

Subject: Update on Zoom bombing investigation and next steps

Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 5:12:23 PM Eastern Standard Time

From: Office of the President

To: SRU Stakeholder

Feb. 17, 2021

To the University Community:

I wanted to share with everyone that the investigation into the Feb. 13 Zoom bombing of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. event is ongoing.

Our University Police have been in contact with internal and external resources, including SRU's Information and Administrative Technology Services, Butler County District Attorney's Office, Pennsylvania State Police, and the FBI. Authorities have advised the University that investigations of this kind can take time but that does not diminish their severity or importance. The incident is being taken seriously and is being actively investigated. If the perpetrators of the Zoom bombing are ultimately identified as SRU students, they will face full disciplinary sanctions.

I encourage anyone that may have information regarding this incident to contact the University Police confidential tip line at 724.738.2778.

When an incident like this occurs, we are all shaken. As the police do their work, the rest of us must do ours, which is to reaffirm that actions like this are anathema to what we stand for, and to support our African American students, faculty and staff members who have been victimized. Given the serious and divisive nature of what has occurred, the University will be hosting three opportunities for open discussion of ways to strengthen our commitment to supporting a diverse campus.

The first one, slated for Monday, Feb. 22, will focus on the recent incident and the University's response; the second, to occur in March, will focus on intersectionality; and the third, slated for April, will be a review of the first draft of the University's Diversity Strategic Plan.

All students, staff, and faculty are invited to attend the Feb. 22 discussion. Additional information including the time of the event, how to submit questions, and a link to join the forum, will be emailed to all constituencies tomorrow, Feb. 18.

I hope everyone will be able to join us for each of these important discussions concerning our campus community.

Thank you,

William J. Behre
President