

Statutes  
OF THE  
Grand Commandery  
OF  
Knights Templar  
OF THE  
State of Ohio

**As adopted by the  
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Ohio,  
October 7, 1983**

## **PREFACE**

At the One Hundred and Fortieth Annual Conclave of The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Ohio held in Cleveland, October 8, 1982, a committee consisting of:

Aaron Hard, Jr., V.E.D.G.C.  
William Ammer, E.G.G.  
Kenneth C. Flick, E.G.C.G.

was appointed by the Grand Commander, Raymond E. Loose to amend and revise the 1972 Laws of Templar Masonry of the Grand Commandery of Ohio to conform with the changes made by the Grand Encampment and to have same printed.

The Committee made its report at the One Hundred and Forty First Annual Conclave held in Toledo, October 7, 1983, and the Report was adopted.

The work here presented embodies all amendments and changes to December 1, 1994 and is the law in force as of that date.

The text of the Constitution, Statutes and Forms of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, as enacted, printed and supplied, has been included in this volume.

Frank W. Crane, P.G.C.  
Grand Recorder

# STATUTES

## OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF OHIO

NOTE—These statutes are intended to be supplementary to, and to avoid duplication or repeating the provisions of, the Constitution, Statutes and Disciplinary Rules of the Grand Encampment, and, therefore, are not by themselves a complete code.

### THE GRAND COMMANDERY

**Section 1001:** Title:—This body shall be entitled "The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Ohio."

**Section 1002:** Jurisdiction: It shall exercise original jurisdiction over all its members and may censure, suspend and expel those whom it finds guilty of violation or disobeying any Templar or Masonic Law.

**Section 1003:** Seal: The seal of the Grand Commandery shall be circular, having engraved, in the margin, the words, "Grand Commandery of the State of Ohio," and within, a Latin cross imposed upon a sunburst and entwined by a serpent, and, above the cross, the words, "In Hoc Signo Vinces," and, below, the figures, "1843."



**Section 1004:** Grand Conclaves: The Conclaves of the Grand Commandery shall be:

(a) Stated; which shall be held each year, at such time and place as shall have been previously designated by the Grand Commandery, unless the Grand Commander shall by General Order change the same. If he shall so change the same, he shall cause the Grand Recorder to mail to each member notice of such change at least fifteen days before the Conclave is to assemble.

(b) Special; which may be called by order of the Grand Commander and which shall be called by him upon receipt of a written request from a majority of the constituent commanderies. Reasonable notice shall be given each member of the Grand Commandery of the time and place of such Special Conclave and no

business shall be transacted at such conclave except as specified by the Grand Commander or set out in the request.

**Section 1005:** Representation Denied: No Commandery in arrears for fees of dues to the Grand Commandery shall be entitled to representation in a Grand Conclave.

(a) Each Constituent Commandery under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Ohio is required to complete and file an Annual Return for said Commandery with the Grand Recorder on or before the Fifteenth Day of June of each year. They are required to pay the dues, fees, and assessments upon receipt of a statement from the Grand Recorder.

**(b) Late Filing Penalty: A Constituent Commandery which fails to have their Annual Return in the Grand Recorder's Office and their Fees paid by August 1, will be assessed a \$100.00 (one hundred dollar) penalty and \$10.00 (ten dollar) per day penalty until the payment arrives in the Grand Recorder's Office. Adopted 9/28/01**

**Section 1006:** Election: At each Stated Conclave the officer of the Grand Commandery shall be elected for the ensuing year. The elected officers are the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Recorder. The Grand Junior Warden shall be elected by a separate ballot. The remaining Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Commander. Each Division Commander may recommend to the Grand Commander qualified Past Commanders to serve in the appointed stations of Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder and Grand Sentinel. Nominations may be made from the floor for the elected officers. If more than one nomination is made the vote will be taken by ballot. If only one name is in nomination, the election may be by acclamation. A majority of all votes cast are necessary for an election. Adopted 9/28/01

**Section 1007:** Any Sir Knight in good standing, may, with permission of the Grand Commander, attend and participate in all sessions of this Grand Commandery (special or stated) if properly attired in a Templar Uniform or acceptable civilian attire.

**Section 1008:** Past Commanders from other Jurisdictions: A Past Commander from another Grand Jurisdiction, affiliated with an Ohio Commandery, may by majority vote, be admitted to membership in the Grand Commandery of Ohio.

See Section 35 (c) G.E.

**Section 1010:** Proxies: Any officer of the Grand Commandery and each: the Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General of any Commandery (but no other member). may be represented and vote by a proxy, being at the time of service a member of the same Commandery as his principal and authorized by a proper certificate filed with the Grand Recorder.

(a) Said proxy shall be void and of no effect after the adjournment of the Conclave for which it is to be used.

See Section 40, G.E.

**Section 1011:** When filed: No certificate of proxy shall be filed after the first session of any Conclave except upon permission voted by the Grand Commandery.

**THE GRAND COMMANDER**

See Section 48, G.E.

**Section 1012:** Presides: The Grand Commander shall attend and preside over all Grand Conclaves.

**Section 1013:** Decisions: He shall pass upon questions arising in the administration of the affairs of the Grand Commandery or of the Commanderies but need not pass upon merely moot questions.

**Section 1014:** Inspections: He may order an inspection of Commanderies and appoint Inspecting Officers.

**Section 1015:** Representatives: He may appoint and commission Representatives near other Grand Commanderies. Such appointments shall, unless sooner revoked, expire when the Grand Representative has not attended three consecutive Grand Conclaves, or been excused there from.

**Section 1016:** May Summon Officers: He may, at any time, summon before him any officer of the Grand Commandery with his books, accounts and papers, and audit and examine the same.

**Section 1017:** Annual Report: He shall, at each Stated Conclave, present a written report of his official acts and of the condition of the Order within this jurisdiction, together with such recommendations as he may deem conducive to its prosperity, and advancement.

**Section 1017:** (a) Meritorious Service Award: He shall present a Meritorious Service Award to worthy Sir Knights for distinguished service to Templary. The rules for the selection of the recipients are as follows: (1) The recipient must be a member in good standing of a Commandery within the jurisdiction of Ohio; (2) The Eminent Commander of each Commandery may nominate one (1) Sir Knight from his Commandery each year. The nomination shall be forwarded on the MSA form provided by the Grand Recorder's office, no later than June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year, to either the Grand Commander or the MSA Committee. The award shall be presented at the Grand Commandery Conclave.

**Section 1018:** Divine Service: He shall annually issue an official circular ordering all Commanderies to hold, or attend, Divine Service for the observance of Christmas, Holy Week, (which includes Good Friday and Easter Sunday), and Ascension Day, so as not to presume to interfere with the individual Sir Knight in participating in the regular worship service of his chosen denomination.

**Section 1019:** Trustees of Masonic Home: He shall, when the Grand Commandery is not in session, fill, by appointment, any vacancy which the Grand Commandery is authorized to fill, on the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Masonic Home. He shall report such appointment at the next ensuing Grand Conclave, when, unless confirmed by the Grand Commandery, the appointment shall terminate.

**THE GRAND TREASURER**

See Section 51, G.E.

**Section 1020:** The Grand Treasurer shall, at all times, have free access

to all books of accounts kept by the Grand Recorder.

**Section 1021:** (a) Reports: He shall, at each Stated Conclave and whenever requested by the Grand Commander, render an account of all receipts and deposits and of all disbursements made and checks and orders drawn, together with a full statement of the finances.

(b) Bond: He shall give bond to the Grand Commandery in such an amount, not less than five thousand dollars, and with such Surety Company as shall be approved by the Grand Commander; such bond shall be delivered to and shall remain in the custody of the Grand Commander; and the cost of such bond shall be paid by the Grand Commandery.

### THE GRAND RECORDER

See Section 52, G.E.

**Section 1022:** The Grand Recorder shall keep proper records of all transactions and proceedings of the Grand Commandery.

**Section 1023:** Collections: Deposits: He shall collect the revenues and shall promptly deposit in the bank of deposit, to the credit of the Grand Commandery, all moneys belonging to it or received for its account, or to be held by it; and shall promptly advise the Grand Treasurer of the amount and date of each deposit.

**Section 1024:** Books, Vouchers: He shall have the custody of all books of account and vouchers belonging to the Grand Commandery, subject, at all times, to the examination of the Grand Commander or the Grand Treasurer, and/or by any qualified person designated by either of them for that purpose.

**Section 1025:** Accounts: He shall have his books and accounts in readiness for examination at each Stated Conclave and whenever required by the Grand Commandery, the Grand Commander or the Grand Treasurer.

**Section 1026:** Bond: He shall give bond to the Grand Commandery in such amount, not less than five thousand dollars, by such Surety Company as shall be approved by the Grand Commander. Such bond shall be delivered to, and shall remain in the custody of the Grand Commander. The cost of such bond shall be paid by the Grand Commandery.

**Section 1027:** Returns: He shall examine the returns of, and make settlement with each Commandery, and shall report to the Grand Commandery at each Stated Conclave, all arrearages for fees and grand dues, all derelictions in returns and all his receipts and disbursements.

**Section 1028:** Orders: Circulars: He shall send to each Grand Officer, Past Grand Commander, Commander and Recorder, a copy of each General Order and Official Circular issued by or under the authority of the Grand Commander.

**Section 1029:** New Commanderies; Petitioners: Upon the issue of a dispensation for anew Commandery, he shall send each Commandery a list of its members who shall have petitioned for the new Commandery.

**Section 1030:** Charter Members: Whenever a new Commandery shall have been constituted, he shall send to each Commandery a list of its members who have become charter members of the new Commandery.

**Section 1031:** Reports of Grand Officers: He shall cause to be printed, in advance of each Stated Conclave, sufficient numbers of copies of the reports of the Grand Officers and of the Roll Book of Members.

**Section 1032:** Proceedings; Publications: He shall, as promptly as practicable after each Stated Conclave, prepare and publish, in book form or electronic format, the proceedings of the Grand Commandery for the year expiring with such annual conclave, together with statistics of the Ohio Commanderies; the pay roll of the Grand Conclave; names and addresses of Grand Representatives of and near it; names and addresses of the Grand Recorders of other Grand Commanderies of North America, and of the officers of the Grand Encampment; and the names of those reinstated, suspended and expelled by Ohio Commanderies and of their members who shall have died during the year.

**Section 1033:** Salary: He shall receive such annual compensation as the Grand Commandery may from time to time determine.

**Section 1034:** Reports and Properties: Each Officer of the Grand and Constituent Commanderies shall, whenever requested by the Grand Commandery or Grand Commander, make a written report of all official acts, and shall, upon the termination of his term of office, deliver to his successor all books, papers, properties and other things in his possession or under his control belonging to the Grand Commandery.

**Section 1035:** Attendance Upon Grand Encampment: It is the duty of each the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, the Grand Captain General and the Grand Recorder to attend either in person or by proxy issued only to a member of the Grand Encampment, all Conclaves of the Grand Encampments. See Section 1049(a).

**Section 1036:** Deputies: The Grand Recorder and the Grand Treasurer may each, by written instrument filed with, and approved in writing by, the Grand Commander, appoint a deputy to act in his stead.

**Section 1037:** Pro Tempore: In case of the absence or disability of either the Grand Recorder or the Grand Treasurer without so having appointed a deputy approved by the Grand Commander, the Grand Commander shall appoint a member of the Grand Commandery to act, pro tempore, during the absence or disability of such officer.

**Section 1038:** (a) Council for Templar Advancement: For the purpose of administration and activity, the Constituent Commanderies of this Grand Commandery shall be divided into Divisions. The Grand Commander shall appoint for each Division a Division Commander, whose duties shall include Proxy of the Grand Commander within such Division on all occasions when the Grand Commander or other Special Proxy is not present. Adopted 9/28/01

(b) Deputy Divisions Commanders: Each Division Commander shall annually recommend to the Right Eminent Grand Commander one qualified Past Commander to be appointed as a Deputy Division Commander, and to serve at the pleasure of the Right Eminent Grand Commander. The duties of such an officer shall be primarily to promote and assist the program of the Right Eminent Grand Commander and be an administrative aide to the Division Commander. He shall be proficient in the ritual, laws and regulations of the Grand Encampment, and the Grand Commandery of Ohio, and the Asylum Tactics of this Grand Commandery. He further shall be the official contact with the Constituent Commanderies within his division to the Division Commander in regard to all matters pertaining to Templar activities. Upon satisfactory completion of his term of office, he shall thereafter be entitled to the rank and privileges of Past Deputy Division Commander. (Effective October 8, 1988)

**Section 1039:** (a) Committee Appointments: The Grand Commander, upon being installed, shall appoint within sixty days Standing Committees, each consisting of three or more members:

- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1-Templar Jurisprudence     | 7>Returns              |
| 2-Finance                   | 8-Unfinished Business  |
| 3-Credentials               | 9-Payroll              |
| 4-Visitors                  | 10-Obituaries          |
| 5-Charter and Dispensations | 11-Ohio Masonic Home-  |
| 6-Grievances                | 12-Long Range Planning |

(b) References, When Made: As soon as practicable after the appointment of such committee each officer of the Grand Commandery shall submit to the chairman of the proper committee all reports, parts of reports and other matters which should, in his opinion, be referred to such committee; and such submission to any chairman shall be deemed a reference to his committee, which shall report thereon to the Grand Commandery at its next Conclave; provided that the Grand Commandery may, at any time, revoke any such reference, or any reference made by itself, in whole or in part, and refer any matter whatsoever to such standing or special committee as it shall designate or may consider and dispose of the same without reference to any committee.



**Section 1040:** Meetings: The Committees on Templar Jurisprudence and on Finance, and such other activities as the Grand Commander may direct, shall meet on the day preceding the opening of the Grand Conclave;

**Section 1041:** Matters Referred: Unless and until otherwise ordered by the Grand Commandery, there shall be referred to the committees;

1. On Templar Jurisprudence: All complaints and charges against a Commandery or against another body or organization; all appeals from decisions of the Grand Commander or of a Commander; all special dispensations granted; all reported decisions and answers by Grand Officers; and all by-laws requiring the approval of the Grand Commandery;

2. On Finance: The reports of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder and those parts of reports of other Grand Officers relating to, and all other matters pertaining to fiscal matters;

3. On Credentials: All Credentials and proxies of members of the Grand Commandery;

4. On Visitors: The credentials and qualifications of all visitors and their introduction into Grand Conclaves;

5. On Charters and Dispensations: All petitions for new Commanderies and all reports and papers pertaining thereto;

6. On Grievances: All appeals from judgments of a Commandery; all complaints and charges against a member of the Grand Commandery; and all applications for the exercise, by the Grand Commandery, of original jurisdiction in the trial and discipline of its members;

7. On Returns: All returns and statistics of Commanderies and all reports pertaining thereto;

8. On Unfinished Business: The records and proceedings of the Grand Commandery, for report of all matters not finally disposed of;

9. On Pay Roll: The determination of those entitled to pay for attendance at the Annual Conclaves and the amounts to be paid them respectively;

10. On Obituaries: All reports, communications and advises concerning deceased members of the Grand Commandery;

11. On Ohio Masonic Home: All reports, communications, papers and matters of interest to the Grand Commandery;

12. On Long Range Planning: All matters pertaining to long range planning;

**Section 1042:** Revenues: The Grand Commandery shall be entitled to the following fees and dues;

The fee for a dispensation for a new Commandery or for a Charter for a new Commandery not therefore under dispensation, shall be two hundred dollars and shall accompany the petition therefore. Each Commandery shall pay annually:

- (1) A fee of five dollars for each Sir Knight created during the fiscal year; and
- (2) Three dollars and thirty cents Grand Encampment dues for each member; and
- (3) Two dollars and fifteen cents Grand Commandery dues for each member; and
- (4) Seventy cents assessment for each dues paying member, for funding the annual Grand Commandery Conclave; and
- (5) Twenty five cents for each member, for the Ohio Masonic Home; and
- (6) One dollar per year for each member, except those who have purchased a Life Sponsor, Patron, or Associate Patron Certificate, for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., as provided by the Grand Encampment in its 46th Triennial Conclave, August 20-26, 1955.
- (7) All assessments by the Grand Encampment shall become effective in the Grand Commandery at the time such assessment is effective in the Grand Encampment.

**Section 1043:** Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of each Commandery shall end on the thirty-first day of May, and the fiscal year of the Grand Commandery shall end on the thirty-first day of August in each year.

**Section 1044:** (a). Bank or Banks of Deposit: The Finance Committee shall designate some suitable and responsible bank or banks as a bank or banks of deposit in which all moneys belonging to or held by this body, shall be, by the Recorder deposited to the credit of the Grand Commandery.

(b) The Finance Committee shall designate certain monies received from sources other than the payment of fees and dues from the constituent commanderies as a Permanent Fund. The Permanent Fund shall be invested in accounts and certificates of deposit in Federally insured banks, or in such other income producing instruments as the said Committee, or a majority thereof, shall approve. The principal amounts comprising the Permanent Fund may not be disbursed for expenditures, either directly or through the General Fund of the Grand Commandery, without the authorization of the said Committee, or a majority thereof. The interest or dividend income produced by the Permanent Fund shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Grand Commandery as it is earned and paid.

**Section 1045:** May be Changed: Such Committee, or a majority thereof, may, at any time when the Grand Commandery shall not be in session, change such bank of deposit.

**Section 1046:** Checks, Signatures: No funds shall be withdrawn from the bank or banks of deposit of the Grand Commandery except by check signed by any two of the following: Grand Recorder, Grand Treasurer, or Chairman of the Finance Committee.

**Section 1047:** Grand Encampment Dues: On or before the first day of July, in each year, the proper officers shall draw and forward an order for the amount of the annual dues to the Grand Encampment.

All assessments by the Grand Encampment shall become effective in the Grand Commandery at the time such assessment is effective in the Grand Encampment.

**Section 1048:** Pay of Members: Each Grand Officer, one representative (the highest in rank) from each Commandery, and each Past Grand Commander, attending any Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery shall receive (1) twenty five cents for each mile (computed by the most direct traveled route) from his residence, or Commandery, to and returning from the place of holding such Conclave, if a resident of the State of Ohio, or from the point of entry into Ohio, directly from his residence, if he is not a resident of the State of Ohio and (2) twenty five dollars per day for such time as may be fixed by the Grand Commandery at such Conclave: provided that no representative of a Commandery shall receive an amount greater than shall have been paid the preceding year, to the Grand Commandery, by the Commandery represented by him, as dues and fees.

**Section 1049:** (a) Pay for Attending Triennial Conclave: The Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Recorder, and each Past Grand Commander attending a Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, shall be paid his actual expense but not more than Two Hundred Dollars each.

(b) At the first Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, after each Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Commander shall appoint a Triennial Conclave Committee, consisting of three Past Grand Commanders, to make arrangements for headquarters, program and entertainment of the Grand Commandery of Ohio at the Next Triennial Conclave thereafter. Said Committee shall have the power to contract and liquidate bills for same within the appropriation of the Grand Commandery for such purpose and shall make due report to the Grand Commandery at the Annual Conclave following the Triennial Conclave.

**Section 1050:** REGULAR MASONIC BODIES: Only the following Masonic Grand Bodies of Freemasonry and-Bodies in Allegiance to and acting under the authority of them are acknowledged by the Grand Commandery of Ohio as being Regular Masonic Bodies, to wit:

1. The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio as incorporated by Act of the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, March 12, 1844, under the name — Grand Lodge of Ohio;
2. The General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, organized in Boston, Mass., October 24, 1797;
3. The General Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters of the United States, organized in Detroit, Mich., August 5, 1880;
4. The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, organized in New York City, June 20, 1816;

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5. The Supreme Council, Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic jurisdiction of the United States of America, organized in New York City, August 5, 1813;
6. The bodies in other States, Jurisdictions or Countries of like rank, in fraternal relations with those above mentioned;
7. The Grand Council, Royal and Select Masons of the State of Ohio, organized in Worthington, Ohio, January 16, 1830.
8. The Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of the State of Ohio, organized in Worthington, Ohio, 1816.

**Section 1051:** Irregular Degrees and Bodies: Any degree or membership conferred by a Masonic Body not acknowledged as a regular Masonic Body, shall be and is hereby declared to be an Irregular Degree or Membership in an Irregular Masonic Body; and any Knight Templar holding to or receiving or having received such Irregular Degree or Membership shall, unless he forthwith withdraw from them, be expelled from the Order.

**Section 1052:** Members of Irregular Bodies: No Commandery within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Ohio shall receive any candidate or visitor, who is a member or is receiving or has received any degree in an Irregular Masonic Body.

**Section 1053:** Organizations not Clandestine: The two sections last preceding shall not be construed to apply to organizations which are composed solely of members of Regular Masonic Bodies and which shall not have been pronounced or declared to be Clandestine by any Regular Masonic Body having jurisdiction throughout the State of Ohio.

### COMMANDERIES

**Section 1054:** (a) Charter: A Charter may only be granted by a majority vote of the Grand Commandery of Ohio at a Stated Conclave.

(b) Officers: The Officers of a Commandery in the order of their precedence consist of:

A Commander	A Junior Warden	A Standard Bearer
A Generalissimo	A Prelate	A Sword Bearer
A Captain General	A Treasurer	A Warder
A Senior Warden	A Recorder	A Sentinel
		Three Guards

All the officers of a Commandery except the Sentinel and Guards shall be elected annually by ballot at the **first Stated Conclave in May or June**. The Commandery may by changing their By-Laws provide for the appointment of the Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer, and Warder. Unless otherwise provided by the By-Laws of the Grand Commandery, the Sentinel and Guards, shall be appointed by the Commander. (As Amended October 5 1979)

**Section 1055:** Seal: Each Chartered Commandery shall have a seal engraved with its name and number.

**Section 1056:** (a) Business in Open Commandery: All business of a Commandery must be transacted while it is open as a Commandery of Knights Templar.

(b) A Commandery may, at Stated or Special Conclaves held for the transaction of business only, consider and transact business jointly with Chapters and Councils domiciled at the same location. At such conclaves, members of Chapters and Councils who are not Knights Templar may be admitted; provided, that in the event of an objection by a Knight Templar to balloting on petitions for the Orders by all present, such petitions shall be considered only by members of the Commandery. At such conclaves, following prayer, the Commander may declare the Commandery open for the transaction of business.

**Section 1057:** Constitution and Statutes: Copies of each the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment and of the Laws of Templar Masonry in Ohio shall be kept at the Asylum of each Commandery, and it shall be irregular to hold a Conclave at which either thereof is not present.

**Section 1058:** Who May Open: A Commandery may be opened only when one of its first three officers or a Past Commander is present.

**Section 1059:** Conclave Abandoned: The Commander, being at the Asylum at the time prescribed for the opening of his Commandery, may, if no quorum shall be present within thirty minutes thereafter, declare the Conclave abandoned; and, after he shall have so announced, the Commandery may not be opened the same evening.

**Section 1060:** Visitors: Visitors may not be excluded because not in uniform.

**Section 1061:** Order of Business: Until otherwise provided by the Grand Commandery, the order of business at each stated Conclave of any Commandery shall be:

1. Reading and acting upon records,
2. Receiving and referring petitions,
3. Reports of Committees,
4. Balloting,
5. Unfinished business,
6. New business,
7. Conferring of Orders.

**Section 1062:** By-Laws: All Commanderies within this jurisdiction shall adopt the Uniform Code of By-Laws as recommended by the Grand Commandery and which the Grand Commander is authorized to approve. A By-Law of the Commandery cannot be suspended, even by a unanimous vote. The Grand Commander may issue a Dispensation to permit a Con-

stituent Commandery to move its Stated Conclave, as allowed in its By-Laws, to another date, time, and location, based upon an affirmative vote at a previous Stated Conclave, and provided only that due and timely notice be provided the membership of the change.

**Section 1063:** Voting: No member may vote on any matter involving his personal interests.

**Section 1064:** (a) Surety Bond: The Treasurer and Recorder of each Commandery shall give a Surety Bond to the Commandery in such amount and on such conditions as may be approved by the Commandery. The premium for such Bonds shall be paid by the Commandery.

(b) Auditing: Each Commander shall annually appoint an Auditing Committee of not less than three members to examine the accounts and finances of the Commandery. Such Committee shall consist of members, who, by training, are competent to make a careful investigation and audit of such accounts and finances and who shall render a true report and statement of such investigation, together with their recommendations, to the Commandery, at the Annual Conclave in June of each year, and the same shall be entered on the records of the Commandery and signed by the members of the committee. A copy of this report shall be sent to the Grand Recorder immediately after being entered upon the books at the Annual Meeting.

**Section 1065:** Declination: A Knight Templar may refuse to accept any office.

**Section 1066:** Report of Election: Each Commandery shall, immediately after each election, send to the Grand Recorder a complete list of officers elected.

**Section 1067:** (a) Installation of Officers: The Officers of a Commandery shall be installed at a Conclave to be held on or before June 30th, and unless suspended or removed, shall serve until their successors shall have been elected and installed. If any officer is not installed within one hundred (100) days of his election, application shall be made to the Grand Commander for a dispensation to hold a new election to fill that station.

(b) Installing Officer: Installations shall be performed by the Officers designated by the Statutes of the Grand Encampment, and, when the installation is performed by a Past Commander, the Commander shall be present or authorize the same in writing.

(c) Objection to Installation: Any objection to the installation of an officer-elect must be stated in a regular or special Conclave, on the occasion of the installation or at a stated Conclave prior thereto, with reasons therefore, and unless sustained by a vote of the majority of the members present, the installation shall proceed.

**Section 1068:** (a) Rituals: Each Commandery is entitled to purchase and have in their possession twelve copies of the Ritual and each must be accounted

for at Inspection time. A receipt showing the signature of each Sir Knight possessing same at the Annual Meeting must be sent to the Grand Recorder with the election return each year.

(b) Each Grand Officer, Past Grand Commander and Deputy Division Commander is entitled to one Ritual which must be returned at his death or when giving up his office.

(c) Loss of Ritual: If a Commandery or any officer thereof shall lose, or, at Inspection or Installation, shall fail to produce any Ritual theretofore delivered to it or him, the Commandery or the Officer, shall, upon demand, either produce the same or forthwith deliver to or for the Grand Recorder the sum of **ten dollars** for the replacement of said Ritual. Adopted 9/28/01

**Section 1069:** Suspended Officer: No Knight under suspension from office may perform any duties of any office in a Commandery.

**Section 1070:** Duties of Officers: Each Officer shall perform all the duties appropriate to his office and such as may be assigned him by the Commandery or the Commander; and shall deliver to his successor all the books, papers, moneys and other things in his possession belonging to the Commandery.

**Section 1071:** Immediate Reports Of Deaths: The Recorder shall promptly report to the Grand Recorder the death of any officer or Past Commander, member of his Commandery, with all information concerning the Masonic and public career of the deceased.

**Section 1072:** Fees for the Orders: The Fee for the Orders shall not be less than \$40.00 and such Fee shall be paid before ballot is had upon this petition and it shall not be remitted directly or indirectly.

**Section 1073:** Mistake in Election: When a Commander has reason to believe that a mistake was made in announcing the election of a candidate, he may delay conferring the Order of the Red Cross until he can submit the matter to the Grand Commander who shall determine whether the election shall stand or a new ballot shall be taken. If a new ballot is taken, notice of the time thereof shall first be given to each member.

**Section 1074:** Second Ballot: If, upon a ballot upon a petition one **black** ball only shall appear, a new ballot shall be had before the result of a ballot has been announced and before any member of the Commandery has left the Asylum, and if one black ball shall then appear, the petitioner shall be declared rejected.

**Section 1075:** Rejection: After a candidate has been declared rejected, and record has been made thereof, the ballot shall not be repeated even to correct an alleged mistake.

**Section 1076:** (a) Information to Rejected Petitioner: A rejected petitioner shall be entitled to no information save that his petition was rejected, and no Knight shall communicate to him any information as to who were present, or who advocated or opposed his election.

(b) Disposition of Fee on Failure to Confer Orders: After having been elected to receive the Orders of Knighthood in a Commandery, failure of a petitioner to present himself for the Orders within twelve months after receiving his first written notice to appear for the conferring of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, voids the election and the fee paid or deposit made shall be refunded to the petitioner, unless the petitioner has received part of the Orders within such twelve months, in which event all the fee paid or deposit made shall be retained by the Commandery. The Commandery may, at any time thereafter, confer the remaining Orders upon unanimous vote, after reference to and report of an Investigating Committee.

**Section 1077:** Ritualistic Questions: The Ritualistic preliminary questions to a candidate must be written in long hand or typewritten, and after use, must be destroyed.

**Section 1078:** Order of Succession: The Orders shall be conferred in the following succession: Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar. The Order of Red Cross and/or the Order of Malta may be conferred either in full form or in short form.

**Section 1079:** Ceremonial: The conferring of the Order of Red Cross and/or the Order of Malta must strictly conform to one or other of the authorized ceremonials; the Commander having discretion to select either of them.

**Section 1080:** (a) Receipt and Balloting on Petitions: Petitions for the Orders, or for Membership, may be received and balloted upon at the same Stated or at Special Conclaves of the Commandery, without Dispensation from the Grand Commander, after such notice has been given as the Eminent Commander may deem proper.

(b) Investigating Committee: Petitions, whether for the Orders or for Membership, shall be referred to an Investigating Committee of Three Members of the Commandery, only when requested to do so by a member in good standing in the Commandery acting upon the petition. If a Committee is empowered to investigate the petitioner, it shall consist of members who shall know or personally interview the petitioner. The fact of the report being made, and not its character, shall be entered on the minutes of the Commandery.

(c) Petition for Membership: A petition for membership must be accompanied by such fee as the Commandery may require and by a demit from the Commandery of which the petitioner was last a member, or other satisfactory evidence that he is a non-affiliated Knight Templar in good standing.

(d) Petition to another Commandery by One Elected: The petition of a candidate who, having been elected, has failed to present himself to receive



the Orders , may not be acted upon by another Commandery, without the consent, by unanimous vote, of the Commandery by which he was elected.

**Section 1081:** Plural Membership: (a) Plural Membership may be held in any Constituent Commandery under jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery.

(b) Plural Membership may be held in one Constituent Commandery under jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, and any Constituent Commandery under jurisdiction of another Grand Commandery, providing the Statutes of the Grand Commandery under whose authority the same is holden permits plural memberships.

(c) Election to Plural Membership shall be upon petition for Plural Membership accompanied by a Certificate of Good Standing issued by the Commandery of which the petitioner is a member, (and, if certified from another Grand Jurisdiction, a statement over the seal of petitioners Commandery, stating Plural Membership is permitted by its members.)

(d) Plural Membership shall be subject to all dues, assessments and fees for membership by affiliation and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of full membership in all Commanderies of which he is a member, **except a plural member cannot be a dais officer in more than one Commandery (as set forth in section 190 (a) of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the USA).** **Adopted 9/28/01**

(e) Loss of Active Plural Membership through action initiated by any Commandery, shall cause loss of membership in all Commanderies; provided, however, that a plural Member may demit from any Commandery without loss of membership in the others.

(f) Plural Members shall be clearly identified as such on all records and reports of Constituent Commanderies, including notation thereof of dues cards and/or receipts.

(g) Exemption to the annual assessment for a Knight Templar holding a Life Sponsorship shall not apply in more than one Commandery. If a Life Sponsor becomes a plural member, he assumes assessment responsibility in all other Commanderies of which he is a member. A Life Sponsor demitting from the Commandery in which he holds a Life Sponsor may transfer his exemption status then credits his exemption status on its rolls. The Commandery from which he demits then removes his exemption from its reports.

(h) The Recorder of each Constituent Commandery shall maintain a separate register of members holding Plural Membership in other Constituent Commanderies under jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery.

**Section 1082:**(a) Continuous Affiliation: If a member wishes to change his membership and be continuously affiliated, he may file his petition with the Commandery in which he desires membership and with a Certificate of Good Standing from the Recorder of his Commandery under the seal thereof, showing that his dues have been paid for three months in advance, and shall file a written application to his Commandery for a demit. If he is elected to membership in the

commandery petitioned, the Recorder thereof shall immediately forward said application for a demit to the Commandery to which it is addressed, and when the demit is received, it shall be filed with the petition, and the Sir Knight's name shall be entered as a member of the Commandery petitioned as of even date with the demit. If the petition is rejected, the Certificate of Good Standing and Application shall be returned to him.

(b) **Petition for Restoration:** When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Commandery solely because of his suspension or expulsion from his Lodge of Chapter, restoration in such Lodge or Chapter shall entitle him to restoration in his Commandery on written application therefore and a majority vote at a Stated Conclave.

When he has been suspended from his Commandery solely because of non-payment of dues to the Commandery, he may be restored to membership on written application therefore and a majority vote at a Stated Conclave.

**Section 1083:** **Petition for Membership by One Restored to Good Standing:** An application for membership by a Knight restored to Good Standing must be by petition, accompanied by his Certificate of Restoration. If such petition shall be to the Commandery which has restored him, it need not lie over, but may be acted upon immediately.

**Section 1084:** **Petition May be Renewed:** A Knight after the rejection of his petition for membership, may, at any time, renew the same to the same or any other Commandery.

**Section 1085:** **Demits:** Non-affiliation in Lodge or Chapter does not disentitle a Sir Knight to a demit, unless charges are pending against him. A mere summons to show why he should not be deprived of membership in his Commandery shall not be construed as preferring charges.

**Section 1086:** **Records:** The records of a Commandery should conform to the forms approved by the Grand Commandery.

**Section 1087:** **Escorts:** A group of Knights Templar may appear in uniform to post colors, act as Guards of Honor, form lines for reception of distinguished guests and act as escort or Guard of Honor at the funeral of a deceased Sir Knight when permission so to do has been first granted by the Commander.

**Section 1088:** Banners and Colors: (a) Banners and Colors, when displayed in public, shall be born only by members of the Order.

(b) That each Division in the Grand Commandery be permitted to have a Division Banner that maybe displayed in an asylum or carried in a Commandery or public parade. To maintain uniformity though out all ten Divisions, said banner is to be of white material, four feet-six inches in height and three feet in width, made tripartite at the bottom; fastened at the top to a cross bar by eight gold colored rings. At the outer edge of the banner will be a black two inch border with a half inch gold colored braid on the inside of the border. At the top and centered on the banner will be (in lettered numbers i.e. NINTH) DIVISION. At the bottom GRAND COMMANDERY OF OHIO, all in three inch black letters. In the center of the banner shall be a cross and crown. The crown shall be of gold colored material, ten and a half inches in height and seventeen inches in width. The slanted cross shall be of red material, twenty-four inches in height and fourteen inches in width. Suspended from the bottom of the tripartite will be a three inch gold colored fringe.

**Section 1089:** Circulars Improper: It is improper and unknighly for a Commandery or any of its officers or members to issue circulars

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appealing for support of any Sir Knight for office in the Grand Commandery.

**Section 1090:** Liquors Forbidden: No Commandery may permit the use of intoxicating or spirituous liquors as beverages, at its head-quarters, while attending any Conclave of either the Grand Encampment or the Grand Commandery.

**Section 1091:** Discipline: A Commandery failing to comply with any statute or other requirement of the Grand Encampment or of the Grand Commandery, shall be subject to such discipline as the Grand Commandery may impose.

**Section 1092:** Property on Revocation of Charter: Upon the revocation, by the Grand Commandery, of the Charter of any Commandery the funds and properties of such Commandery may be distributed or otherwise disposed of as those who were members thereof at the time of the taking effect of the revocation, may determine, the Grand Commandery disclaiming all right and title thereto.

### NEW COMMANDERIES

**Section 1093:** Petitions: A petition for a Dispensation or a Charter for a new Commandery must include a pledge by each petitioner that he has or will procure, prior to the opening of such Commandery, a complete regulation uniform.

**Section 1094:** Knights in Arrears: No Knight in arrears for dues to any Commandery may petition for or become a charter member of a new Commandery.

**Section 1095:** Petitioners Need Not Demit: Affiliated petitioners for a new Commandery need not demit from their respective Commanderies.

**Section 1096:** Recommendations: When the recommendation by a Commandery, of a petition for a Dispensation for a new Commandery is desired, such petition must be presented at a Stated Conclave and must lie over until a subsequent Stated Conclave; and the Recorder must give each member at least ten days notice of the presentation of such petition and of the Conclave at which action will be taken thereon.

**Section 1097:** Petitioners May Not Vote Upon Recommendation: Petitioners for a Dispensation or a Charter for a new Commandery who are members of Commanderies whose territorial jurisdiction will be affected by the granting of the petition, may not vote upon granting the recommendation.

**Section 1098:** Rules Required: A Commandery under Dispensation, shall, as promptly as possible, fix, by rule or resolution, the times for holding its Stated Conclaves and the amounts of its dues and of its fees for the Orders and for membership, and shall cause a copy of such rule or resolution to be certified to the Grand Commander; and no amendment thereof shall be valid until approved by the Grand Commandery or by the Grand Commander.

**Section 1099:** Membership Restored: Upon the expiration of a Dispensation without the granting of a Charter, the membership of affiliated or conditionally demitted petitioners therefore ceases to be in abeyance and is fully restored.

**Section 1100:** Constituting; Installing: Each new Commandery must be constituted; and the officers elected under the Charter must be installed before entering upon their official duties.

**Section 1101:** Certification: When a Commandery is constituted, its Recorder shall certify the fact to the Grand Recorder with a schedule giving the full name of each charter member and the Commandery whereof he was formerly a member.

## TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION

**Section 1102:** Station: The jurisdiction of the Constituent Commanderies of this State is the State of Ohio and the Asylum of each Commandery is its Station.

**Section 1103:** Minimum Dues: The annual dues of each member shall be not less than Five Dollars and shall be payable on or before the last day in May of each year.

**Section 1104:** Notice: (a) Any member who fails to pay his dues by the last day of May, "Indefinitely Suspended for Non-payment of Dues" shall be entered against his record as of that date, and he shall be reported accordingly in the Annual Returns. The name of such member shall be reported to the Commandery and recorded in the minutes of the first stated conclave in June.

(b) Each Commandery shall forthwith send, under its seal, to each member who has failed to pay his dues by the first stated conclave in April a notice as follows: This is to certify that "Indefinitely Suspended for Nonpayment of Dues" will on the 31st day of May \_\_\_\_\_, be entered against the record of Sir Knight \_\_\_\_\_ a member of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_ K.T. of \_\_\_\_\_ Ohio. No further notice of this action of Indefinite Suspension will be given. Payment of the delinquent dues on or before May 31, \_\_\_\_\_ will constitute reinstatement.

\_\_\_\_\_, Recorder. \_\_\_\_\_ E.C.

**Section 1105:** Remission: A Commandery may remit the matured unpaid dues of any member, however, this action does not relieve the Commandery from the payment of such grand dues and assessments due the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Ohio, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the annual assessment due the Ohio Masonic Home, all of which must be paid at the time of the submission of the Annual Report. The remission of dues of its Past Commanders, or any other group as a class, and the remission of future accruing dues for more than one year at a time is prohibited.

**Section 1106:** Of Petitioners for New Commandery: An affiliated petitioner for a new Commandery is obligated to pay his dues to his old Commandery up to the date of the dispensation. Thereafter the dues shall belong to the new Commandery. In event a charter is not granted, the member shall resume payment of dues to his old Commandery.

**Section 1107:** Suspension: During the suspension of a member, dues do not accrue against him.

"In order to discourage the unusual number of demits and suspensions shown by the returns of Grand and Subordinate Commanderies, and with the intention of affording remedial correction of this situation, the aforesaid Grand Encampment directs Grand and Subordinate Commanderies to appoint in each Constituent and Subordinate Commandery a standing Committee on Suspensions and Demits, said Committee to cooperate with the Recorder and of the Constituent and Subordinate Commandery in the prompt and business-like collection of dues and in correction of defections. Therefore Grand Commanders and Commanders of Subordinate Commanderies under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment are hereby directed to cause such Committee to be appointed for the purpose specified, and to use their best endeavors in encouraging the proper function of said Committee."

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1108:** Life Membership: (a) A Commandery shall be without authority to grant life memberships.

(b) Provided, however, that a Commandery may adopt by standing resolution a regulation providing that any member in good standing may thereafter be exempt from the payment of annual dues, provided said member pay a sum of money, in cash, not less than an amount representing the present value of an immediate life annuity upon his life, computed in accordance with the Commissioner's Standard Ordinary Life Insurance Experience Table of Mortality, of an amount equal to the yearly dues of such Commandery, on a Single Life at 2% Interest.

All such payments made as provided in this Section, shall be placed in a separate fund, to be designated as the, "Annuity Membership Fund". No part of said Annuity Membership Fund shall be used, except that for each such member as shall have made such payment pursuant to this resolution, if living, a sum equal to the Annual Dues of each member, at the time of such payment may be withdrawn annually and used for the general support of the Commandery.

All investments of monies of such, "Annuity Membership Fund", shall be only in Federal Government Securities, or deposits in financial institutions whose deposits are insured by an agency of the Federal Government.

### **ANNUITY MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT**

All payments made, as provided in this agreement, shall be placed in a separate fund by the Commandery, to be designated as the, "Annuity Membership Fund". No part of said Annuity Membership Fund shall be used, except that for each such member as shall have made such payment pursuant to this agreement, if living, a sum equal to the annual dues of such member, at the time of such payment, may be withdrawn from such fund annually, and used for the general support of the Commandery.

All investments of monies of such, "Annuity Membership Fund", shall be only invested in Federal Government securities or deposits in financial institutions whose deposits are insured by an agency of the Federal Government. An annuity member, or anyone acting in his behalf or on his account, shall forever waive any rights to a refund of all or any portion of the annuity purchase amount of said Annuity Membership or the profits and accumulations of said fund.

No withdrawal of funds shall be permitted. Should an annuity member die, be suspended for unmasonic conduct, or non-Masonic affiliation, or withdraw on demit, all payments, made as provided in this agreement, shall remain in the, "Annuity Membership Fund".

A Commandery may cease to offer any new Annuity Memberships at any time by properly rescinding the standing resolution that established the "Annuity Membership Fund". However, all active annuity members shall remain members of the fund, until such time as there are no active annuity members or upon the death of all annuity members, the "Annuity Membership Fund" may be transferred to the general funds of the Commandery for the general support of the Commandery, however, none of such, "Annuity Membership Fund", shall be returned to the annuity members, their heirs or assignees.



**Section 1108:** A Life Membership: The Grand Commandery of Ohio shall establish and maintain a Life Membership Program and Dues Fund to be designated as the "Grand Commandery Life Membership Fund". The Grand Commandery will be the Administrator of all funds. Except for Transfer of Membership or Consolidation of Commanderies, upon paying the specified cost, a Life Member shall hereafter be exempt from payment of Annual Dues.

The Grand Recorder shall be responsible for maintaining Records and supervise the receipts and expenditures of all funds. The constituent Commanderies shall have no control over the Funds generated by the Grand Commandery Life Membership Program.

The Grand Commandery Finance Committee shall be solely responsible for all financial aspects of the Fund. They shall Annually review the cost factors based upon current actuarial information, revise the Table for Calculating Annuity Membership purchase cost accordingly, and furnish the same to the Grand Recorder. They shall require an annual audit of the Fund and a comparison of the Fund's assets as to the Fund's liabilities. When they deem necessary, they shall revise the cost factors to maintain solvency of the Fund. In the event the Finance Committee finds it necessary to revise an existing factor formula, such revisions will not apply to the current Life Member or be retroactive.

Any Sir Knight in good standing is eligible to become a participating "Life Member". Holders of Life Membership are subject to all laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, The Grand Chapter of Ohio, the Grand Commandery of Ohio and the by-laws of his Constituent Commandery. The loss of membership shall automatically cancel his Life Membership until he restores himself to good standing.

If the holder of Life Membership desires to transfer to another Commandery within this Jurisdiction, the Grand Recorder shall transfer on the records, his Life Membership to his new Commandery, providing the dues of the affiliated Commandery are the same or less. If more, the Life Member must pay the additional amount according to the current factor table to remain a Life Member in his new Commandery. Knight Templar Eye Foundation status is also transferred accordingly.

Should two or more Commanderies consolidate, all yearly payments from the Life Membership Fund, to the credit of each member shall be transferred to the new Commandery. No refunds shall be made to any participating member for any reason.

Cost of the purchased Life Membership shall be in accordance with the member's age and formula factor from the Table on the Membership Application Form as determined by the Finance Committee. The Age Factors have been calculated to pay all dues increases within a Commandery. Cost also includes Member Assessment, "Paid Up" through to May 31, 2006. Member must be at least, a "Life Sponsor" of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation. The following year's dues shall be paid from the fund on all memberships purchased by May 31st of that year.

Current individual Commandery Life Membership Plans are solely the administrative obligation of that Commandery to administer according to their own financial provisions. Should any existing Commandery with a Life Membership Plan desire to transfer members into the Grand Commandery Plan, the individual Sir Knights would be received on the same Age-Factor times Current Dues, plus the Assessment and the Knight Templar Eye Foundation requirement as it is stipulated for any Sir Knight entering the Grand Commandery life Membership Plan.

The Grand Recorder shall distribute current Life Membership Application forms yearly.

**Section 1108:** (c) Ohio Knight Templar Membership and Memorial Endowment Fund.

1. Life Membership – Life Membership Program and Dues Fund is hereby concluded and its present membership is to remain intact. No further members will be added to this fund. At the time when there are no remaining members of this fund, any monies left in this fund must be transferred to the Ohio Knight Templar Membership and Memorial Endowment Fund.

2. Ohio Knight Templar Membership and Memorial Endowment Fund – The Grand Commandery of Ohio shall establish and maintain a Fund to be designated as the “Ohio Knight Templar Membership and Memorial Endowment Fund.” The Grand Commandery will be the Administrator of all funds.

(a) Any member in good standing in a Commandery of this Grand Jurisdiction whose dues are paid to date may purchase an endowed membership for the benefit of such Commandery, hereinafter referred to as the “Endowed Commandery” and thereby be relieved from the further payment of dues in the Endowed Commandery effective as of June 1 of the 2nd calendar year after such fee is deposited with the Grand Recorder.

Any individual, group, organization or Commandery may purchase an Endowed Membership in honor of or in the memory of any Knight Templar, or member of his family living or deceased.

Although a Commandery may receive the fee for an Endowed Membership from a petitioner for the Orders, for reinstatement or for affiliation, such fee shall not be transmitted to the Grand Recorder until a

favorable ballot has been had on the petition and in the case of the Petition for Orders, until the conferral of the Order of the Temple.

(b) The total purchase price for the Endowed Membership shall be Eight Hundred Dollars (\$800.00). This shall be paid to the Endowed Commandery. As long as the member holding the Endowed Membership is living and in good standing in the Endowed Commandery, such Commandery shall pay all Grand Commandery Per Capita dues, fees and contributions.

(c) The complete purchase price collected by a Commandery for each Endowed Membership shall be immediately transmitted to the Grand Recorder so as to be received by him no later than the succeeding March 31 in order to qualify for a distribution under paragraph (d) hereof.

(d) The Grand Recorder shall place all monies so received in the Endowed Membership Fund. Such fund shall be invested and reinvested from time to time under the supervision of the Finance Committee. The income from such fund shall be distributed annually to the Endowed Commandery by the first day of June, provided that no income shall be distributed on any Endowed Membership fee until June 1 of the 2nd calendar year after such fee is deposited with the Grand Recorder.

(e) The Grand Recorder shall issue to the member paying the required fee an Endowed Membership Certificate under the Seal of the Grand Commandery, signed by the Grand Commander and attested by the Grand Recorder. The Recorder of the Endowed Commandery shall issue annually a regular dues card to the member holding the Endowed Membership Certificate at the same time other dues cards of the Commandery are issued.

(f) Endowed Memberships are transferrable with Commandery membership, and are carried over to the benefit of the Endowed Commandery where such membership is transferred; provided however, when two or more Commanderies consolidate, any Endowed Membership held by either of such Commanderies shall become the property of the surviving Commandery.

Upon the dissolution or demise of an Endowed Commandery, the holder of an Endowed Membership Certificate therein, if he affiliates with another Ohio Commandery, may transfer the Endowed Membership to the Commandery with which he affiliates.

Any interest accruing from the Endowed Membership Fund from the date of the dissolution or demise of the Endowed Commandery to the date of transfer of the Endowed Membership shall be added to the principal of the Ohio Knight Templar Membership and Memorial Endowment Fund.

(g) Commanderies are prohibited from donating or selling Endowed Membership in any other manner than as provided in this Section, except

Commanderies may establish special accounts for the purpose of assisting and encouraging those members, who wish to purchase Endowed Memberships on an installment plan by making regular and systematic contributions to such account for the purpose of accumulating the necessary fee required to purchase an Endowed Membership. After the required fee has accumulated in the special account, the Commandery shall transmit such fee to the Grand Recorder as provided in this Code Section. The funds in such special account shall be deposited in an insured interest bearing account in a reputable financial institution until such time as the funds are transmitted to the Grand Recorder.

(h) Holders of Endowed Membership Certificates are subject to all of the provisions of the By-Laws and Code of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, and loss of membership due to suspension or expulsion shall automatically terminate such Endowed Membership Certificate, and shall cause such holder to forfeit his Endowed Membership and any future claim to fees paid or to revenues earned from such Endowed Membership.

(i) Upon the death of a holder of an Endowed Membership, the Endowed Commandery shall continue to receive the income from the Endowed Membership.

3. Current Plans – Current individual Commandery Life Membership Plans or Annuity Membership Agreements are solely the administrative obligation of that Commandery to administer according to its own financial provisions.

4. Date of Enactment – This legislation to take effect upon enactment.

## OFFENSES

**Section 1109:** Schedule: Any violation by a Companion of the Order of Red Cross, a Knight of Malta, or a Knight Templar, of any provision of the Constitution, Statutes, Edicts, Rules, Regulations or Requirements of either the Grand Encampment or the Grand Commandery; any violation of the By-Laws of a Commandery by a member thereof; and any and all unknighly or unmasonic conduct, are offenses against the Order.

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### SUMMONS AND NOTICE

**Section 1110:** Obedience: A summons should be issued only in case of urgent necessity, but, when issued, it is the duty of each member to obey the same. Failure so to do subjects a Knight to discipline.

**Section 1111:** Addresses: It shall be the duty of each member of a Commandery to give written notice to the Recorder thereof of his place of residence and post office address and of every change thereof; and the Recorder shall keep in a proper form a record thereof and any change therein which shall be brought, authoritatively, to his knowledge. In the absence of such written notice, the address of a member shall be understood to be the latest of which the Recorder has a record.

**Section 1112:** Service by Mail: Depositing in a post office or in a United States mail box, a printed or written summons or notice, enclosed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the last known address of any member, and with the postage prepaid, shall constitute sufficient service of such summons or notice, except where otherwise specifically provided by law.

### TRIALS

**Section 1113:** Questions of Law: The officer presiding at any trial shall decide all questions respecting the admissibility of testimony and all other questions of law.

**Section 1114:** Who Presides in Grand Commandery: When a trial takes place in the Grand Commandery, the senior Grand Officer present shall preside, unless excused by the Grand Commandery, either at his own request or because of an objection which the Grand Commandery shall deem sufficient; in which case the Grand Commandery shall select one of its members to preside.

**Section 1115:** Certificate of Good Standing: When an expelled or suspended member is restored to good standing, the Commandery should give him a certificate stating that he had been a member thereof, had been expelled, or suspended, (as the fact may be,—not stating the cause,) and had been (at a named date), restored to good standing. Such certificate shall be equivalent to a demit and shall in-title the Knight to apply to any Commandery for membership.

**Section 1116:** Fee: Unless expressly required by the By-Laws of the Commandery, no fee shall be required from a petitioner for restoration.

**Section 1117:** Annual Record, Abstract: Each Commandery shall, at such time as may be directed, and in such form as may be

prescribed, by the Grand Commandery, transmit to the Grand Recorder annual returns for each year ending the thirty-first day of May and shall, at the same time, pay the Grand Recorder the fees and dues due the Grand Commandery for such year. An abstract of such return shall be entered upon the records of the Commandery in such form as shall have been prescribed by the Grand Commandery, and a copy thereof transmitted to the Grand Commander.

**Section 1118:** Of Deaths: The returns of each Commandery shall include the name and date of death of each officer and Past Commander, deceased since its last preceding returns, the date of his birth and his Masonic and official record.

## UNIFORMS

**Section 1119:** Required: The Order of Knights Templar is declared to be a Uniformed Order, and each Knight Templar hereafter created in a Constituent Commandery shall, when dubbed, possess the uniform prescribed by the Grand Commandery of Ohio or it shall be loaned to him by the Commandery for the purpose of this Ceremony.

**Section 1120:** Specifications: Until otherwise provided by the Grand Commandery the uniforms shall be as follows:

**FULL DRESS:** Regulation coat, black cloth trousers (without stripe or other ornamentation), sword, belt, chapeau, buff or white lisle gloves, white shirt, black tie, black socks and black shoes either leather or man made materials.

Nothing in this Section is intended to imply that all, or any part, of the Uniforms previously adopted, will become or be declared obsolete, except by normal wear and usage.

## DETAILS

**FULL DRESS COAT:** For all Sir Knights the Templar Dress Coat shall be a three button (to close with three buttons), double breasted sack coat (made of black worsted cloth, or black tropical worsted, or black gabardine). Choice to be made by purchaser to the manufacturer. The coat shall have no outside pockets, but shall have two lower straight flaps, no opening. Two (2) belt hooks to be installed, one each on left and right side of coat. Coat shall have two (2) inside breast pockets, one on each side. Coat to have a roll collar with notched lapels, and a left breast pocket welt. Edges to be single stitched. Length of coat shall be one (1) inch below wearer's trouser inseam line. There shall be three (3) black buttons on each sleeve cuff. All buttons to be black Knight Templar buttons with cross and crown and the motto of the Order encircled around the edge. At wearer's left side, beneath the simulated pocket flap, a four inch horizontal slit opening with zipper closing, to allow for use of a sling worn on a concealed belt. Uniform may be used with prescribed belt, or optional sling. The coat shall conform to the foregoing specifications, and to good tailoring standards at time of placing order with manufacturer.

**CHAPEAU:** A Military chapeau with white ostrich plume of at least four (4) ply, at least eight (8) inches in width and twenty-two (22) inches in length trimmed with

black silk velvet binding. Two black underplumes are optional. Two metallic slashings one and one fourth ( $1\frac{1}{4}$ ) inches in width shall be placed on each side of the chapeau diagonally, at an approximate 45 degree angle from horizontal. Slashings to be gold or silver as appropriate, and may be made of rayon thread. A bow of flat velvet material approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide and three (3) inches in length to be placed across the front bill of the chapeau, covering the front quill of the plume, in such manner that no part of the white ostrich quill is exposed. On the left side, a rosette, oval in shape, five (5) inches in height, and four (4) inches in width, composed of not less than thirty-three (33) points in single fold, on top of which so as to display said points to the distance of one half inch from the edge, is laid one row of pleated satin ribbon, and on top of this is laid an oval black silk velvet rosette, outlined with gilt jaceron cord, in the middle of the oval shall be placed a passion cross three inches by two inches, either gold with rays, or silver as appropriate. Gilt half round, or flat tassel, to be placed between the folds at the front of the chapeau for a Commander or Past Commander. For a Past Grand Commander, Rosette shall be a purple Templar Cross, and slashings shall be of gold leaf and vine design, one and one quarter( $1\frac{1}{4}$ ) inches wide.

**SWORD:** Straight, length 34 to 40 inches, including scabbard; pommel, helmeted head of Knight with visor closed and plume on top; cross-hilt without chain; white ivory gripe with Cross in its front center; metal scabbard with emblematic mountings.

For Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers the Cross shall be the Templar Cross and the plating (swords and scabbard) gold.

For Commanders and Past Commanders the Cross shall be the Passion Cross and the plating gold.

For all others the Cross shall be the Passion Cross and the plating silver.

Swords are not to be worn by the Standard Bearer and National Color Bearer when carrying their banners.

**BELT:** One and five-eighth inches wide, woven of wire (gilt for Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Commanders and Past Commanders, and silver for all others), and black silk, in parallel stripes, four of metal and three of silk, the black stripes of equal width and the metal stripes five thirty-seconds of an inch wide; webbing mounted on a black leather belt one and three-fourth inches wide; with one long and two short slings, of same material as the webbing of the belt, each with two equal metal stripes (each five thirty-seconds of an inch wide), and one black stripe; each sling being three-fourths of an inch wide and mounted on a black leather strap seven-eighths of an inch wide, and suspended by metal clasps from a leather strap fastened to the inside of the belt; each sling having lengthening buckles and heavy swivels at the lower end; on the center sling a sword hook. Belt plate to be three by two inches in size on front. Special belt plates of same size and form may be adopted and used by any Commandery. Any Commandery which now uses any other belt plate may retain the same, but any change therein shall confirm hereto.



**SUMMER UNIFORM**

May be worn Memorial Day through Labor Day

**Section 1121(a). Specifications:**

**Pants:** Black cloth trousers (without strip or other ornamentation).

**Shirt:** White shirt, short sleeve, of military style with shoulder epaulets and two flap pockets, one on each breast.

**Tie:** Black tie optional at the discretion of the Senior Officer present.

**Sword Belt and Sword:** As prescribed in Section 1120: page 24. **No slings to be used.**

**Shoes:** As prescribed in Section 1120: page 23.

**Name badge:** the name badge shall be of metal, gold color, 5/8" inch wide by 2-5/8" inches long with the full name of the wearer in black letters. It is to be worn centered above the wearer's right breast pocket.

**Malta Jewel:** A Malta Pin of current design, available from the Grand Recorder (Ohio) shall be worn centered above the wearer's left breast pocket. (Option instead of pin: A metal ribbon bar, representing Commandery Jewels, to be worn centered over the wearer's left pocket. The metal bar shall contain three black panels, each surrounded with a silver line, each panel ½ inch high by 1 inch wide. On the left panel shall be centered a miniature Red Cross Jewel, on the center panel shall be centered a miniature Malta Jewel, and on the right panel, shall be a Templar Cross with a Cross and Crown in the center.)

**Shoulder Insignia:**

For Grand Commandery Officers: A Red Metal Templar Cross, one-inch square, surrounded by a gold line, to be worn in the center of each epaulet.

For Past Grand Commanders: The same except the Cross shall be purple.

For Past Commanders, Commanders, Generalissimos and Captains General: A red or green metal bar (as appropriate to the office), ¾." wide by 1½" long surrounded by a gold or silver line, with the appropriate emblem of their rank, as currently prescribed. The bars are to be centered on the epaulet.

**Collar Insignia: (optional)** For Grand or Past Grand Commandery Officers, shall be ½ inch gold cut out letters with the abbreviation of the State as prescribed by the US Postal Service (no periods) to be worn on the wearer's left collar, and ½ inch gold "KT" cut out letters (without periods) on the right collar. For Commanders or Past Commanders, ½ inch gold State Abbreviations as above on left collar with ½ inch cut out gold "KT" cut out letters (without periods) on the right collar.

Sir Knights below the rank of Commander are the same as for Commanders and Past Commanders, except the color shall be silver. These insignias to be worn centered on the collar and parallel with the top edge and set back ¾ inch from the leading edge of the collar.

Revised 1999

**Cap:** For Past Grand Commanders: A Military style Navel Garrison Cap with a white top, black band, and black visor with one row of gold oak leaves and acorns, metal Templar Cross, purple, 2¼ inch square affixed to the front of the black band and a gold chin strap attached with gold buttons.

For Grand Commanders: same as above except red Templar Cross.

For Grand Commandery Officers: same as above except plain black visor.

For Commanders and Past Commanders: same as above except with a 1 ¾ inch by 2 inch red metal passion cross trimmed in gold with rays.

For all other Sir Knights: Same as above except using a red metal passion cross trimmed in silver and a silver chin strap attached with silver buttons.

For Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Commanders and Past Commanders, the belt plate should be gilt with silver for all others.

The belt to be worn horizontally about the waist, with the long sling in the center of the back, the sword hangers adjusted to cause the sword to hang vertically and to cover the seam of the trousers.

### INSIGNIA

The use of silver or gold colored nylon and/or rayon thread may be used in place of silver or gold bullion in the manufacture of Knight Templar insignia for use on Templar uniforms in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Ohio.

#### **For Commanders and Past Commanders**

Gilt ray bullion embroidery Passion crosses, one and three-fourth inches high on each shoulder strap and on each sleeve of coat, to be placed two and one-half inches from the lower edge.

#### **For Grand and Past Grand Officers**

There shall be gold bullion Templar crosses on the shoulder straps and on the sleeve instead of Passion crosses, the same to be one and three-fourth inches square. The center of the Templar crosses to be bright red velvet for Grand Commandery Officers and royal purple for Past Grand Commanders.

#### **For Sir Knights other than the above named Officers**

There shall be the silver bullion Passion cross on each sleeve as above specified.

Official Distinctions: Except distinctive Commandery badges, which may be of any color, wherever metal appears, it shall be gold for Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Commanders and Past Commanders, and silver for all others.

Crosses: Except as otherwise provided, the crosses for Past Grand Commanders shall be royal purple and all others, bright red.

### OPTIONAL UNIFORM

**Section 1121:** Specifications: Until otherwise provided by the Grand Commandery, the fatigue uniform shall be as follows:

**FATIGUE COAT:** The Full Dress Coat (Section 1120) may be used as a fatigue coat except that no decorations, jewels, or belt may be worn. The word "Ohio" in gold or silver as appropriate will appear above the welt of the breast pocket. Appropriate sleeve crosses will be worn as prescribed, on the sleeves, and on the shoulders. Shoulder crosses shall be ½ inch from shoulder seam.

**FATIGUE CAP:** For Sir Knights and Officers below the rank of Commander — of black silk or broadcloth lined with black: U.S. Army Officer's (Pershing style) pattern. Crown measuring about eleven and one-quarter inches from front to rear, and about ten and one-half inches from side to side, stiffened in front by springs and falling without stiffening to the rear. Top to be stiffened at rim with wire, and silk or broadcloth on top of crown to be black. Trimmed with a band of black lustrous mohair braid one and seven-eighth inches in width: silver lace strap one-half inch in width fastened at each end of visor with small white metal K.T. button. Visor to be black on top and lined with green; greatest width of visor about two

and three sixteenth inches and slope from vertical of about fifty-five degrees. A silver bullion embroidered Passion cross, size two by one and one half inches without rays on front.

#### **For Commanders and Past Commanders**

Same cap as above except trimmed with a band of gold vellum wire lace one and seven-eighth inches in width. Gold Lace strap one-half inch in width fastened at each end of visor with a small gold metal K.T. button. A gold bullion embroidered Passion cross, size two by one and one-half inches, with rays on front. '

#### **For Grand Officers below the rank of Grand Commander**

Same cap as for Commanders and Past Commanders except a gold bullion embroidered Templar cross, size two inches square, with bright red center on front.

#### **For Grand Commanders and Past Grand Commanders**

Same cap as for Commanders and Past Commanders except with a band of black lustrous silk velvet one and seven-eighths inches in width, the band to be trimmed in vine, oak leaf and acorn pattern in gold bullion embroidery. A gold bullion embroidered Temple cross, size two inches square, on front. For Grand Commander the center of the cross to be bright red and for the Past Grand Commanders to be royal purple. Visor to be trimmed in same manner as band around cap.

(b) All elective officers of each Commandery shall own and possess the uniform and essential equipment prescribed in Section 1120.

(c) All Guards of Honor, members of Drill Corps, triangle guards and appointive officers shall own and possess or be provided by the Commandery, with the uniform and essential equipment above prescribed.

NOTE: All uniform and equipment provided by the Commandery shall belong to the Commandery unless paid for and vouchers shall be required if loaned.

**Section 1122:** Drill Corps Jewel or Badges: A Commandery may adopt a drill corps jewel or badge having thereon the appropriate emblems of Masonic Knighthood, and may prescribe by whom the same may be worn, with such conditions and limitations as it may determine.

**Section 1123:** (a) Badges and Jewels: No Badge or Jewel shall be worn on a Knight Templar Uniform except those which are issued by or pertain to Chivalric Masonry. All Jewels are worn on the left breast, from right to left, in order of precedence. On the extreme right (left of center of the body) shall be the Jewel of Office; next Jewels for Meritorious Service, including the Jewel of KTCH; next, the Jewel of a Past Deputy Division Commander, the Jewel of a Past Commander, Drill Team, Service Award; next, the Commandery Badge; and last, the Malta Jewel, if worn.

Commanders, Past Commanders and Line Officers wearing the double-breasted coat will wear the Badge of Office or Jewel of a Past Commander in the center of the rows of buttons and in line with the top buttons, but in no case shall any Jewel interfere with the belt. No Jewel will ever be worn on the right breast.

The Officers' Jewels of a Commandery shall be silver except for that of the Commander, which shall be gold.

A Jewel, to be known as a Past Deputy Division Commander Jewel, may be purchased by a Sir Knight who possesses the qualifications of a Past Deputy Division Commander as delineated in Section 1038.1. The Jewel shall be worn in accordance with the provisions of this Section (1123). The Jewel may be obtained and worn only after authorization by the Grand Commander.

The Past Deputy Division Commander Jewel shall consist of a round medallion. 1 3/8 inches in diameter, and convex in shape, suspended from a header 1 3/8 inches wide by two chains 1 inch in length. The header shall have engraved the recipients name. The medallion shall carry the words, "Past Deputy Division Commander," on the upper circular margin, and the word, "Ohio", in the middle of the bottom circular margin. The center of the medallion shall contain a red Templar Cross and crown. The Jewel shall be of brass or some suitable material, and shall be heavy gold plated.

An Honorary Past Grand Commander's Jewel shall be of the exact size of the present Past Grand Commander's Jewel as described on page 53 of the Statutes, except there shall be no bottom bar. The ribbon shall be grogain half white and half black, and there shall be a metal bar attached thereto with the word "HONORARY" engraved thereon. The ribbon is to be tapered to a point at the center of the bottom edge, where a grommet is to be placed. The jewel shall hang on a ring through the grommet. The circular portion of the center of the jewel shall have no enameling, and the outer edge of the center shall have two crossed swords and a passion cross. The metal portion of the jewel shall be of brass or some suitable material, and shall be heavy gold plated.

(b) CITATION CORDS: Citation or Shoulder Cords of white, silver, gold or some other color furnished by the Grand Commandery shall be worn on the left shoulder of the Dress Coat and secured by standard uniform (or flat cloth-covered) button holding the cord loop. This is a braided cord with a loop which is attached to a button to be sewed on top of the shoulder of the coat, three and one-half inches from the sleeve seam with the cord being at the wearer's left of the button. Only one cord is to be worn by an individual, that being the latest one awarded. For consistency of dress by Constituent Commanderies competing in State or Triennial Drill, the cord would have to be removed; unless all members of a particular drill team are authorized to wear them. (These Cords will remain the property of the Grand Commandery of Ohio and will only be issued on a written request from the Constituent Recorders and returned to the Grand Commandery when obtaining a higher award.)

(c) Any Knight Templar who, as a first line signer after June 1, 1982, secured and presented petitions of others for membership in any Commandery of which

he is a member is entitled to receive from the Grand Commandery of Ohio, and thereafter to wear only on his uniform, the following awards for having obtained the following number of such petitions, each of which has resulted in the petitioner being knighted in said Commandery.

For three petitions: a White shoulder Cord

For six petitions: a Silver Cord

For nine petitions: a Red Shoulder Cord

For fifteen petitions: a Gold Shoulder Cord

For twenty petitions: a Red and White Shoulder Cord

For twenty-five petitions: A Red and Silver Shoulder Cord

For thirty petitions: A Red and Gold Shoulder Cord

For thirty-five petitions: A Red and Purple Shoulder Cord

For forty petitions: A Purple and White Shoulder Cord

For forty-five petitions: A Purple and Silver Shoulder Cord

For fifty petitions: A Purple and Gold Shoulder Cord

For fifty-five petitions: A Green and White Shoulder Cord

For sixty petitions: A Green and Silver Shoulder Cord

For sixty-five petitions: A Green and Gold Shoulder Cord

For seventy petitions: A Green and Red Shoulder Cord

For seventy-five petitions: A Silver and Gold Shoulder Cord

For eighty petitions: A Silver and Blue Shoulder Cord

For ninety petitions: A Gold and Blue Shoulder Cord

For one hundred petitions: A Red and Blue Shoulder Cord

All awards given in this section and hereafter remain the property of the Grand Commandery of Ohio and shall be returned to it when the recipient either receives a subsequent award for additional petitions or ceases to be a Knight Templar.

The wearing of the membership award is optional, but if worn, it shall be worn only on a Commandery Dress Uniform.

**Section 1124:** (a). Collar for Grand Officer's Jewel: Grand Commandery Officers and Past Grand Commanders are authorized to wear a chain collar with officer jewel attached while attired in a tuxedo or civilian dress attire when attending a Masonic function or Commandery function when a uniform is not required. This chain collar cannot be worn with a full Templar uniform or a Fatigue coat. This chain collar must consist in structure as follows: Gold plated metal chain with Knights Templar Emblem, (cross and crown), enameled Red, (cross) , and Blue (crown), superimposed on each rectangular link except top and bottom, which shall be a star at the top and the initials K.T. with appropriate Jewel attaching clasp at the bottom. Back chain to be placed at bottom of third link from top. Chain collar to be lined with formed, narrow Black Velvet backing. No other type of chain collar is authorized except those already purchased and not having that enameled Cross and Crown.

(b) Deputy Division Commander's Collar: Deputy Division Commanders are authorized to wear the Deputy Division Commander's Jewel, suspended from a

Black Velvet collar, when attired in a tuxedo or civilian dress attire when attending a Masonic function or Commandery function when a uniform is not required. This collar cannot be worn with full Templar uniform or Fatigue coat. This collar is to be manufactured of two and one quarter inch wide, Black Velvet, formed to lay smoothly and ending in a Vee at the front with appropriate Jewel attaching clasp. It shall be eighteen inches long and twelve inches wide at its widest point, having a back chain attached to maintain position of the collar.

**Section 1125: Decorations Inhibited;** On all occasions of ceremony or when Sir Knights are in line, the wearing of flowers, souvenir badges, trinkets, ribbons or any decorations other than those prescribed by the Grand Encampment or the Grand Commandery are prohibited, except that for Easter and Ascension Day Services a flower or small bouquet may be worn directly above the Commandery badge, and that at a funeral a single white flower may be worn.

**Section 1126: Prelates Robes:** The regulation robe of the Prelate of the Grand Commandery and of Constituent Commanderies, shall consist of under-robe, mantle or over-robe, stole and biretta, as follows:

Under-robe: Shall be made of white material; lined with white; on yolk, with straight standing collar; and to button behind. The sleeves shall be fashioned with a band at the wrist and puffed or fashioned like a bishop's sleeve. It shall have no ornamentation.

Mantle or Over-robe: Shall be of black material; lined with black; with flowing sleeves; and with a hood at the back, made of black material, lined with white, and trimmed around the edges with a black girdle by means of which the Mantle is to fasten in front.

The ornamentation on the left breast shall be as follows: For Prelate of Grand Commandery: A Templar Cross six inches square; cross to be of bright red material embroidered with gilt bullion; the bullion to be edged on the inside and outside with gilt jaceron.

For Prelates of Constituent Commanderies: A Passion cross seven inches in height, with cross arm in proportion; cross to be of bright red material embroidered with silver bullion; the bullion to be edged on the inside and outside with silver jaceron.

Stole: Shall be of white material, lined with white; to be a single pendant shape, forty inches long and four inches wide at the top, where it fastens to a circular collar. The bottom to be nine inches square, then tapered to the top; across the bottom to have bullion fringe, two and one-half inches deep; in the center of the lower square to have a five-inch cross; four inches from the top to have a three-inch cross; and midway, between the upper cross and the lower cross, to have a four inch cross.



For the Prelate of the Grand Commandery: The Crosses shall be Templar crosses of bright red material, with raised edge around the crosses of gilt bullion; the bullion to be edged on the outside with gilt jaceron. The edges of the stole to be trimmed with gilt lace and the fringe to be of gilt.

For the prelate of a Constitute Commandery: The crosses shall be Passion crosses of bright red material, embroidered with silver bullion and edged on the outside with silver jaceron. Crosses to be without rays. The edges of the stoic to be trimmed with silver lace and fringe to be of silver.

Biretta: Shall be of black material with a black tassel; on the front shall be Prelate's Jewel of office, a triple triangle, in gilt bullion for the Prelate of the Grand Commandery: and silver bullion for the Prelates of Constituent Commanderies.

**Section 1127:** Prelate's uniform: Out of the asylum the Prelate shall wear the Templar Uniform, omitting the sword.

### AMENDMENTS

**Section 1128:** How Made: These Statutes may be altered or amended on the concurrence of four-fifths of the members present at any Annual Conclave, provided, the alteration or amendments be proposed in writing, at a previous session, notice of motion to amend be given, and a particular time be set to take the vote thereon. In all other cases any proposed amendment shall be seconded by a majority vote of the members present voting, and shall lie over until the next Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, when concurring vote of two-thirds shall be necessary to adopt such alteration or amendment.

### Standing Resolution

**2004**

The Grand Commandery of the State of Ohio in conjunction with each Constituent Commandery, shall purchase and maintain one common policy of insurance covering general liabilities which may arise, and such personal property as listed in its current inventory and under its care, custody and control. The terms and conditions of this policy of insurance shall be determined by the Grand Commandery. Payment of the annual premium is to be advanced by the Grand Commandery and reimbursed by each Constituent Commandery, for its proportionate share to be due the first day of December following its adoption. The insurance policy is to take effect on the first day of January of the year following the adoption of this resolution.

Adopted 10/08/2004  
Attest: R.H. Palm,  
Grand Recorder (Ohio)

**Standing Resolution  
2004**

Financing the One Day Festival 2005

1. Each Commandery in the Grand Commandery of Ohio agrees to contribute \$50.00 (fifty dollars) through the Grand Commandery of Ohio by November 1, 2004.
2. This contribution is for the Templar year 2004-2005 Only, and this resolution will expire on May 31, 2005.
3. As a result of this Standing Resolution being adopted, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Ohio agrees to waive the Knighting fee for this Templar Year.

Adopted 10/08/2004

Attest: R.H. Palm,

Grand Recorder (Ohio)

Standing Resolution  
1986

Triennial Competitive Drill Fund  
Repealed 9/28/01

Standing Resolution  
1991

Service to only the Grand Commandery of Ohio  
Repealed 9/28/01

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**GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
OF THE STATE OF OHIO  
STANDING RESOLUTIONS**

**1993**

**50 Year Membership Award**

WHEREAS the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Ohio does recognize and make available the 50 year lapel pin and wallet card for every member in good standing upon the attainment of 50 years of Commandery membership, therefore.

BE IT RESOLVED that the application for the award must be made by the Recorder of the Constituent Commandery of which the recipient is a member to the Grand Recorder by letter or on such forms as may be prescribed, and that the Division Commander also be notified of such application.

That on receipt of such application the Grand Recorder shall determine from the records of the Grand Commandery eligibility of 50 years cumulative commandery membership. This requirement of cumulative membership does not require a continuous membership during that period. If he finds the award in accordance with regulations herein promulgated, he shall issue the 50 year lapel pin to the Division Commander of the Division wherein the requesting Commandery is located, for presentation to the recipient at the earliest convenience. The Grand Recorder shall also notify the Grand Commander of this pending presentation.

That upon presentation of the award, the Division Commander (or his designee) making the presentation, shall make a written report to the Grand Recorder stating date, place, and any pertinent presentation detail.

Designee of the Division Commander is limited to a Past Grand Commander, Deputy Division Commander, Eminent Commander or a Past Commander. It is the prerogative of the Right Eminent Grand Commander to personally make the presentation if he so desires, or to designate a proxy on his behalf to make the presentation.

That, recognizing the advanced age of the recipients and difficulties to coordinate and schedule such presentation, the presentation may be made any time after the Annual Meeting preceding the date of his eligibility as determined herein.

That, verified membership or affiliation in a Commandery in another

recognized Grand Jurisdiction, coupled with verified membership in his Jurisdiction, is counted in determining the number of years accumulated membership or affiliated as governed by this resolution.

That, cumulative membership does not include time or suspension or demit status, but only accumulated affiliation membership time in good standing.

That, Resolution shall be printed in the Code of the Grand Commandery of Ohio until amended at an Annual Grand Commandery Conclave.

### **1995**

#### **Fees for Regional Festival**

Fees for membership may be set by decision of the Grand Commander for the purpose of a regional festival or all degree day. All Commanderies participating in these events will accept such decision as final.

### **1995**

#### **10 year Endowment Assessment**

We the Voting Delegates of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, realizing that it is our Templar duty and responsibility to provide for the future fiscal security of this Grand Commandery, and believing that building an Endowment Fund to a level such that the interest generated for such a fund will provide for the majority of the operational costs of this Grand Jurisdiction, by our actions today resolve the following.

1. Beginning on June 1, 1996 and continuing for 10 years each member shall be assessed \$5 (Five Dollars) to be paid with his dues. It will be the duty of each Commandery to collect these funds and remit them to the Grand Recorder's Office within 30 days of payment by the member.

2. Monies generated and remitted to the Grand Recorder will be immediately placed in accounts designated "Endowment Funds", and only the interest generated will be used for operational expenses.

3. Each Sir Knight will have the opportunity during the first two years of this program to pay the sum of \$40 in advance, and be exempt from the \$5 per year assessment.

4. At the end of the 10 year period, on June 1, 2006, this Standing Resolution will expire, and no further assessments will be made.

5. In keeping with our desire to provide for the financial future of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, we further resolve to encourage our Members to assist in this endeavor by making Contributions, Wills and Bequests to the Endowment Fund. Such acts will be noted in our Proceedings and appropriate documentation and recognition made to the Donors.

Rules of Order of  
Grand Commandery

Forms of By-Laws  
Recommended for Commanderies

Rules of Commanderies  
Under Dispensation

STATUTES OF THE  
**RULES OF ORDER OF  
THE GRAND COMMANDERY**

**Section 1501:** Prior to the holding of a Stated Conclave, the Grand Commander shall appoint a Committee on Topical Reference and a Committee on Time and Place.

**Section 1502:** All reports of officers shall be referred to the Committee on Topical Reference, which shall recommend the reference of such parts thereof to such standing or Special Committees as it shall deem proper.

**Section 1503:** The Committee on Time and Place shall recommend a time and place for holding the next Stated Conclave.

**Section 1504:** When adjournment shall be had, or recess taken to a time certain, the session shall be resumed at the designated time; and at the first session of each succeeding day the minutes of the sessions of the preceding day shall be read and acted upon.

**Section 1505:** Committees shall not, without special leave, sit while the Grand Commandery is in session.

**Section 1506:** Upon the request of any member, the mover of any motion shall reduce the same to writing and sign the same.

**Section 1507:** No motion shall be entertained until it shall have been seconded, and no debate shall be had thereon until after its statement by the presiding officer.

**Section 1508:** No member shall, without special leave, speak more than once upon the same subject, except to explain his remarks.

**Section 1509:** When a question is under consideration, no motion shall be entertained except to adjourn, to lay on the table, to commit, to amend, or to postpone indefinitely, which several motions shall have precedence in the above order.

**Section 1510:** A motion to adjourn shall always be in order and shall be decided without debate.

**Section 1511:** Any divisible question shall be divided upon the request of any member; but a motion to strike out and insert shall be deemed indivisible.

**Section 1512:** When the presiding officer shall arise and announce that debate is closed, discussion shall cease.

**Section 1513:** Unless for good cause excused, it shall be the duty of each member present to vote upon every question propounded; except that no member shall vote upon any question involving his personal interests.

**Section 1514:** Any member who shall have voted with the majority may move a reconsideration of any question.

**Section 1515:** Except as otherwise herein provided, and except that in filling blanks the largest sum and the longest time shall be first acted upon; all questions shall be propounded in the order in which they shall have been moved.

**Section 1516:** No report shall be received from any committee until it shall have been reduced to writing and signed by a majority of the committee.

**Section 1517:** If any member shall behave disorderly or improperly, he shall, for a first offense, be called to order, for a second offense be reprimanded by the presiding officer, and, for a third offense, be suspended either for a definite period or indefinitely, as the Grand Commandery shall determine.

**Section 1518:** At each Stated Conclave the order of business, unless otherwise ordered, shall be:

1. Reports of Committees on Credentials and on Visitors.
2. Reading of and acting upon so much, if any, of the minutes of preceding Conclaves as shall not have been acted upon.
3. Announcement of appointment of committees.
4. Reports of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder and each Deputy and Pro-tempore Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder.
5. Report of Committee on Topical Reference.
6. Proposals of amendments of Statutes.
7. Receiving and referring petitions of Past Commanders from other jurisdictions.
8. Reading of General Orders of, and Memorials by the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment.
9. Reading of Communications.
10. Report of Trustees of Masonic Home
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees.
12. Miscellaneous Business.
13. Election of Officers.
14. Installation.
15. Reading and acting upon minutes of final day's session.

**Section 1519:** The Rules of Order may be suspended, changed, supplemented, or repealed, at any stated Conclave, by the vote of two-thirds of the members present.



**Section 1600****UNIFORM CODE  
OF BY-LAWS**

Note: In this Grand Jurisdiction by-laws are those regulations which may differ in the several Commanderies. They must conform to the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, to the Statutes of the Grand Commandery and to the Charter of the Commandery, and do not become effective until approved by the Grand Commandery or during recess by the Grand Commander (subject to review at the next succeeding Grand Conclave). Any re-statement in them of any provision of such Constitution, Statutes or Charter is superfluous.

The Statutes of the Grand Encampment now expressly authorize a Grand Commandery to enact a uniform Code of by-laws for the government of its Commanderies. The fact that the Grand Encampment has deemed it proper to authorize a uniform code emphasizes the necessity of great care in the drafting of by-laws. It is suggested that these forms be followed. Such omissions, changes and additions as shall harmonize them with the needs and wishes of the respective Commanderies can be included in a set of Resolutions or Standing Rules. These Resolutions or Standing Rules may be changed from time to time by a vote of the members of the Commandery and need not be approved by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander if they are not in general conflict with the Code of the Grand Encampment or the Grand Commandery.

\_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_

located at \_\_\_\_\_  
Ohio

**Article 1.** Stated Conclaves: A Stated Conclave shall be held on the \_\_\_\_\_ of each month, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock P.M.

**Article 2.** Special Conclaves: (a) A Special Conclave may be held for conferring the Orders, receiving and balloting on petitions, or for acting upon fiscal or business matters, an oral announcement at a preceding Conclave shall be sufficient notice.

(b) Of a Special Conclave held for attendance upon funerals, religious services or any Ceremonial or other gathering, or for visita-

tion, or for acting as escort, the notice need be only such as the Commander or Recorder may find it convenient to give.

**Article 3. Fees:** The Fees shall be: For the Orders, \_\_\_\_\_ dollars, and for membership by affiliation, \_\_\_\_\_ dollars.

**Article 4. Dues:** The annual dues of each member shall be Dollars, plus (\$1.00) one dollar for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation (except those who are Life Sponsors, Patrons, or Associate Patrons) and shall be payable on or before May 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

**Article 5. Restoration:** No fee shall be required from a petitioner for restoration.

**Article 6. Diplomas:** A member in good standing shall, on application therefore and the payment of the cost thereof be entitled to a diploma.

**Article 7. Election and Appointment of Officers:** The Officers of this Commandery, in order of precedence, shall be a Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Prelate, Treasurer, Recorder, Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer\* and Warder\*, to be elected, by ballot, at the first Stated Conclave in June. **A constituent Commandery may choose, by changing their by-laws, to hold their annual election of officers at the First stated conclave in May.** The Sentinel and three Guards shall be appointed by the Commander. The Officers shall be installed at a Conclave in June, but no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>. If any officer is not installed within 100 days of his election, application shall be made to the Grand Commander for dispensation to hold a new election to fill the station. \*A Commandery may change their By-laws to provide for the appointment of the Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer and the Warder.

**Article 8. Duties of Officers:** Each officer shall perform all the duties appropriate to his office and such as may be assigned to him by the Commandery of the Commander; and shall deliver to his successor all the books, papers, monies and other things in his possession belonging to the Commandery.

**Article 9. Bank of Deposit:** The Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General shall, upon their installation, designate some suitable and responsible bank as a depository.

**Article 10. Bonds:** The Treasurer, the Recorder, and such other officers as may be required by the Commandery shall give a bond to the Commandery in such sum, upon such conditions and with such surety or sureties as shall be approved by the Commandery and the

\* Article 7. the Commandery may change the language to provide that the election of officers may be held in May and that the Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer and Warder may be appointed.

Committee on Finance. The premiums for such bonds shall be paid by the Commandery.

**Article 11.** Compensation: The Recorder and the Sentinel shall, respectively, receive such compensation for their services as the Commandery may from time to time designate.

**Article 12.** Sentinel: The Sentinel, under the direction of the Captain General, shall have immediate charge of the Asylum and of the paraphernalia of the Commandery; shall keep the same in proper condition and order for the transaction of business and for the work of the Commandery.

**Article 13.** Standing Committees: The Commander at the time of his installation shall appoint standing committees on Finance, on Grievances and on Dues respectively; each composed of \_\_\_\_\_ members.

**Article 14.** Committee on Finance (Auditing): The Committee on Finance shall examine and audit the books, accounts, vouchers, properties, evidences of indebtedness and title and all other papers of, or in the custody of, all officers, committees and trustees receiving or having charge of any funds of the Commandery, and shall report in writing at the first stated Conclave in June of each year, and this report made a record of the proceedings.

**Article 15.** Committee on Grievances: The Committee on Grievances shall consider all complaints and charges referred to it by the Commandery, investigate the same and make report with such recommendations as it shall deem proper.

**Article 16.** Committee on Dues: The Committee on Dues shall investigate all delinquencies in payment of Dues, shall endeavor to obtain payment from those able to pay, and shall report recommending such action as it shall deem proper.

**Article 17.** Amendments: Amendments or repeals of, or additions to, these by-laws can be made by introducing the proposed change in writing at a stated Conclave of this Commandery, having the same read, entered on the minutes of the Conclave, and laid over to the next or a subsequent stated Conclave for action, with notice by mail to each member of the Commandery of the pendency of such proposed change. If, at the time the Commandery takes action thereon, two-thirds or more of the members present vote for the adoption thereof, it shall be declared carried and when approved by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander become in full force and effect.

## PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING BY-LAWS OF CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES

Frequently we receive inquiries as to the proper procedure to be followed in amending the By-Laws of Constituent Commanderies. We are, therefore, setting out this procedure. (See Sec. 1600, Article 17.)

1. The proposed amendment should be introduced in writing at a Stated Conclave of the Commandery, entered upon the minutes, and laid over to the next or a subsequent Stated Conclave for action.
2. A copy of the proposed amendment should then be mailed to each member of the Commandery with notification that it will be acted upon at the Stated Conclave of said Commandery on such and such a date.
3. At that Stated Conclave the amendment should be presented for action and, if two-thirds or more of the members present vote for the adoption of the amendment, it is declared carried. It must then be submitted to the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander for approval.
4. THREE copies of the amendment, with Certification attached, should be sent to the **Grand Recorder**. The Certification, executed by the Recorder and under the SEAL of the Commandery, must show the date of submission to the Commandery, that due notice was given to all members, and that it lay over until the next Stated Conclave at which time it was adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote. We suggest the following form of Certification:

### Certification

This is to certify that the above amendment was introduced at the Stated Conclave of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_, K.T., on \_\_\_\_\_; that due notice in writing was given to each and every member of the Commandery on \_\_\_\_\_ that it lay over until the next Stated Conclave held on \_\_\_\_\_ when it was acted upon and adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds or more of those present and entitled to vote.

(Seal)

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Recorder

5. The amendment is in full force and effect immediately upon the approval of the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander.

Statutes of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Ohio, Section 1600, Article 17, Page 34.

**(1701)**  
**RULES OF COMMANDERIES**  
**UNDER DISPENSATION**

A Commandery U.D. cannot enact By-Laws, but may prescribe such rules as are necessary for its government. Sec. 155, G.E.

It is recommended that such rules be in the form, so far as applicable, of the foregoing By-Laws, thereby forming a basis for By-Laws which can only be enacted after the Commandery shall have been constituted.

A draft of the rules shall be prepared in advance, after careful study of the constitution, statutes, notes and recommended forms of By-Laws, and upon the organization of the Commandery U.D. be submitted to it for consideration and action.

**Forms**

**Forms of Records  
for  
Ohio Commanderies**

STATUTES OF THE  
**FORMS (1801)**  
**PETITION FOR DISPENSATION**

**To the Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the State of Ohio:**

The undersigned petitioners, courteously represent that they are Knights Templar in good and regular standing, having the good of the Order at heart, and wishing to extend its influence, and that a greater opportunity may be afforded them for the same, are desirous of forming a new Commandery of Knights Templar, to be located at \_\_\_\_\_ and to be known as \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery. They have nominated, and do hereby recommend Sir Knight \_\_\_\_\_ to be the first Commander; Sir Knight \_\_\_\_\_ to be the first Generalissimo; and Sir Knight \_\_\_\_\_ to be the first Captain General of said Commandery; and they pray for a Dispensation empowering them to meet as a legal Commandery at \_\_\_\_\_ in the County of \_\_\_\_\_ and discharge the duties of Knights Templar in a constitutional manner.

There are \_\_\_\_\_ Chapters in the territory to form our jurisdiction, and \_\_\_\_\_ Royal Arch Masons resident in said territory.

Should the prayers of the petitioners be granted, they promise a strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Commander to conform to the usages of the Order; to support and maintain the Statutes and Regulations of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, and the Constitution and Code of Statutes of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America. They also promise that each petitioner will be provided with the regulation uniform of a Knight Templar, at the opening of such Commandery.

None of the undersigned adhere to organizations conferring irregular or clandestine degrees under the assumed name of Masonry or "Knighthood," and none of them are in arrears for dues to any Commandery.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_

The petition must be signed by not less than nine Sir Knights of the Order, and if action by the Grand Commandery is desired, be recommended by the nearest Commandery to the place where the new Commandery is to be located, and accompanied by the fee of \$200.

Non-affiliated petitioners must attach their Demits to the petition, to be filed with the Grand Recorder.

**RECOMMENDATION****To the Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Ohio:**

At a stated Conclave of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_, stationed at \_\_\_\_\_, and held in its Asylum on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 20\_\_\_\_\_, A. O. 8\_\_\_\_\_, the petition of Sir Knights residing at or near the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (which petition is hereunto appended), **praying for a Dispensation** to form a **new** Commandery, to be stationed at the last named place, regularly came before the Commandery for action thereon, when, after due consideration, it was

**Resolved**, That this Commandery, being fully satisfied that the Knights therein named are in regular standing, of good moral character and Masonic abilities, and that there is sufficient material in the jurisdiction of the proposed Commandery suitable to sustain said new Commandery creditably, do recommend that a Dispensation be granted them as prayed for.

Witness my hand and seal of said Commandery the date first above written.

(Seal) \_\_\_\_\_

Recorder of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_

**(1802)**

**PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

\_\_\_\_\_ Ohio, \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

**To the Eminent Commander and Sir Knights of \_\_\_\_\_  
Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_ Knights Templar:**

Your petitioner respectfully and fraternally represents that he is a **Royal Arch Mason** in good standing, exalted in \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_ and was raised to the sublime degree of **Master Mason** in \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_, in the State of \_\_\_\_\_, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_ that he holds a **Demit** from \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_ **Knights Templar**, stationed at \_\_\_\_\_, in the State of \_\_\_\_\_, which **Demit** is hereunto attached.

That he is desirous of becoming a member of your Commandery, and if honored by an election, he promises to conform to the usages of the Order, to obey the Constitution, Statutes and



Regulations of the governing Grand Bodies, and the By-Laws of your Commandery.

\_\_\_\_\_

Where born \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Member of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_, F. and A. M.

Member of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_ R. A. M.

Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address No. \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended by

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(1803)

**PETITION FOR RESTORATION**

**To the Eminent Commander and Sir Knights of \_\_\_\_\_  
Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_ Knights Templar:**

Your petitioner courteously represents that on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, he was by the judgment and sentence of your Commandery \_\_\_\_\_ from all the rights and privileges of Templar Masonry.

That he now most respectfully petitions to be **restored to membership** in your Commandery, and thereby to all the rights and privileges of which he was deprived by the judgment and sentence aforesaid.

Should his prayer be granted, he promises strictly to conform to the usages of the Order, the Constitution, Statutes and Regulations of the governing Grand Bodies, and the By-Laws of the Commandery.

Dated at \_\_\_\_\_, Ohio, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

(Sign name in full)

Member of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_, F. and A. M.

Member of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_ R. A. M.

Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address No. \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended by

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(1804)  
**SUMMONS**

Asylum of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery, No. \_\_\_\_\_, Knights  
 Templar, \_\_\_\_\_ Ohio, \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

**Sir Knight:** \_\_\_\_\_

You are hereby **summoned** to attend a \_\_\_\_\_ Conclave  
 of this Commandery, at its Asylum, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, P.M.

By order of the Eminent Commander,

(Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Recorder.

(1805)  
**CERTIFICATE OF PROXY**

**To the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of the State of Ohio:**

**Be it Known**, That pursuant to the authority given to me by the Statues,  
 I, the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery,  
 No. \_\_\_\_\_ stationed at \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby appoint Sir Knight  
 \_\_\_\_\_ **my Proxy** to represent me at the Conclave of  
 the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Ohio, to be holden in the City  
 of \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

He is a member of this Commandery; and a Templar of not less than  
 three years' standing.

\_\_\_\_\_, Ohio, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Commander  
 (or) Generalissimo.  
 (or) Captain General.

Proxies must be filed with the Grand Recorder on the first day of the  
 Conclave.

(1806)  
**CERTIFICATE OF DEMIT**

Asylum of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_, Knights Templar,  
 stationed at \_\_\_\_\_, in the State of Ohio, and on  
 the registry of the Grand Commandery of said State.

That Sir Knight \_\_\_\_\_, whose signature appears in the margin hereof, was a member of this Commandery in good standing;

That on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, at his own request, he was regularly demitted therefrom.

**In Testimony Whereof**, We have hereunto set our hands and caused the seal of our Commandery to be affixed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D. 20\_\_\_\_, A. O. 8\_\_\_\_\_

(Seal) \_\_\_\_\_  
Commander

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Recorder.

(1807)

**CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING**

Asylum of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_, Knights Templar, stationed at \_\_\_\_\_, in the State of Ohio, and on the registry of the Grand Commandery of said State.

**This is to Certify**

That Sir Knight \_\_\_\_\_, whose signature appears on the margin hereof, was a member of this Commandery; that by the judgment and sentence of the same he was deprived of membership therein, and of all the rights and privileges of Templar Masonry; that on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

**In Testimony Whereof**, We have hereunto set our hands and caused the seal of our Commandery to be affixed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D. 20\_\_\_\_, A. O. 8\_\_\_\_\_

(Seal) \_\_\_\_\_  
Commander

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Recorder.

(1808)

**DIPLOMA**

**Magna est Veritas, et prevalebit**

**To all Knights Templar throughout the Globe.**

We, the Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of the Commandery of Knights Templar, holden in \_\_\_\_\_

GRAND COMMANDERY

State of \_\_\_\_\_ U. S. A., hereby certify that our trusty and well beloved Companion, Sir Knight \_\_\_\_\_ has been regularly dubbed and created a Knight of the Red Cross, Knight of Malta, and Knight Templar, and as such, we cordially recommend him to the favor and protection of all true and courteous Sir Knights of our Order, wheresoever dispersed.

Given under our hands and the seal of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

We have caused our Companion Sir Knight to sign his name in the margin hereof.

\_\_\_\_\_ Commander  
\_\_\_\_\_ Generalissimo  
\_\_\_\_\_ Captain General  
(Seal of Commandery)

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ Recorder.

**Grand Commandery Knights Templar of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Grand Commander.**

Be it known, that \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_ situated in \_\_\_\_\_ is of regular standing under our jurisdiction.

Dated at \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 20\_\_\_\_\_.

(Seal of Grand Commandery)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Grand Recorder.

Nes Varietus \_\_\_\_\_

(1809)  
**COMMISSION OF GRAND  
REPRESENTATIVE**

**The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Ohio  
To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of \_\_\_\_\_**

**Whereas,** A more intimate and fraternal intercourse between our respective Grand Commanderies would tend to strengthen the bonds of affection and promote the **Unity, Integrity and Harmony** of the Order.

**Therefore, be it Known,** With that object, and reposing especial trust and confidence in our Valiant Magnanimous Sir Knight \_\_\_\_\_ We do hereby Nominate, Constitute

and Appoint, and by these Presents do Commission our said Sir Knight to be our **Representative** near the Grand Commandery of \_\_\_\_\_ with full **Power, Warrant and Authority** to act and appear for us in the said **Grand Commandery** in all laudable endeavors to promote the happiness and prosperity of our Time-Honored Order and the success of the principles of Christian Knighthood.

**In Testimony Whereof** We have caused the seal of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Ohio, to be hereunto affixed, and have subscribed to the same.

(Seal) Dated at City of \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. O. 8\_\_\_\_, A. D. 20\_\_\_\_\_

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grand Commander.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grand Recorder.

(1810)

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Recorders should be prompt and careful in making out and for-warding all reports to the Grand Commander or Grand Recorder. Unnecessary delay in these matters imposes additional labor on the executive officers of the Grand Commandery and causes serious annoyance.

**Make regular monthly reports to the Grand Recorder at proper time and as required by the Grand Encampment.**

Be careful to spell names accurately, always recording **full first names** — **not initials**, and write them plainly on your records and reports. It is easy to make mistakes in proper names, as their spelling is arbitrary and can not be guessed at.

It is the Recorder's duty to collect the dues promptly when same are due, and if unpaid, to report the names of the delinquents **at once** to the Commander that the proper action may be taken.

The efficiency and reputation of a Commandery depends as largely upon the Recorder as upon the Commander, the relation being the same as that between an Adjutant and the Colonel of a regiment; and as in the army, the manner in which the duties devolving upon this staff officer are performed makes or mars the reputation of the commanding officer or the Commandery itself; therefore adopt the maxim of all successful Recorders, which is "**promptness in all things.**"

**Dedicating and Consecrating  
New Asylums**

**Past Grand Commander's  
Jewel**

(1811)

## DEDICATING AND CONSECRATING NEW ASYLUMS

When an Asylum is to be dedicated and consecrated, the Commandery will assemble in the Asylum and open in special Conclave.

The Grand Commander with Grand Officers will assemble in ad-joining apartment and open the Grand Commandery in Special session.

All officers and Sir Knights in full Templar uniform.

The furniture and delta to be arranged with exactness. The delta with Apex to the east and twelve unlighted tapers, and twelve goblets thereon arranged alternately, neither light nor wine thereon nor therein.

When all is in readiness, the Grand Commandery enters the Asylum, and are received with honors due them.

The Commander then directs the officers to vacate their stations to the Grand Officers. He vacates his station to the Grand Commander, and is with other officers and the Sir Knights seated.

An appropriate program of music by choir.

**Commander:** Rt. Em. Grand Commander, the Sir Knights of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery, animated by a zeal for our Order, and I trust a most profound veneration for the truths taught thereby have (erected and) furnished this Asylum, and are now desirous, if it shall meet with your approval, that it be dedicated and consecrated to the solemn rites of our Order of Christian Knighthood.

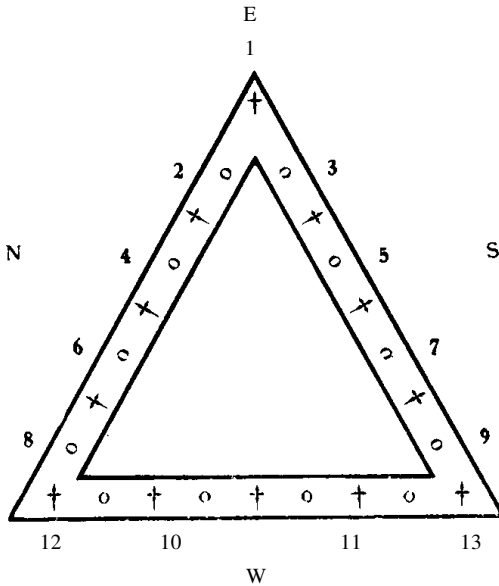
**Chairman of Committee on Building (or Furnishing, or Architect):** Rt. Em. Grand Commander, having, with my co-laborers, superintended the completion of this Asylum and its suite, to the best of our ability, we beg leave to surrender the work, humbly trusting that it will merit your approbation and the approval of our fraters.

**Grand Commander:** Sir Knights, the skill, and fidelity displayed in the execution of the trust confided to you, merits and receives our entire approbation. We sincerely trust that this Asylum may continue a lasting monument to the taste and spirit of liberality of your Commandery.

It has been the custom to dedicate our Commanderies to St. John the Almoner — not with the superstitious awe in which the heathen set apart their temples for the worship of imaginary deities; not that

higher and more solemn sense in which Christians consecrate their churches to the worship of Almighty God, but we do it simply to testify our veneration for the character of those who have been so eminent in our Order, that their examples may stimulate us to imitate their exalted virtues.

Let us approach the delta that we may confirm the request of our fraters and the customs of our Order.



The Grand Officers form about the delta as follows:

1. Grand Commander.
2. Deputy Grand Commander.
3. Grand Prelate.
4. Grand Generalissimo.
5. Grand Captain General.
6. Grand Junior Warden.
7. Grand Senior Warden.
8. Grand Treasurer.
9. Grand Recorder.
10. Grand Standard Bearer.
11. Grand Sword Bearer.
12. Grand Warder.
13. Grand Sentinel.

**Grand Commander:** Excellent Prelate, lead us in our devotions.



**Grand Commander: Commandery**, attention. **Sir Knights** about the delta, Kneel, uncover.

**Prelate:** Almighty and ever glorious Lord God, Creator of all things, Governor of everything that Thou hast made; look in mercy upon Thy servants who are now bowed before Thee, and graciously accept this service at our hands. May those who are appointed to rule in this Asylum be under Thy special guidance and protection, and may they faithfully observe and fulfill all their obligations to Thee and this Commandery, and may all its members be of one heart and one mind to honor, obey and love Thee and to love one another. Grant, we beseech Thee, that all the work of our Order, that may be done in this Asylum, be such as Thou wilt approve and Thy goodness prosper. Bless our fraters, we pray Thee, withersoever dispersed, and finally admit us to the Grand Asylum above prepared for all the faithful followers of the Lamb. Amen.

**All respond.** Amen.

**Grand Commander:** Recover. Rise. **Uncover.** The officers and Sir Knights standing, all recite. "Credo."

## CREDO

"I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate; Was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into Hell; the Third Day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting, Amen."

**Grand Commander: Recover, Commandery, be seated.**

(The Grand Senior Warden presents the vessel of corn to the Grand Commander, who pours it upon the delta.)

**Grand Commander:** In the name of the Supreme Grand Commander and Architect of the Universe, I dedicate this Asylum to St. John the Almoner, in Commemoration of his virtues, that we may learn to imitate them.

(A few bars of joyous music, which diminishes in volume and tone to the softest, and the Captain General presents the vessel of wine.)

**Grand Commander:** (Filling the goblet near the apex): In the name of the Supreme Grand Commander and Architect of the Universe, let us consecrate this Asylum to universal benevolence.

**Deputy Grand Commander:** (Taking the vessel and filling the goblet opposite): We consecrate this Asylum to universal benevolence.

**Prelate:** (Taking the vessel and filling the goblet opposite): We dedicate this Asylum to St. John the Almoner and consecrate it to universal benevolence. May the Lord the Righteousness Judge fill our hearts with love to each other and charity to all mankind.

(Each officer in turn, according to rank, takes the vessel and fills a goblet, repeating the words of the Commander. When the last is filled the organ increases in volume its tone, and an appropriate verse may be sung; then the music is soft and low, and the Generalissimo hands the Grand Commander the small vessel of oil.)

**Generalissimo:** Rt. Em. Grand Commander, I present you with the oil of joy and gladness.

**Grand Commander:** (With his finger moistened with the oil anoints taper, saying): May the all bounteous Author of Nature bless the members of this Commandery, and may gladness fill the hearts of all who kneel at its symbol of Deity.

(The vessel of oil is then passed to each officer, who with finger moistened with oil, anoints the taper opposite him.)

**Prelate:** May the truths of the blessed Savior be impressively taught in this Asylum, and may the Lord lift upon it the light of His countenance.

**Grand Commander:** (Lighting three tapers at the apex): Amen; may the light of truth illumine our minds and hearts that we may walk in the light, as He is in the light.

**Grand Recorder:** (Lighting three tapers at the apex): Amen; joy and gladness and everlasting light.

**Grand Treasurer:** (Lighting three tapers at the S. W. angle). Remember, Sir Knights, that pure religion and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and keep yourselves unspotted from the world. May the light and blessing of Immanuel rest upon and remain with you.

**Junior Warden:** (Lighting taper nearest to him). Immanuel.

**All Respond:** God with us.

**Senior Warden** (Lighting a taper). The light of joy in this Asylum of love.

**Standard Bearer** (Lighting a taper). May the brilliant rays of the sun upon our banners, encourage all true and courteous Knights, like the oil of joy in the sacred precincts of our Asylums.

**(Music Ceases)**

**Grand Commander: Commandery**, attention, **Sir Knights** about the delta Kneel, uncover.

**Prelate:** O Lord God, blessed Immanuel, there is no God like unto Thee, in heaven above or on the earth beneath. Behold the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain Thee, but let Thy spirit shine into our hearts. Harken unto the supplication of Thy servants and forgive their transgressions.

**Response:** Hear us, O Lord.

**Prelate:** Bless this Asylum, we pray Thee, and incline the hearts of those who assemble herein from time to time to walk in Thy ways and keep Thy Commandments. Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will toward men. Amen.

**Response.** Amen.

**Grand Commander. Recover**, Rise.

**Grand Commander.** The blessing of the Lord God be with you and abound.

**Grand Commander. Commandery**, Be seated. Grand Officers resume your stations.

**Solo — "Come Unto Me"**

(The Knights will resume their stations, and the R. Em. Grand Commander will order the Grand Warden to proclaim the dedication and consecration of this new Asylum.)

(The Grand Warden will advance to the center of the Asylum and make the following proclamation:)

Hear ye; Hear ye; Hear ye; Valiant Knights of the Temple. I am ordered to proclaim, and do proclaim, that this Asylum has been duly dedicated and consecrated for the purposes of Christian Knighthood, and as such will be duly revered. This I proclaim to the North (one blast on trumpet), to the South (two blasts), to the East (three blasts), to the West (grand flourish on trumpet). All true and courteous Knights will take due notice thereof and govern themselves accordingly.

(Address by the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

**Te Deum Laudamus**, or other appropriate music, Grand Commandery adjourns.)



The form of jewel described below is adopted as the appropriate jewel of a Past Grand Commander, Knights Templar of the State of Ohio.

Description: The motto "**Beatus ille qui procul negotiis**" signifies "Happy is he who retires from toil." The symbology of the emblem is thus explained. The Grand Commander deposits his baton of office, sword and shield at the foot of the cross, the emblem of his faith and hope in the future, and rests from his labors. "**Beatus ille qui procul negotiis.**"

## Knight Templar Funeral Service

**Arranged by S.K. Arthur W. Craft, PC, Shawnee Commandery #14**

Sir Knights, and friends, we are gathered here to pay tribute to the memory of one whose dedication and concern for Templar Masonry has consistently reflected a total obedience to the Christian Religion. Our Bibles admonish us, "Be still and know that I am God,". Let us be reminded of this once again as we reverently come to this hour. In thinking of him whose memory we honor here this evening, we recall his warmth, his friendship, his kindness, his support, his affection and his fraternal love. Therefore, it is appropriate, at this time, to reflect upon the good works of our Sir Knight, \_\_\_\_\_ and his contribution to our beloved order. I'm sure his contribution and participation have created in the hearts and minds of his Brethren a lasting memorial in the form of the Cardinal Principles we all profess.

**Recite Personal & Masonic History**

And so it is in that spirit and that recognition that we direct our remarks as we gather here this evening, knowing and believing full well that our departed Sir Knight has entered into a Life Immortal, and we remember his knightly qualities and commend his spirit to God.

Let us Pray,

Our Father, in heaven, thou hast promised to be with us in time of need. We are again impressed with our weaknesses, and we turn to Thee whose power endureth forever. The walls we build are broken down, but the edifice of God is eternal, and his refuge is everlasting. We beseech Thee,, thou, almighty one, to hear with favor our humble petition for thy blessings in our hearts distress. Thine infinite wisdom has called another Sir Knight from our Asylum to meet with us no more. Wilt thou strengthen us in our weakness and cast thy divine light on our darkness. We come to thee with spirits bowed low, and ask the bounty of thy mercy and grace to draw us nearer to thy throne. Wilt thou support us through our afflictions of time, and prepare us for thy presence in eternity and bring us to a blissful reunion with our departed Brothers and Sir Knights in that house not made with hands? Amen, and Amen.

Sir Knights in the solemn ceremonies of our Order we have often been reminded of that great truth, We are Born to Die. The mournful funeral knell has betoken that another spirit has winged it's flight to a new state of existence. An alarm has come to the door of our Asylum. The messenger is death; and none presume to say to his direful presence, "who dares approach?" "A pilgrim warrior has been summoned, and there is no discharge from that war." A burning taper in the life of our Commandery has been extinguished, and none, save the High and Holy One, can now re-light it.

The earthly remains of our beloved Frater lie mute before us and the light of the eye and the breathing of the lips in their language of fraternal greeting have ceased for us forever on this side of the grave. His sword, vowed to be drawn only in the cause of truth, justice and liberty, reposes in it's scabbard; and our arms can no longer shield him from wrong and oppression.

At a time like this, to say, "We are sorry," is not easy, and so meaningless. There remains a grief so deep, that nothing any man can say will make it any easier, and yet, that's the kind of grief the family of our departed Sir Knight must be experiencing now. We can feel for them; we can sorrow for them, but we cannot help them. So, in times like this we cling to faith.

Life, death, and resurrection are the foundations of our faith as Knights Templar. But sometimes we become confused and forget that it is WE who are in the land of the dying, and he, whose body lies before us is in the land of the living. Almost from birth, we have been undergoing a process of disintegration, which finally ends, soon or late, with the chemical elements of our bodies returning to mingle with the elements of the earth, while our souls pass on into the land of the living, our eternal HOME.

HOME - There can be no word in any language so sweet, so steeped with such cherished sentiment. No matter what our childhood, it was the happiest period of our lives; the time to which our thoughts turn most often as we grow older. Many will remember these lines of Riley:

After awhile we have in view  
The old Home to journey to,  
Where the mother is, and where  
Her sweet welcome waits us there.  
How will click the latch that locks  
In the pinks and holy hocks,  
And leap up the path once more  
Where she waits us at the door;  
How we'll greet the dear old smile  
And the warm tears, after awhile.

Home - A place where beauty has had time to grow. Where memories have gathered giving depth and meaning to our lives. To return home is a privilege we begrudge no one. If one of our friends is able to visit again in the surroundings of his youth, we are glad for him. We look forward to some occasion when we, too, may enjoy the same pleasure. And so, let us think in terms of our departed Sir Knight having gone home. We should not grieve, save for our own sorrow in no longer being able to enjoy his company and friendship. We should rejoice, that he has been able, at last, to accomplish the end we all desire so much, that of going home. "Let not your heart be troubled. Ye believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there, ye may be also." "If God is for us, who is against us. He that spared not his own son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not also, with him really give us all things. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor to come, nor power, nor height, nor depth, nor any other Creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord."

"For this corruptible must put on incorruption and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass, the saying that is written, death is swallowed up in victory. Oh! Death, where is thy sting. Oh! Grave, where is thy victory. The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law, but thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures. He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his namesake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Let us pray:

Lord of light! In this trying hour of calamity and sorrow we humbly lift our hearts to Thee. Give us we pray, that light which cometh down from above. Thou hast mercifully said in thy holy Word, that the "bruised reed" Thou wouldst not break; Remember in mercy, Oh Lord, these bereaved ones now before thee. Administer to them the consolation which they so sorely need. Cause us to look away from this sad scene of mortality to the life which lies beyond the grave. Lead us by Thy grace and spirit to turn our attention to those things which make for our everlasting peace; and fix our thoughts more devotedly on Thee, the only sure refuge in time of need. And, at last, when our earthly pilgrimage shall be ended, when the silver cord shall be loosed and the golden bowl shall be broken, wilt Thou oh Father, be indeed - Immanuel - God, with us; may the lamp of Thy love dispel the gloom of the dark valley and we be enabled by the commendation of Thy son, to gain admission into the blessed asylum above. Amen.

Sir Knights, there is one sacred spot upon the earth where the footfalls of our march are unheeded; our trumpets quicken no pulse and incite no fear; the rustling of our banners and the gleam of our swords awaken no emotion. It is the silent city of the dead to which another of our number is now to be borne. Awe rests upon every heart, and the stem warrior's eyes are bedewed with tears which never shame his manhood. This Sir Knight was our brother. With him we have walked the pilgrimage of life and kept watch and ward in its vicissitudes and trials. He is now beyond earthly praise or censure but we remember him in scenes which the world witnessed not, where fraternal feelings were genuine and undisguised.

His virtues linger in our memory and the recollection of his finer qualities is a consolation in this hour. We who knew him so well in our Knighthood, feel that in his departure from among the living, something has gone out of our own lives that can never be again. Thus as human ties are broken, the world becomes less and less, and the hope to be united with friends who are gone grows more and more. Here is immediate compensation, which, while it cannot assuage our grief, may teach resignation to the inevitable doom of all things mortal.

While we gather in the presence of a body, once, and so lately warm with life and animate with thought, no lingering for a brief moment at the dark portal of the tomb, like a beam of Holy light, the belief must come, this cannot be all there is of day, stricken human nature cries out; there must be a dawn beyond the darkness and a never setting sun, while this short life is but a morning star.

Remember then, as I wish to remember best,  
Our sunsets here are dawns in the west,  
And when you see as I have seen  
At evening time, the verdant green  
Of life, of songs and laughter everywhere,  
Remember then as I like to remember best,  
There is no sunset here, or anywhere;  
Our sunsets here are dawning farther west.

**(Sword Presentation)**

**(Passion Cross of evergreen)**

This symbol of the Christian faith, hope and trust, we again place above the breast of our frater. Though the Cross may, at times, in the history of the world have been the badge of oppression and wrong, yet its real significance has ever remained in the heart of the Christian warrior. If an inspired apostle was not ashamed of the Cross, neither should we be; if he glorified in its promise of salvation, so ought we rejoice in it as the inspiring symbol of our faith in the life beyond the grave. May this faith have been an anchor to the soul of our departed frater, may it have created in him a serene confidence in the life everlasting, a present realization of the life beyond.



Our Frater was one of our mystic band, bound by Fraternal ties and pledged to the noble duties of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and binding up the wounds of the afflicted. To his friends and relatives, we tender our heartfelt sympathy and affirm our faith that he who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb looks down with infinite compassion upon this moment in their hour of desolation.

As he, for whom we are all mourners, was true to us, and faithful to the ties of our Knighthood, so shall we be true to those closest to him, he left behind, in the practice of the principles of Templar Masonry and in tender memory of our loved and lost. He gave much of his time to us in devotion to our cause. We owe a grateful acknowledgment to his friends for his social companionship and service, and mingle our sorrows at parting with them.

And that the same benevolent Savior who wept tears of sympathy over the grave at Bethany, will support and comfort all those who put their trust and faith in him. And so our friend and Sir Knight has passed through the sunset of this life and is entering into the dawning of a new and finer existence, on the far side of Jordan, in the green fields of Eden; a bigger, broader, more peaceful, tranquil and soul satisfying land than we can now imagine.

We are standing upon the seashore. A ship at our side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength, and we stand and watch her until, at length, we see only a ribbon of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then we hear someone at our side say, "There she is gone." Gone? Gone where? Gone from our sight -- that is all. That ship is just as large in mast and hull as when she left the pier, and just as able to carry her load of living freight to the place of her destination. Her diminished size lies only in our perspective; for just at the moment when we say "There, she is gone," there are other voices ready to take up the glad shout, "There - she is coming."

So let us carry away with us this comforting thought, that while we are gathered here to mourn the loss of our departed Sir Knight, there are many dear ones - even now - greeting him beyond that far horizon as he in turn, will someday welcome us.

"I cannot say, and I will not say  
That he is dead. He is just away.  
With a cheery smile and a wave of the hand,  
He has wandered into an unknown land  
And left us dreaming how very fair  
It needs must be since he lingers there.  
Think of him still as the same, I say;  
He is not dead - he is just - away."

Let us Pray;

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, author of life and light, inspire our hearts with wisdom from on high, that we may glorify Thee in all our ways. May we have Thy divine assistance, oh, most merciful God, to take to heart this lesson of mortality and to labor unceasingly in the discharge of the important duties Thou hast assigned to us, may we be guided by faith and humility, courage and constancy to the end that we may accomplish our allotted pilgrimage acceptable in thy sight. And when our career on earth is finished, may we enter into that abundant life, which thou hast assured us through Jesus Christ, our Lord, awaits thy faithful servants in the blessed asylum above. Let us pray the Lord's Prayer;

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