



# So You've Been Charged!

Don't panic! Just because you are being charged with a violation of the Code of Conduct doesn't mean you've been proven responsible, you have a long way until that decision is made.

## Get an Advocate

A Judicial Advocate is an undergraduate student who works for SGA and is specially trained in the Code of Student Conduct and administrative law to help guide you throughout your case. The Student Code of Conduct allows for students to have an Advocate throughout the course of the judicial process. This service is free to all undergraduate students.

<b>An Advocate Can</b>	<b>An Advocate Cannot</b>
Be present at your Pre-Hearing and Hearing	Speak on behalf of a student
Answer questions about the judicial process and hearing guidelines	Advise students to lie or fabricate evidence to mislead a hearing board or conduct officer.
Help collect documents and formulate questions	Access student records without student consent
Help prepare for hearings and ensure due process	Intimidate or bribe witnesses or hearing board members
Help with drafting sanction appeals	Advise students to not follow sanctions

Advocates are bound by strict legal and ethical standards, which means that everything you discuss with an Advocate will be kept between you and the Advocate. This includes any documents that are shared as well as conversations via phone, email or text.

Don't forget, Judicial Advocates are students just like you, and become Advocates to help their fellow students and to ensure that the judicial process is fair. If you have any questions or wish to set up a consultation fill out our Intake Form or reach out to [AdvocateSGA@umbc.edu](mailto:AdvocateSGA@umbc.edu).