



TAU  
KAPPA  
EPSILON

*Better Men for a Better World*

March 26, 2015

Members of the Franklin Community,

My name is Donald Aldrich and I am the Chief Executive Officer of Tau Kappa Epsilon. More importantly, I am a 2005 graduate of Franklin College and a proud member of Tau Kappa Epsilon. I am writing in support of the housing initiative that the TKE Chapter in Franklin has undertaken.

As a former member of the Franklin community, I know the values that every citizen seeks out in themselves and their neighbor. Additionally, I note that Franklin prides itself as the city website states "an exciting blend of tradition and innovation." This project embodies the exact mantra that this city strives toward. Tau Kappa Epsilon has existed in the community and on the campus of Franklin College for 27 years. Over that time it has produced doctors, lawyers, teachers, fathers and husbands who have added to the community of Franklin and cities throughout the United States. This organization has been a traditional asset to both the community and its parent organization that I now lead since its inception. The chapter at TKE has won the Top TKE Award, its highest honor, in 10 of its 27 years of existence. This award is given to the top 5% of the chapters in the United States and Canada. As TKE has had between 260-285 chapters annually over the past 27 years, you can begin to comprehend the hard work and standards of excellence that this group has held itself to in accomplishing this honor consistently.

While holding itself to a high standard, the chapter has also given back to the community. Over the past 10 years the TKE group at Franklin College has raised \$27,667 for charity. They have completed 12,168 service hours. I remember fondly our frequent trips to the Masonic Home from 2001-2005 to call Bingo numbers for the residents. The smiles and stories that they were able to share and the lessons of service made those hours donated just as impactful on me as it was for them.

We reach an opportunity now to be part of the innovation that Franklin embraces. The housing project that the Board of Advisors has proposed will become the example that we believe others will follow in the future. This venture will incorporate both aesthetic features in its design and address the practical issue of housing that is needed in the sustained growth of Franklin College and Johnson County. Franklin can additionally be innovative in embracing TKE as stewards of the community who will develop into its future leaders and citizens. The City of Franklin and Franklin College played a large role in the development of me as a man. Tau Kappa Epsilon played the largest role. The approval of this project and the partnership of the Franklin community, Franklin College, and TKE will continue to produce men we can all be proud of.

Respectfully,

Donald E. Aldrich  
Chief Executive Officer  
Tau Kappa Epsilon  
Franklin College Class of 2005