## RULE

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AUTHORITY	6Hx23-1.34	Revision #12-8

## 6Hx23-1.34 DISCRIMINATION GRIEVANCE RULE

- I. St. Petersburg College is dedicated to the concept of equal opportunity and equal access, and will not tolerate discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information or against any qualified individual with disabilities. It is the purpose of this policy to secure, at the earliest possible procedural level, the resolution of alleged charges of discrimination through informal and formal procedures by which charges may be presented free from coercion interference, restraint, discrimination, or reprisal and by which students, employees, and applicants for admission are afforded adequate opportunity to resolve the charges.
- II. The Board of Trustees delegates to the President of the College authority to develop procedures for hearing and responding to informal discrimination inquiries and formal complaints of discrimination.
- III. This Rule shall apply to admission to the College; admission to programs; terms or conditions of employment, wages, and aid, benefit, or service to students.
- IV. It is contrary to College policy to file a discrimination or harassment complaint in bad faith. Any person who abuses this Rule and its Procedure by filing a frivolous complaint may be subject to disciplinary action where such complaint was determined to be pursued in bad faith. This subsection is not intended to discourage bona-fide complaints brought forth in good faith.
- V. It is further contrary to College policy for any individual to engage in conduct that may be deemed retaliatory against any complainant or witness that has made allegations or provided information or testimony in relation to, or during investigation of, a complaint of discrimination or harassment. Any person who believes they have been subjected to retaliation may seek redress pursuant to this Rule and its Procedure.

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Specific Authority: 1001.64 (2) & (4), F.S.

Law Implemented: 1000.05, 1001.64(18), 1012.855, F.S.; SBE Rules 6A-19.001, 6A-19.002, 6A-19.009, F.A.C.

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