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## Honor Code: A Sticky Situation in Business School (B)

The consequences of my mistakes have been monumental. The Community Values Committee decided to expel me from the program. I had completed the program in its entirety, with the exception of that one class. I was permitted to attend the graduation residency but I wasn't really graduating. This proved to be much more difficult than I had anticipated. My classmates were in an extremely festive mood and I did not want to dampen their spirits. I felt so false and empty, smiling on the outside, but feeling a true sense of failure on the inside. I did not participate in any of the student-sponsored parties in support of the graduation; I attended only the ceremonies and official Ross School of Business activities, with a great sense of guilt and failure.

My prayer is that I gain the opportunity to finish what I have started and worked so hard for. I also would like to re-establish friendships with professors and staff whose trust I violated. One of my greatest desires is to become a University of Michigan graduate one day by being given the opportunity to correct this wrong. Yet even if I am given this opportunity, I can never redress the harm done to my two friends. The friend who provided me with a copy of the exam was reprimanded by the Community Values Committee and a copy of the reprimand was placed in his academic file. The friend who sent me answers was also reprimanded; he failed the course (and, as a result, attended graduation but did not graduate with our class either), and a permanent notation was placed on his transcript indicating the reason why he failed the course.

In closing, I want to emphasize that the situation I was confronted with is no different than those that many have faced within the program. We had fellow students who lost loved ones, had kids, were married, lost jobs, and faced other tough situations. They did not fall to the temptation of seeking short cuts. You will be faced with similar situations and may seek easy ways out, some of them elaborate and others as simple as somebody giving you a heads-up on a test via a text message on your cell phone. Take it from a voice of experience: The consequences far outweigh the gain! The hurt, torment, and outcomes are life-long and may never be redeemed. The act affects many and also affects the essence of the program, and the students, professors, and staff who have worked so hard to build a state-of-the art curriculum.

I now seek redemption—in hopes that a solution will be identified to somehow correct the wrongs of which I am guilty. I will never be the same person I was when entering the Executive MBA program. I have learned much more than I ever dreamed prior to entering this program. If I can offer guidance to any, it



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