

## **VANDALISM AND DAMAGES**

**Section:** Residence Halls

**Policy:** All incidents of vandalism must be documented and reported to the UGA PD. Residents are responsible for the condition of their rooms and all the furnishings assigned to them and will be held responsible for damages resulting from vandalism.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedures for responding to vandalism and damages.

**Scope:** This policy applies to all staff, residents and visitors to the residence halls, as well as guests of University Housing.

**Background:** This policy has been established to provide guidelines for efficient responses to incidents of vandalism and damages.

**Procedure:**

- I. If University Housing property is damaged or lost, residents are financially responsible and shall be charged. The department may require residents of an individual room, apartment unit, wing, floor, suite or residence hall to share the expense of repairing or replacing property in common area (such as hallways, studies, lobbies or areas immediately adjacent to the building) when such repairs are determined to be above and beyond normal wear and tear.
- II. University Housing staff will determine charges for damages and cleaning; residents may not replace or repair damaged items. Residents who owe \$5 or more in damages may be assessed a charge through Bursar and Treasury Services for group billing. Residents who fail to pay the assessed charges may have their records flagged, which prevents them from registering, obtaining transcripts or receiving grades.
- III. The intentional or reckless destruction or dismantling of any university property or equipment may result in restitution fees, student conduct proceedings, referral to law enforcement, and/or termination of the housing contract.
  - a. Due to the severity of the safety concern, damage or destruction to emergency/fire safety equipment (e.g., exit signs, sprinkler heads, smoke detectors, or pull stations) may incur a minimum \$350 charge per item, student conduct proceedings and/or referral to law enforcement, as well as termination of the housing contract.
- IV. University Housing staff must report all incidents of vandalism to the UGA PD, as well as take pictures of the area document the incident.

Revised and reviewed by management team: August 2, 2022

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