



St. Petersburg, Florida

Shambhala Care & Conduct

Conducting Ourselves and Caring for Each Other

September 2, 2020

Shambhala is committed to a practice, study and social environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. It is each person's right to be free from harassment, mistreatment, and discrimination. Each individual has the right to practice, study and socialize with others in an atmosphere that is free from abuse of any type, including sexual, verbal and emotional abuse.

We acknowledge that transgressions have occurred within the Shambhala International organization. People have been harmed. In order to heal from these occurrences, and to prevent future instances of harm, we are declaring our commitment in this statement, for all to see.

In addition to being bound individually and as a community to basic Shambhala and Buddhist standards of conduct, we are also citizens of the larger communities in which our centers are located worldwide and, therefore, must abide by public laws. These include but are not limited to laws pertaining to alcohol, drugs, and sexual conduct.

If any individual is concerned that the behavior of a member of the Shambhala community, including any of its office holders, may not have been in accordance with this statement of principles, please contact the Director of this Center, or any of the Council members or Shastris, listed below. Alternatively, you may also write to the *Shambhala International Care and Conduct Panel at the following email: careandconduct@shambhala.org*. Any such communication will be handled in a confidential manner, and in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Shambhala Care and Conduct Policy, a copy of which is available upon request.

Sincerely,

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Shambhala Meditation Center of St. Petersburg, Florida