

## Sanctioning Guidelines for Sexual Misconduct

Ohio University, in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code (Chapter 2907), does not tolerate sexual violence. Sexual violence is a form of sexual misconduct under OU policy 03.004. The term "sexual misconduct" includes sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual intercourse, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual exploitation, and retaliatory harassment. Sexual misconduct is an A-level offense under the Ohio University Student Code of Conduct – A-4e (Mental or Bodily Harm to Others – Sexual Misconduct).

In accordance with the law and our institutional philosophy, Ohio University has adopted the sanctioning protocol listed below for those students who are found responsible for an A-4e violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

There are three general questions that will be evaluated as sanctioning decisions are made. The appropriate sanctioning guidelines are included after each one.

**Question 1:** Was there a sexual misconduct violation? If yes, expect a minimum of 1 semester suspension.

**Question 2:** Was there physical contact? If yes, expect a minimum of a 1 year suspension.

**Question 3:** Was there penetration of any form? If yes, expect expulsion\*.

*\*A presidential interim suspension will always be considered in these cases. A presidential interim suspension may also be used in other cases, depending on specific circumstances.*

In addition to all three questions, consideration should be given to any additional factors that were involved. These may include but are not limited to, the use of force or the premeditated use of drugs or alcohol. In cases where this applies, sanctions should be increased appropriately based on these circumstances.

Students who are eligible to return to campus after fulfilling a suspension will be expected to participate in an educational intervention and will not be permitted to have any form of contact with the other student(s) involved in the case for the duration of their enrollment at Ohio University.