Anti-hazing sessions required by state for all student organizations

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The Student Government Association conducted an anti-hazing training session during the meeting time this week.

The training session is required for all student organizations by Louisiana State Law, according to Senate Chair Ross Allbritton.

SGA President laid out the legal penalties of hazing to the legislators. Harris said the death of Max Gruver at Louisiana State University was the catalyst for the new law.

"(If you haze) you could face a $10,000 fine and up to five years in jail, which is pretty intense if you ask me," Harris said.

Chief of Staff Jacob LeMeunier cautioned the senators against doing anything that could be perceived as hazing. "I'm in a fraternity and a lot of things that you do can be constituted as hazing.

Be aware of your actions. Think before you (act)," LeMeunier said, "Anything that you do could be reported and you'll have to defend your actions."

Dean of Students Margarita Perez attended the session and explained the motives behind the session to the senators.

"The bottom line is we want to save lives," Perez said.

Perez also said all student organizations have to do the session and fill out a form on Orgsync by Nov. 1 so the university can send in proof of completion to the state government.

"We'll probably be hunting (organizations) down because we have to provide this to the governor and the legislature," Perez said.

Treasurer Reece Walker said SGA should represent the student body well when it comes to hazing prevention.

"Keep in mind, as well, that we are the leaders on campus. We are held at a higher standard than any other organization when it comes to this," Walker said.