial Stadium Bleachers near Gate 17 (East Side) and Section K.
- The use of sound amplifiers, air/blow horns, megaphones, etc. are strictly prohibited during these ceremonies. We also prohibit the use of foreign substances such as smoke bombs, champagne, paint, confetti, or other materials that may cause damage to university property.
- Avoid gathering near restricted areas such as Gaither Gym, Gaither Lawn, the CASS Building, Rattler Statue, and courtyard, A.L. Lawson, or its sidewalks, green spaces, or driveway areas.
- All Song Fest-related activities must conclude within 45 minutes after the commencement ceremony. All participating organizations must adhere to the directions of all law and parking enforcement officers as well as university officials.

**Traffic and Safety Measures:** We are collaborating with the Department of Campus Safety and Security to ensure smooth traffic flow during the ceremonies.

**Consequences of Violations:** Any violations of these guidelines will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Resolution, and individuals will be held responsible for any associated damages and cleanup costs.

For further details, please visit **FAMU Commencement**.

Yours In Service,

**Edward Kincheon** 

Coordinator, Fraternity and Sorority Life

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32307-3100

### **Graduating Members of the**

### Clubs, Organizations, and Fraternity and Sorority Life Community,

As graduation approaches, we celebrate your remarkable achievements at Florida A&M University (FAMU). Commencement is a time for joy, reflection, and celebration of your journey.

As you prepare to transition to the next chapter of your lives, we emphasize the solemnity and dignity of the ceremony. It symbolizes not only your individual accomplishments but also the collective success of our university community.

While we encourage you to express your enthusiasm and pride during this celebration, it is crucial to adhere to the established decorum and etiquette protocols. The university administration has observed certain behaviors during past ceremonies that are inconsistent with the solemnity of the occasion. In light of this, we want to remind you that any form of "<u>model walking</u>", <u>drilling</u>, <u>strolling</u>, <u>hopping</u>, <u>chanting</u>, <u>twirling</u>, <u>or disruptive behavior while walking across the stage to accept your diploma</u>, <u>and on the</u> <u>arena floor and sitting area</u>, is strictly prohibited.

It is essential to recognize that the university holds the authority to withhold transcripts and diplomas if a graduating student is found in violation of these guidelines. Furthermore, a formal hearing will be conducted to address any breach of conduct. In addition, the affiliated fraternity or sorority chapter or club/organization will face a minimum of six (6) months' probation as a consequence of such actions.

This notice is not intended to dampen your spirits but to ensure that the dignity and significance of the commencement ceremony are upheld for all graduates. We trust that you will comply with these guidelines and contribute to a dignified and respectful ceremony.

Should you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out to Bomani Spell, Dean of Students, at [Bomani.spell@famu.edu] or Edward Kincheon, Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life, at Edward.kincheon@famu.edu.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to each of you on reaching this momentous milestone. Your accomplishments are a source of pride for the entire FAMU community, and we look forward to celebrating with you on this joyous occasion.

For further details, please visit **FAMU Commencement**.

Best regards,

**Edward Kincheon** 

Coordinator, Fraternity and Sorority Life



TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32307-3100

Excellence With Caring
Division of Student Affairs
Office of the Dean of Students

April 1, 2024

FAMU – Fraternity & Sorority Life Sent electronically to <a href="mailto:greeklife@famu.edu">greeklife@famu.edu</a>

**MEMORANDUM** 

Attention Members of Clubs and Organizations and Fraternities and Sororities at FAMU:

We want to clarify that capturing memories through photos or videos in front of your respective wall sections at the Greek Wall on West Palmer Avenue is certainly permitted. We value and understand the importance of these moments. However, it's crucial to ensure that while doing so, we all remain mindful and respectful of traffic flow and safety regulations on campus.

It has come to our attention that the **Greek Wall area on West Palmer Avenue is experiencing traffic obstructions due to individuals parking and congregating** in front of or beside the armed gate near Lee Hall and standing in the middle of the road for photography and video sessions. This includes activities related to graduation, general photography, or video shoots. No vehicles may be parked in unauthorized areas or in a manner that could cause congestion and impede the safe passage of pedestrians, cyclists, and other vehicles. Please be advised that blocking or disrupting the flow of traffic, including parking in unauthorized zones, poses a significant safety hazard to our students, property, and all individuals using the roadway. The safety and well-being of our community members are our top priority, and maintaining clear pathways is essential to this commitment.

Please note that <u>effective immediately</u>, the FAMU Police Department (FAMUPD) will be enforcing these rules diligently. Actions that disrupt traffic flow or safety will result in ticketing and possible citations.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in making our campus a safer place for everyone. Remember, this directive does not limit your celebrations or expressions but aims to ensure that such activities do not compromise the safety of our community. This notice serves as a warning to all fraternity and sorority members and the general student body to adhere to traffic and safety regulations while on campus. Your cooperation is essential in maintaining a safe and orderly environment for everyone.

Should you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the Department of Campus Safety & Security at FAMU.

### **Contact Information:**

Address: 2400 Wahnish Way, Tallahassee, FL 32310

Phone: (850) 599-3256Email: fampol@famu.edu

• The Department of Campus Safety and Security - Visit Us

Your attention to this matter is critical, and your compliance is appreciated.

Respectfully.

Mr. Bomani Spell,

Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students

### CC:

- Ms. Audrey Alexander, Lieutenant Florida A&M University Police Department
- Ms. Felicia Barnes, Interim Director Efferson Student Union and Activities and Assistant Director of Clubs & Organizations
- Edward Kincheon, Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life