



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

President's Report Robin Blackmon

Austin Alumnae (Local)

- Greetings and Welcome to the 2023 SY We are excited to see each of you. State of the Chapter – Sorors while we have not received our compliance letter, we have met all of the compliance submissions and according to the Red Zone we are in compliance. As soon as we receive the letter I will share it on the member only portal for chapter review.
- Congratulations to the Executive Board and Membership Services on a successful retreat. Embracing the theme *Moving Forward: One Delta, One Bond, One Love. We Are One!* we had a great time of fun, fellowship and sisterly bonding. We are ready for next year.
- At the retreat, I introduced my presidential initiative for this year: Sister II Sister Circle. This initiative organizes the chapter by zip code areas with the objective of organizing the chapter to more effectively build sisterly bonds and support, serve in the member's immediate community, and accountability in emergency situations. Each circle should focus on:
 - Socializing
 - Supporting
 - Securing
 - Serving
- If you have not already heard from your Circle leaders you should soon. Sorors it's important to me that we not leave a soror behind, but I can't do it alone, it will take all of us. Happy Bonding through your Sister Circle.
- Social Action is who we are and September is one of the most important months for voting. We will be registering voters and need all sorors to become Voter Deputy Registrars. Social Action will say more but it's going to take all of us.
- Also, as you may know, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., as a co-plaintiff and with legal representation by the NAACP LDF, has challenged Texas Senate Bill 1 (S.B. 1) for its violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The trial starts on Monday, September 11, 2023, in San Antonio, Texas in the US Western District Court at the Hipolito F. Garcia Federal Building, Courtroom E in San Antonio and we need you to engage. If you are available sorors to go to San Antonio for the trial at least one day please sign up on the sign-up genius you received via email.

Regional/State

- Regional Director Barker held her State of the Region Address on Sunday, August 13. She provided data on the outstanding work in the SWR and the leaders that have and currently represent the SWR in National roles. She encouraged and motivated us to be in the room at the school board meetings and in our communities.
- No update on the Regional Conference. Thanks to sorors that have notified me of competing activities that could impact but not impede us from getting the job done. I know we are anxious but we cannot move until we are given the orders to do so. As soon as I am aware of information to share, I will do so.

National

National Convention Report

The conference theme was "Forward with Fortitude: Engaging Our Sisterhood, Empowering Our Communities, Elevating Our Impact."

Results of the National Election (815 delegates voted) - Congratulations to the National Executive Committee and Board Members for the 2023 – 2025 biennium.

International President and CEO, Board of Directors – Elsie Cooke-Holmes (SW)

National First Vice President – Cheryl Turner (SO)

National Second Vice President – Sade' Ried (FW)

National Secretary – Joi Moore (CE)

National Treasurer – Rosalyn Glenn (SA)

Chair, 2025 National Nominating Committee – Janelle Baker (SO)

Alumnae member, National Audit and Corporate Compliance Committee – Deloris Drakes (EA)

Collegiate Member, National Scholarship and Standards Committee - Tamia Brown (SA)

Collegiate Member, National Finance Committee – Allison Keith (EA)

Collegiate Member, 2025 National Nominating Committee – Ryane Jones (EA)

Collegiate Member, National Audit and Corporate Compliance Committee – Denielle Clarke (EA) and Jordan Sampson (SO)

The Sorority was pleased to welcome Seven distinguished [Honorary Members](#) during the 56th National Convention.

- Ambassador Bonnie D. Jenkins,
- Channing Dungey,
- Rashida Jones,
- Tamika Catchings,
- Debra Lee,
- Phyllis Newhouse, and
- Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson.

Constitution and Bylaws Plenary – This discussion was very fruitful. The bulk of the plenary's were C&B discussions other than those that had to happen. There were 35 proposed amendments. While there were some amendments to some of the amendments, 34 of the amendments were adopted, 1 failed. Some highlights:

1. The National President will be called the International President and Chair of the National Board of Directors.
2. Minimum quorum requirement is 25%
3. Discussion on sorors who renounces Delta and fails to inform and comply with the renouncement process shall be expelled for violation of the Code of Conduct's intellectual property.
4. Initiation Fees increased for grand chapter and local chapter maximum increased
5. Filling vacancies in the immediate Past President position (new)

Officers and Committee Reports

National President, Elsie Cooke-Holmes Moving forward isn't always easy. There was challenge and transition at the beginning, but we are on the other side of it. We need to keep it moving.

- Engaging Our Sisters – About feeling a connection with Delta. We have 13,000 in person and 10,000 virtually. We have 86,000 paid members.
- Our social media presence lets us know there is a desire to be connected to Delta. We have 11,000 Instagram followers; 149,000 Facebook followers.
- Empower Our Community – with the stellar programs and initiatives like Live Well which is the focus on mental health; National Alliance on mental illness...focus on mental health as individuals and as a group; Financial Fortitude
- Chartered the United Kingdom Alumnae Chapter so our international mission work continues.
- Social justice efforts – Delta continues to lead the way within the D9.
- We had over 9,300 new initiatives over this biennium
- Elevate Our Impact – more than 60 years of social action commission; over \$1 million in scholarship awarded through chapters.
- Moving from good to great by bettering our relationships. We need to offer grace and “see” our sister.

National First Vice President (Scholarship & Standards) Pamela Smith

- Expanding legacy pilot to other regions
- Completed the update for the improved chapter management handbook. They have hyperlinks in the table of contents that will guide us through the document.

- Policies and Procedures reviews – 900 chapters reviewed.
- Chapter Chartering process.
 - o Received 24 applications (21 alumnae; 3 collegiate)
 - o Chartered The United Kingdom Alumnae Chapter on April 2nd and Upsilon Omega Chapter, California State University, San Marcos – Farwest Region on April 30th.
- Membership Intake
 - o Improved, Streamlined and Monitored Reimagined Membership Intake Program
 - o 698 chapters initiated 9500+ sorors in 2021-2023
 - o 314 chapters initiated 5400 members in 2022-2023
 - o Tweaks made to the Intake process.
 - o Certified 492 Level 1-3 trainers through the enhanced certification process.
 - o Streamlined administrative procedure appendices.
 - o Received 1,240 responses from membership intake feedback.
 - o Across 3 seasons of intake: total applications across all regions – 26,750 (16,477 pilot regions and 10,273 non-pilot regions)
 - o Total legacy applications (identified as legacy) – 2,018 (469 applied as legacy and 1,549 did not)
 - o Working on electronic Delta Achievement Test (MC won't have to score it...computer will)
 - o MC can write more than one letter of recommendation.
 - o Contact information no longer required on Delta letter.

Total Cease and Desist - 192

National Second Vice President, Dee Dee James Kong

- Assisted collegiate sorors with attending Delta Days at the Nation's Capital
- Encouraged positive social media image.
- Advocated for mental health and emotional well-being.
- Held financial fortitude workshops/webinars.

National Treasurer – Pamela Hill

The 2021-2023 Strategic Financial objective was to maintain the financial stability of the sorority and to allow the current administration to strategically implement operating and programmatic priorities. Accomplishments:

- Controlled expenses
- Managed investments
- Provided reports to Grand chapter.
- Provided fiscal resources and training.
- Implemented fiscal year change.

Total Assets as of May 31, 2023 = \$58.9M

Total Liabilities as of May 31, 2023 = \$24M

Total Net Assets as of May 31, 2023 = \$34.9M

Membership status as 2022-2023 fiscal year = 87,482. For the extended year we are at 80,000.

National Finance Committee, Soraya Williams Farver

- September 30th – Adjusted dues deadline
- November 30th – Budget deadline for 2024 year
- February 28th – New finance deadline for some stuff

Audit & Corporate Compliance, Dr. Tonya Wonnum Smalls:

- The Internal Audit Manual was last updated in August 2020. The manual has been updated and enhanced to further help and guide chapters regarding policies and procedures related to internal audit processes, including instructions on conducting local chapter internal audits, reporting audit results, and submitting quarterly and annual audit reports in the Red Zone. We will receive communication when the website has been updated.
 - DST Internal Audit Chair Transition Toolkit: A toolkit was created to address the resource and timing gaps associated with knowledge transfer from outgoing to incoming chapter internal audit chairs. Once the toolkit has been posted to website, we will receive communication.
- National Audit and Corporate Compliance Committee Office Hours: The committee established office hours via zoom to be a resource for chapter internal audit chairs to help them troubleshoot and resolve issues during the year. More information coming regarding upcoming office hours.

Credentials:

60	National Board of Directors	8	Past National Presidents
825	Voting Delegates	736	Alternate Delegates
12,896	Non-voting delegates	9,983	Virtual Non-voting delegates
320	Hostess Chapter on site	176	Exhibitors (companies)
13	Honorary Members	28	Staff: Non-Deltas
722	Family / Guests	542	Alumnae Chapters
283	Collegiate Chapters	111	Chapters Not Present
24,841	Total Deltas	1,802	Total Other
26,643	Grand Total		

Last but definitely not least Congratulations to the Austin Alumnae Chapter's Founders Day and Heritage and Archives Committee on receiving the National Heritage and Archives award for our Founders Day Celebration. The tech team will play the winning video that was submitted.

Submitted By:

Date: September 9, 2023

Robin T. Blackmon

President

Chapter Compliance */20231

Austin Alumnae

9/8/2023

All forms and fees have been received for Compliance.

Your chapter HAS met Financial compliance.

Number of Financial Members:	318	Special Dispensation:	Not Required
National Corp Fee Paid:	Yes	Regional Corp Fee Paid:	Yes
Liability Insurance Paid:	Yes	Bond Insurance Paid:	Yes

CALU

Forms Received			
Awards:	Yes	Heritage & Archives:	Yes
Grants:	Yes	ERT:	Yes
Economic:	Yes	Scholarship & Fundraising:	Yes
Education:	Yes	Housing, Properties, & Foundation:	Yes
International Awareness:	Yes	Transition:	Yes
Physical & Mental Health:	Yes	Policies & Procedures:	Yes
Political Awareness:	Yes	Rules of Order:	Yes
Risk Management:	Yes	Federal Tax Authorization:	Yes
Fiduciary Forms Upload:	Yes	Annual Audit Report:	Yes
Compliance GPA S/Q1:	N/A	AROCO	Yes
Advisor Certification:	N/A	Chapter Profile	Yes












**DELTA
SIGMA
THETA**
SORORITY, INC.

56TH National Convention July 18 – 23, 2023