

To the Sisters of Tau Beta Sigma National Honorary Band Sorority,

It is with great excitement that I submit my intent to run for the office of National Vice President for Special Projects (VPSP). I have reviewed all obligations of the office in the National Constitution of Tau Beta Sigma and feel as though I have the skills and experience to not only achieve the initiatives of the VPSP position, but to take a progressive approach to the programs our organization holds to such high regard. "Tau Beta Sigma for Greater Bands" is not just our motto. It is the foundation for our programming that allows us to achieve the ideals set forth in our mission: "We cultivate leadership, educational achievement, music appreciation and community development."

Each of the National Programs of the organization has a very specific goal. The ideal VPSP will not only ensure that each of these goals are met, but will challenge the students to perform these programs to a higher level than ever before. It is with this ideal in mind, that I hope to work with the students at each level of the organization to ensure the highest quality programming. This begins with education.

Prior to starting my current journey in Law School, I enjoyed teaching middle and high school band at a private school in Orlando, FL. Since I was the first band director at my school in a number of years, it was my responsibility to create a 5th-12th grade band curriculum for my program. I worked collaboratively with other music faculty to provide many out of class educational opportunities for the students such as performances, band trips, professional clinicians, and professional concert experiences. Additionally, I lead our band program to our first superior rating at festival in school history. I thoroughly enjoyed providing life changing musical experiences for my students and it is this same passion for student success that I will bring to the VPSP position.

For these reasons, my biggest goal for the VPSP position in the next biennium is to create a comprehensive education plan to educate chapters and members on how to implement each national program, why we have each program, and ways to make them more effective in each specific college environment. I would like to make the *Program Guides* for our "Woman in Music" Program and "Crescendo" Program the foundation of this education plan, as both resources are tremendously beneficial. Moreover, I'd like to continue to incorporate the national initiatives of the organization into the "Focus on Five Campaign." I believe that by creating more educational opportunities for our students, we will not just see higher participation, but an overall higher quality of execution of our programming across the board. Our programs with less participation, such as the "Bandswomen Networking Program," "National Intercollegiate Band," and "Commissioning Program," could greatly benefit from a proactive educational plan. This initiative could easily be achieved by producing webinars, skyping into chapter meetings, and using social media to publicize "best practice tips." There truly is no limit to the potential impact we can make through our national programs.

Perhaps one of the biggest strengths I have to offer the position of National Vice President for Special Projects is my passion for engaging students on a personal level. In all my experiences as a past SED President, past District Counselor, Band Director, and Law Student, I take great pride in the relationships I have been able to make with students and colleagues that have enabled me to foster leadership, challenge others to pursue excellence, and never settle for anything less than the best. I plan to work one-on-one with each of the district VPSPs in order to assist them in the implementation of their district programs, and to also encourage them to think outside of the box in ways to serve their districts. Furthermore, I'd like to work with each district to put the National Leadership fund to good use by helping provide additional leadership development resources to each of the district's Leadership Conferences, Precinct Meetings, or State Days. I believe that engaging chapter members and officers is key to not only ensure our national programs are being implemented at the highest degree, but also to assist them in serving their college bands: the reason for which our organization continues to be relevant on college campuses across the United States.

I appreciate your consideration for myself as a candidate for the position of National Vice President for Special Projects and look forward to continuing to serve and implementing the ideals of our organization. Tau Beta Sigma for Greater Bands!

Stephen Burt

Candidate for National Vice President for Special Projects

SED Counselor 2014-2017

Epsilon Alpha-University of South Carolina

Life Member #3065

STEPHEN K. BURT

595 W Church St., Apt 837, Orlando, FL 32805
(843) 509-3458
stephenburt@tbsigma.org

EDUCATION

Barry University, Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law

Juris Doctorate Candidate 2018

- Student Bar Association, President, Treasurer, 1L Senator
- American Bar Association, 5th Circuit Lt. Governor for Non-Traditional Students
- Florida Bar YLD-Law Student Division, Member
- Phi Alpha Delta Initiate, Fall 2015

Evangel University

Master of Music in Music Education

- Graduat Assistant, Evangel University Marching Band
- Graduat Wind Ensemble, Conductor

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)

- Certification in K-12 Instrumental and Choral Education

University of South Carolina

Bachelor of Arts in Music/Saxophone

WORK EXPERIENCE

Faith Christian Academy, Orlando, FL

2013 August - 2016 May

Director of Bands

- Director of 6 Bands (286 Students)
- Superior Rating-New Orleans World Strides Heritage Performance Festival
- First Superior Rating in School History
- Florida Bandmasters Association-Member
- Florida Department of Education-Certified K-12 Instrumental Education

Evangel University, Springfield, MO

2011 August - 2013 May

Graduate Assistant

- Regularly directed rehearsals of the EU Marching Band
- Played integral role in the creation of and the foundation building of the EU Marching Band
- Created, organized, rehearsed, and conducted graduate wind ensemble
- Graduate Conducting Recital (2013 December 10)
- Organized overall sound-production program
- Implemented new traditions/foundations with the first 2 years of band existence

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION AND SERVICE

Barry University Student Bar Association (2015-Present)

- SBA President (2017-2018)
- SBA Treasurer (2016-2017)
- 1L Senator (2015-2016)
- Study in Spain: Summer 2016
- The Docket (Student Newsletter) Committee Member
- Student Affairs and Liaison Committee

Phi Alpha Delta, Law Fraternity, International (2015-Present) *Braswell Chapter*

Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Band Fraternity, Southeast District Honorary Member

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TAU BETA SIGMA NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

2015 National Convention, *Lexington, KY*

- Ways and Means Committee Advisor
- Southeast District Counselor

2013 National Convention, *Springfield, MA*

2011 National Convention, *Colorado Springs, CO*

- Nominations Committee Chair
- Delegate: Epsilon Alpha

2009 National Convention, **Phoenix, AZ**

- Ways and Means Committee Chair
- Southeast District President
- Delegate: Southeast District

TBS Alumni Association Member

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

Southeast District Counselor

2014 April – 2017 April

- Advised three SED councils in the implementation of their work
- Advised Nominations and Joint Actions Committees at three SED Conventions
- Presented workshops at three SE District Leadership Conferences on Ritual, Constitutions, and finances
- Advised the New Ad-Hoc 8th Note Committee (district publication)

Southeast District Alumni Association Founding Chair

2013 - 2014

- Guided the creation of, and implementation of, the beginning foundations for SEDAA
- Worked with the other 10 founding members to create a constitution, committees, membership, etc.

Southeast District President

2009 April – 2011 April

- Visited 32 of the 40 SED active chapters
- Planned and implemented SED Conventions at both the University of Georgia (2011), and University of Florida (2010)
- Planned and implemented SE District Leadership Conferences at Florida State University (2011) and Valdosta State University (2010)
- Worked closely with both councils to achieve record paperwork percentages and district participation
- Attended 9 colony instillations

Southeast District Secretary/Treasurer

2008 April – 2009 April

SED Conventions in Attendance:

University of South Florida (2017), Auburn University (2016), University of Georgia (2015), Georgia Institute of Technology (2014), Florida State University (2013), University of Central Florida (2012), University of Georgia (2011), University of Florida (2010), University of South Carolina (2009), Florida State University (2008), Georgia Institute of Technology (2007)

EPSILON ALPHA, University of South Carolina

Life Member #3065

Initiated Spring 2007-“Dirtlegs”

Colony Advisor Iota Zeta-Savannah State University (Spring 2011)

Fall 2010 Vice President of Membership

- Guided 5 Candidates through the Membership Process

2008-2010 Parliamentarian

- Worked with the Jurisdiction committee to create a mission and vision statement that is still in place today

2009 Southeast District Convention Host Committee Chair

- Submitted and selected as the bid for the 2009 SED Convention

2007-2009 Vice President of Special Projects

2009 Music Chair



Tau Beta Sigma



*Serving College Bands
Since 1946*



Barry University

School of Law | **Student Bar Association**

To the Tau Beta Sigma Honorary Band Sorority:


I am writing this letter on behalf of Stephen Burt, a law student at Barry University School of Law, who is applying for the National Vice President of Special Projects of the Tau Beta Sigma Honorary Band Sorority. Stephen is very deserving of this position, and I am proud to have had the privilege of getting to know, and work with him the past two school years.

Stephen is the current SBA Treasurer, and did an amazing job balancing his responsibilities as SBA Treasurer, with the demands of law school. He also currently holds the position of SBA President Elect for the 2017-2018 school year. He was actively involved at SBA events held this year.

Stephen is also involved in the Phi Alpha Delta Legal Sorority on campus, and is a Fifth Circuit Lieutenant Governor for Non-Conventional Students for the American Bar Association. Stephen manages his time wisely among these tasks and has never let one organization affect his involvement in another. He uses his involvement in different organizations to foster relationships between the organization creating unity on campus.

Stephen was a music teacher when he began law school and he used that leadership and experience at Barry University School of Law as he guided and assisted other students to success. He demonstrates compassion, and concern for the entire student body, addressing student concerns and issues. This compassion and drive will be extremely beneficial to the National Vice President of Special Projects position. Stephen works hard, and ensures he completes tasks to the fullest extent.

Stephen has the respect of the student body, and the backing of administration on campus. He is someone I admire and aspire to be like. It is for these reasons, that I believe Stephen is an exceptional candidate for this position.

Sincerely,


Shawna Moyers

Barry University School of Law

Student Bar Association President

Juris Doctorate Candidate, Class of 2017

Phone: 407-921-2351

Email: Shawna.moyers@law.barry.edu

April 29, 2019



Crystal R. Hunter
174 Walkers Hill Road
Meridianville, AL 35759

Dear Sisters of Tau Beta Sigma National Honorary Band Sorority, Inc,

I have known Stephen K. Burt since the Spring of 2008. I was privileged to have him grow and develop during my tenure as a Southeast District Counselor. As he stood next to me taking the Oath of Office, I did not yet see the dedication, compassion and tremendous love that would soon shower on the active membership of our 7 states.

As he started his occupancy as a district secretary-treasurer his leadership was paramount even at the base of the board. Although very modest to start, he did not allow his assistance to the goals to be hidden. He advised the council in all facets. He had very distinct ideas and strategies and understood concretely how the district should evolve. As a student, his input kept the council on a path of efficiency and effectiveness.

As he found his place for two terms as district president, our district changed. If only for a moment it changed. In a heavily African-American female filled district he made a transformation. He decided to do something other than make guidelines and give directives. He chose to care, have empathy, and show all sisters that they mattered. He put himself in some very uncomfortable situations in an effort to be supportive and uplifting. When he walked in a room, the robust sound was deafening. We loved who we had become.

The adage states that "They don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care." Because he did that, the district soared to administrative and financial heights. The ability to correspond with the district president face to face on a chapter's campus sealed the deal. All district presidents have the knowledge, but the key is to build the chapters to utilize what you have taught them. His dedication depicted here will easily transfer across the board to all chapters in the nation. It is easy to imagine that these services undergirded his tenure as an SED Counselor and will continue to guide him throughout the years.

Stephen has always had a love for students. For him there are no separating attributes, only unifying. He knows how to corral his thoughts, organize them and produce results for the student success. He makes the effort to master his tasks and his achievements are the record.

Because he has shown an earnest heart and has unequivocally continued his quest for the best Tau Beta Sigma, I can fully, without a doubt recommend Mr. Stephen K. Burt to be considered as a candidate for the office of National Vice-President of Special Projects.

Respectfully,

Crystal Hunter
Southeast District Chapter Visitation Assistant
2015-2017
Southeast District Counselor
2008-2014

To the Nominations Committee of Tau Beta Sigma,

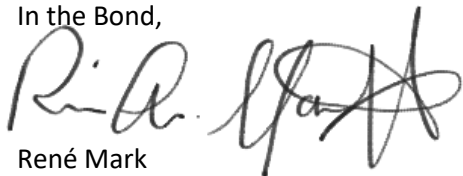
It is with great pride and honor that I recommend Stephen Burt for the position of Vice President for Special Projects on the National Council of Tau Beta Sigma. Stephen's passion for the Sorority, penchant for teaching, and expansive experience both professionally and in the organization make him an exceptional candidate for this position.

Stephen's passion for Tau Beta Sigma and its students is infectious and he inspires leadership in others through his service. He leads with enthusiasm and energy that encourages participation, a valuable trait in the VPSP. My own journey in servant leadership with Tau Beta Sigma was sparked after meeting Stephen for the first time in 2008. Even as an active member, Stephen had a penchant for teaching and mentorship that allowed him to successfully lead a large and diverse district in a variety of positions, including president. We worked together for two years on the Southeast District Council, then again founding the SED Alumni Association. Since then I have had the opportunity to watch Stephen work with hundreds of the students in the SED as counselor. He has an incredible ability to connect and communicate with students, a skill that served him well not only in his TBS career, but also during his time as a band director. Both as an educator and a leader within TBS, Stephen has been committed to the leadership development and well-being of his students, making him an outstanding candidate for the national council. Further, Stephen is a supportive team player who encourages and uplifts his colleagues. His experience as a band director provides a perspective of the constituents our organization was created to serve and thus would be an asset to the council.

Having served the Sorority in a variety of roles, Stephen knows our organization inside and out and has seen it from a multitude of angles. He knows its strengths, weaknesses, challenges, and areas for improvement. In all of the positions that Stephen has served, he worked to create programs and activities that solved problems, improved effectiveness and efficiency, and benefited both students and alumni. His conventions and programs were always met with enthusiasm and high participation. Stephen is forward-thinking and believes in the continued success and growth of Tau Beta Sigma. He balances innovation and thinking outside of the box with the traditions and core values that our Sisterhood is founded upon. Stephen embodies the ideals of our organization and represents himself and TBS with poise, charisma, and professionalism.

Stephen has my highest recommendation for the position of Vice President for Special Projects. I'm excited to see the direction the Sorority goes with him serving in this new capacity. Please feel free to contact me for further information.

In the Bond,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "René Mark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "R" and "M".

René Mark
TBSAA Executive Council, Events Chair
Tau Beta Sigma - Beta Xi, Sponsor