

Orthodox Christian Campus Ministries (OCCM)

www.susoccm.org

OCCM Mission

Liability Policy



Orthodox Christian Campus Ministries, hereafter referred to as “OCCM”, has established a set of policies to ensure the safety, security, well-being, full participation, and enjoyment of every participant in its **OCCM Mission** program with an understanding that the mission program is based in the Orthodox Christian Faith, and as such, all participants in the program are expected to follow and to respect the moral and religious teachings of the Coptic Orthodox Church. All participants on OCCM Mission trips must be enrolled in undergraduate through graduate/professional programs.

Acknowledgment and Release of Liability

By signing this liability policy, participants assume all risks of injury and/or damage to themselves that might result from their participation in a mission program with OCCM, including but not limited to, the risks of traveling to and from the sites of the mission program, and for the work performed by themselves and others participating in the mission program.

By signing this liability policy, participants understand and acknowledge that participation may expose them to risks and possible dangers including, but not limited to, risks of accident, disease, political unrest, and injury.

To the maximum extent available under the law, by signing this liability policy participants are waiving, releasing, and giving up all claims against OCCM and its clergy, trustees, officers, directors, staff, volunteers and/or agents, and any affiliates of OCCM including but not limited to the Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate – Diocese of the Southern United States and its clergy, trustees, officers, directors, staff, volunteers and/or agents for any injury, accident, illness, or death occurring during or by reason of an OCCM Mission program, including but not limited to any delay or irregularity in schedule. By signing this liability policy, participants further agree to relieve OCCM of any responsibility for damage or loss to their property during or by reason of the mission program.

By signing this liability policy, participants agree that they will abide by all of the rules and guidelines set forth by the OCCM Mission program for the safety and good health of its participants. Participants also agree that if they have to return home for any reason, including but not limited to situations where they are required to return home due to violations of policy and/or concerns related to their conduct, it will be at their own expense.

By signing this liability policy, participants agree to indemnify and hold blameless OCCM and its clergy, trustees, officers, directors, staff, volunteers and/or agents and any affiliates of OCCM including but not limited to the Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate – Diocese of the Southern United States and its clergy, trustees, officers, directors, staff, volunteers and/or agents from any expenses, losses, claims, or damages incurred as a result of the participant’s acts or omissions, whether negligent or reckless, unintentional or intentional, during the period of their participation in any OCCM Mission program.

Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs

The OCCM Mission program strictly prohibits the possession, distribution, use and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, and/or non-prescribed drugs during the entire OCCM Mission trip, including but not limited to travel to/from host locations and periods of personal or off-time during a trip including where participants may be allowed to leave a host site.

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By agreeing to participate in an OCCM Mission program, participants, who may be of legal age to otherwise engage in said use, are specifically agreeing to adhere to OCCM's strict policy. Failure to comply with the stated policies will lead to immediate disciplinary action by OCCM and/or its designated trip leaders, including but not limited to, dismissal from the OCCM Mission program, notification of the appropriate authorities, and ban from future participation in the OCCM Mission program. By signing this document, participants agree to the above terms.

Immoral Behavior and Sexual Misconduct

The OCCM Mission program is based in the Orthodox Christian Faith, and as such, expects all participants in the program to follow and to respect the moral and religious teachings of the Orthodox Church during the entire OCCM Mission trip. OCCM expects that participants appreciate and respect that they will be visiting different cultures, which further the need for participants to follow and respect said teachings. By example, certain behaviors will be strictly prohibited throughout the entire OCCM Mission trip, including but not limited to holding hands, hugging, kissing, becoming comfortable and close with local youth from the opposite gender to an extent outside of the purpose of this mission.

OCCM has an established and published Sexual Misconduct Policy. Behaviors which are strictly prohibited during the duration of the OCCM Mission program include, but are not limited to, engaging in any physical touching of any kind, kissing, petting, caressing, and/or any other sexual contact intended for sexual gratification, with or without consent. Engaging in vulgar, obscene, suggestive, and/or profane speech, action, and/or behavior is also strictly forbidden.

By agreeing to participate in the OCCM Mission program, participants are specifically agreeing to adhere to that policy and acknowledge that a failure to comply with the stated policies will lead to immediate disciplinary action by OCCM and/or its designated trip leaders, including but not limited to, dismissal from the OCCM Mission program, notification of the appropriate authorities, and ban from future participation in OCCM Mission. By signing this document, participants agree to the above terms.

Photographs / Video and Audio Recordings

By signing this liability policy, participants consent to the taking of photographs, video recordings, and audio recordings during the OCCM Mission program and understand and consent to them for them being used for the purpose of future promotion of OCCM and the OCCM Mission program. By agreeing to participate in the OCCM Mission program, participants are specifically consenting to the use by OCCM of any photographs, video recordings, audio recordings, and/or any other visual or audio reproduction that may capture their image and/or conduct during the OCCM Mission program.

Participant's Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

**** Please scan and email this form signed and dated to vp@susoccm.org. ****