

## **JICF—Secret Societies and Gang Activity**

### **Definitions**

The definition of a fraternity, sorority, or secret society is set forth in Idaho Code §33-1902 as follows:

- A student organization comprised in whole or in part of pupils enrolled in a public elementary or secondary school. Members are selected on the basis of decisions by the membership and not on the basis of the right of any student qualified by rules and regulations of the school to be a member.

Organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America, Campfire Girls, DeMolay, YMCA, YWCA, and other similar organizations are not included in the above definition.

### **Prohibition**

Idaho prohibits the establishment of fraternities, sororities, and secret societies at public elementary and secondary schools. Idaho Code §-33-1901 provides: Fraternities, sororities, and other student organizations, including secret societies, whose membership is comprised in whole or in part of pupils enrolled in public elementary or secondary schools of Idaho are unlawful.

It is unlawful for any person to solicit an elementary or secondary school pupil to become a member of any such organizations; and, No pupil enrolled in a public or secondary school shall be or become a member, or pledge himself to become a member, of any such organization.

### **Consequences of Membership**

Idaho Code §33-1903 states:

“Any public school student found to be in violation of the provisions pertinent to fraternities, sororities, and secret societies at the elementary and secondary school levels may suffer revocation of the rights and privileges of the school, denial of graduation, deprivation of credit, suspension, or expulsion through proceedings by the Board of Directors.”

*References Idaho Code §§33-1901, 1902, 1903*