



Memorandum

To: Stonehill College Community

From: Thomas V. Flynn
General Counsel

Re: No use of latex products on campus

Date: February 27, 2018

This memo updates and expands on a memo issued April 20, 2011 by the Office of the General Counsel.

Latex products, and specifically latex balloons, pose a serious health risk to students, employees, and campus visitors with severe latex allergies. Allergic responses to latex can range from irritation and allergic contact dermatitis to the possibility of life threatening anaphylactic shock.

Stonehill does not allow latex products on the campus except in specific situations under the following guidelines.

Any student group wishing to use a latex product on campus must seek the written approval of the Director of Student Engagement. As a general rule, latex balloons for the sole purpose of decoration, are not allowed on campus. Mylar balloons are an acceptable substitute.

Faculty who wish to use any item containing latex (including a latex balloon or latex gloves) as part of scholarly activities, academic work, or research must first determine if there is a reasonable non-latex substitute available. If there is no substitute available then the faculty member may request approval from the Office of the Provost to utilize the item containing latex.

The Facilities Department as well as external vendors, including, but not limited to, in connection with maintenance, food service, and construction, must seek the permission of the Associate Vice President for Operations prior to using a product containing latex on the campus.

All other employees, students, and outside groups seeking to use a latex product on campus must receive the approval of the Office of the General Counsel.

In all cases, the designated office/college official named above will review the request and, if approved, will provide guidance and require posting of warnings to ensure individuals with a latex allergy receive timely notice of the use/presence of a latex product on campus.

While the College is taking these steps, it should be noted that a latex free environment cannot be guaranteed on the Stonehill campus, and individuals with a latex allergy/sensitivity should take reasonable precautions when entering onto the campus or into campus buildings. The College continues to maintain an interactive process which by students, employees, and guests may request reasonable accommodations for documented disabilities on a case-by-case basis. Accommodations granted by the College may supersede the requirements of this memo.