

**CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS, RULES, AND
CEREMONIES OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL
PRINCE HALL
GRAND LODGE**

**FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
JURISDICTION OF INDIANA
2022**

Published by the order of the Grand Lodge

**Kenneth A. Washington, Sr. 33°
Most Worshipful Grand Master**

**Jeffrey D. Mathis
R.W. Grand Secretary**

REVISED

**CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS, RULES,
AND CEREMONIES GOVERNING**

**THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
JURISDICTION OF INDIANA**

**CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS, AND RULES
MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE,
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, JURISDICTION OF INDIANA**

FOREWORD

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons Jurisdiction of Indiana is the direct lineal descendant of African Lodge #459 of Boston, Mass. Its legitimacy has been established by the fact that in an unbroken line beginning with Brother Prince Hall, our direct inheritance from the Grand Lodge of England can be traced and we have by every means available been tried and tested and found by impartial authorities fully entitled to the fraternal solicitations of Masons wherever situated.

From our very beginning in 1856 as a Grand Lodge, we have been blessed with the brilliant leadership of distinguished Free Masons of color and our Grand Body has been governed by rules and regulations which have been specially and suitably fitted for the situation as it then existed.

However, the recent growth of our craft and the basic problems which we face in our day have indicated a necessity for study, revision and extension of our fundamental law together with a codification and indexing in order that those who would be enlightened might find their task less burdensome, and the spirit of peace and harmony so bountifully present continue to prevail.

COMMITTEE

Theodore K. Millard, Sr., PMWGM	Chairman, Constitution & Bylaws
Kenneth A. Washington, Sr.	Most Worshipful Grand Master
Cornell Murrell	Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden
Jerome Fellows	Past Master
David Fredericks	Past Master
Jeffrey N. Peele	Past Master
Korlon L. Kilpatrick II	Master Mason

	ADOPTED 1923	
Revised and Adopted		August, 1939
Revised and Adopted		August, 1956
Revised and Adopted		August, 1963
Revised and Adopted		August, 1979
Revised and Adopted		August, 1992
Revised and Adopted		July, 2005
Revised and Adopted		July, 2018
Revised and Adopted		November, 2022

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE

Kenneth A. Washington, Sr.	Most Worshipful Grand Master
William Robinson	R. W. Deputy Grand Master
Kenneth B. Jackson, Jr.	R. W. Grand Senior Warden
Cornell Murrell	R. W. Grand Junior Warden
Donald Suggs	R. W. Grand Treasurer
Jeffrey D. Mathis	R. W. Grand Secretary

PAST MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTERS

NAME	YEARS
1. John G. Britton	1856 - 1860
2. James S. Hinton	1860 - 1864
3. John W. Harrison	1864 - 1865
4. John W. Brooks	1869 - 1870
5. Edward J. Roberts	1870 - 1871
6. William M. Walden	1871 - 1874
7. William H. Russell	1874 - 1876
8. Charles E. Bailey	1878 - 1880
9. Henry A. Rogan	1880 - 1883
10. Charles H. Lanier	1883 - 1885
11. Henry Moore	1886 - 1887
12. James H. H. Walker	1887 - 1889
13. William T. Floyd	1889 - 1893
14. William F. Teister	1893 - 1899
15. Daniel W. Caine	1899 - 1921

PAST MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTERS (cont'd)

NAME	YEARS
16. John W. Burden	1921 – 1936
17. Cornelius R. Richardson	1936 – 1957
18. William W. Walden, Sr.	1957 – 1960
19. Edgar J. Davis	1960 – 1963
20. William H. Weaver	1963 – 1966
21. Leo O. Williams	1966 – 1969
22. Thomas C. Walden, Jr.	1969 – 1972
23. Clarence W. Foster	1972 – 1974
24. Patrick E. Chavis	1974 – Died in office
25. James M. Landers	1974 – 1977
26. Douglas C. Landers	1977 – 1979
27. Walter L. Berry	1979 – 1981
28. Algie S. Oldham, Jr.	1981 – 1983
29. Issac Weatherly, Jr.	1983 – 1985
30. Robert E. Thomas	1985 – 1987
31. James M. Stanley	1987 – 1989
32. James W. Terry	1989 – 1991
33. Theodore K. Millard, Sr.	1991 – 1993
34. Donnie L. Johnson	1993 – 1995
35. Paul E. Edmonson	1995 – 1997
36. McMurphy Hughes	1997 – 1999
37. Joseph Rodgers, Jr.	1999 – 2001
38. Morris Middleton	2001 - 2003

PAST MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTERS (cont'd)

NAME	YEARS
39. James C. Hill	2003 – 2005
40. Joseph Slay, Jr.	2005 – 2008
41. Darrell E. Morton, Sr.	2008 – 2011
42. Otis L. Dodson	2011 – 2014
43. Clyde Bailey	2014 – 2016
44. Gary W. Williams, Sr.	2016 – Died in office
45. Ronnie Lewis	2016 – 2018
46. Eugene Anderson, Jr.	2018 – 2021
47. Kenneth A. Washington, Sr.	2021 - Present

THE TWENTY-FIVE LANDMARKS OF FREE MASONRY

- I. The mode of recognition.**
- II. The Division of symbolic masonry into three degrees.**
- III. The legend of the Third Degree.**
- IV. The government of the fraternity by a presiding officer called a Grand Master, who is elected from the Craft.**
- V. The prerogative of the Grand Master to preside over every Assembly of the Craft, wheresoever and whensoever held.**
- VI. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensations for conferring degrees at irregular times.**
- VII. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensations for opening and holding lodges.**
- VIII. The prerogative of the Grand Master to make Masons at sight.**
- IX. The necessity for Masons to congregate in lodges.**
- X. The government of every lodge by a Master and two Wardens.**
- XI. The necessity that every lodge, when congregated, should be duly tiled.**
- XII. The right of every Mason to be represented in all general meetings of the Craft and to instruct his representatives.**
- XIII. The right of every Mason to appeal from the decision of his Brethren in lodge convened, to the Grand Lodge.**
- XIV. The right of every Mason to visit and sit in every regular lodge.**
- XV. That no visitor, not known to some Brother present as a Mason, can enter a lodge without undergoing an examination.**
- XVI. That no lodge can interfere in the business or labor of another Lodge.**
- XVII. That every Freemason is amenable to the laws and regulations of the masonic jurisdiction in which he resides.**
- XVIII. That every candidate for initiation must be a man, free born and of lawful age.**
- XIX. That every Mason must believe in the existence of God as the Grand Architect of the Universe.**
- XX. That every Mason must believe in a resurrection to a future life.**
- XXI. That a book of the Law of God must constitute an indispensable part of the furniture of every lodge.**
- XXII. That all men in the sight of God are equal, and meet in the Lodge on one common level.**
- XXIII. That Freemasonry is a secret society, in possession of secrets that cannot be divulged.**
- XXIV. That Freemasonry consists of a speculative science founded on and operative art.**
- XXV. That the landmarks of Masonry can never be changed.**

These constitute the Landmarks, or, as they have sometimes been called. "The Body of Masonry," In which It is not In the power of any man, or body of men, to make the least Innovation.

**The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge,
Free and Accepted Masons of the Jurisdiction of Indiana
CONSTITUTION**

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Free and Accepted Masons of the Jurisdiction of Indiana
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CONSTITUTION

Whereas, it is a right, inherent in every Grand Lodge, to form a Constitution as the fundamental law of its Masonic action, and to enact such By-Laws from time to time and establish and prescribe such rules and regulations for its own government and that of its subordinate lodges, as will most enhance their work, and best promote the general good of masonry, and of altering, repealing and abrogating the same as the best interest of the order may require; and,

Whereas, every Grand Lodge is the true representative of all the fraternity in communion therewith, and is therefore an absolute, independent body, with supreme legislative authority, provided always that the ancient landmarks of the order be held inviolate;

Therefore, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A. M. Jurisdiction of Indiana does hereby ordain, establish, and promulgate the following Constitution and By-Laws for its future government; and does make and prescribe the following rules and regulations for the government of the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction:

ARTICLE I - TITLE

This Grand Lodge shall be known by the name and under the title "The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Jurisdiction of Indiana".

ARTICLE II - OF WHOM COMPOSED

The Grand Lodge shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Three Grand Trustees, Three Grand Mortuary Relief Trustees, Five Grand Centennial Benevolent Foundation Trustees, Nine District Deputy Grand Masters, Two Grand Lecturers, Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Senior and Junior Stewards, Grand Chaplain, Grand Tyler, Grand Marshall, together with the Worshipful Master, and Wardens of the Chartered Subordinate Lodges and all Past Masters, under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

All Past Most Worshipful Grand Masters, Past Grand Lodge Officers, and Past Masters shall be entitled to membership and are members of this Grand Lodge so long as they are members of a subordinate chartered lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

All Wardens of a chartered subordinate lodge shall be entitled to membership and are members of this Grand Lodge for as long as the term of their office.

ARTICLE III - MEETING

This Grand Lodge shall hold a stated meeting each year at such time and place as may be designated in its By-Laws.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

ARTICLE IV - QUORUM

The Grand Lodge shall not be opened nor any business transacted therein, unless there be present representatives from at least seven of the chartered lodges, but a smaller number may meet and adjourn from day to day until a Constitutional Quorum shall attend.

ARTICLE V - STYLE OF GRAND OFFICERS

The Officers of this Grand Lodge shall be styled as follows:

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER
PAST MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTERS
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND SENIOR WARDEN
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND TREASURER
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND SECRETARY
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND TRUSTEE
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MORTUARY RELIEF TRUSTEE
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND CENTENNIAL BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION TRUSTEE
WORSHIPFUL GRAND CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE
WORSHIPFUL DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
WORSHIPFUL GRAND LECTURER
WORSHIPFUL GRAND ATTORNEY
WORSHIPFUL GRAND SENIOR DEACON
WORSHIPFUL GRAND JUNIOR DEACON
WORSHIPFUL GRAND SENIOR STEWARD
WORSHIPFUL GRAND JUNIOR STEWARD
WORSHIPFUL GRAND CHAPLAIN
WORSHIPFUL GRAND MARSHALL
WORSHIPFUL GRAND RECORDING SECRETARY
WORSHIPFUL GRAND YOUTH COORDINATOR
WORSHIPFUL GRAND KEEPER OF ARCHIVES
WORSHIPFUL GRAND STANDARD BEARER
WORSHIPFUL GRAND PHOTOGRAPHER
WORSHIPFUL GRAND TILER

There will be four Boards of Trustees and they shall be composed as follows: Grand Lodge Trustee Board shall consist of seven members - The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, and three other members of the Grand Lodge who shall serve a term of three years one of who shall be elected each year.

Centennial Benevolent Foundation Trustee Board shall consist of a Corporate Trustee and a Board of Individual Trustees. The Corporate Trustee shall be a bank or trust company organized under the laws of the State of Indiana or of the United States having a capital surplus and undivided profits of at least One Million Dollars and possessing trust powers. The Corporate Trustee may be changed and a successor

selected by proper resolution of the Board of Individual Trustees. The Board of Individual Trustees shall consist of eleven members - The Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, the three Grand Lodge Trustees, and five Past Masters elected at annual Grand Lodge sessions.

Prince Hall Masonic/Order of Eastern Star Foundation, Inc., shall be composed of the elected M W. Grand Master, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, three elected Grand Trustees and five persons which shall be designated by the Indiana Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, P.H.A. other persons may be named to the Foundation by the M.W. Grand Master, when requested from the Prince Hall Masonic Order of Eastern Star Foundation Inc.'s Board of Directors in accordance with their articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE VI - PAST GRAND OFFICERS

Past Grand Officers shall be styled by the name of the office previously held by them with "Past" prefixed thereto. The Senior Past Grand Officers may be designated as emeritus by consent of the Grand Lodge as an additional honor.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

ARTICLE VII - ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE

Section 1. No brother shall be eligible to hold office in this Grand Lodge who is not, at the time of his election or appointment, a member in good standing of a Subordinate Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

Section 2. No brother shall be eligible to be elected to any office of this Grand Lodge who has not been a Master of a Lodge, nor shall he be eligible if he is, at the time he is proposed, presiding over a Subordinate Lodge.

Section 3. No brother shall be eligible to be appointed to any office of this Grand Lodge who has not presided, or is presiding over a Lodge as Master thereof.

Section 4. A brother who has special talents and or abilities who is not eligible for appointment to an office in accordance with the section above may be asked to serve with no voting powers within this Grand Lodge if the brother is in good standing within a Subordinate Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

Section 5. No brother shall be eligible to be elected to the office of Most Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden, or Right Worshipful Grand Junior Ward who has not served as Worshipful Master of a subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction. Once having served, he shall maintain that eligibility as long as he is in good standing with the Grand Lodge and his Subordinate Lodge.

(Modified during Annual Session, July 27, 2012)

ARTICLE VIII – INSTALLATION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

No Grand Officer shall officiate in the station or office, which he has been elected or appointed or asked to serve until he has been legally installed according to the formula adopted by this Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE IX - ELECTION, VOTES, APPOINTMENTS OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Section 1. At each annual communication there shall be elected by secret ballot from the brothers who are at the time constitutionally eligible, a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Trustee, Grand Mortuary Relief Trustee, and Five Centennial Benevolent Foundation Trustees. All other officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master.

Section 2. This Grand Lodge will utilize a secure electronic/computer voting system for the Election of Grand Lodge Officers and amendments to the Constitution or Bylaws. A three-man committee, as needed, comprised of the Chairman of the Credential Committee, the Chairman of the IT Committee and the Junior Past Grand Master present will oversee the voting process and secure the election results.

Section 3. If for some reason beyond the Committee's control the electronic/computer voting system is inoperable or found to be insecure, this Grand Lodge will conduct its voting process in accordance with Article II of the Grand Lodge Bylaws.

ARTICLE X - REPRESENTATION OF LODGES AT GRAND LODGE

Section 1. All lodges working under charters shall be represented at the Grand Lodge by its Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden who shall be its legal representatives and are entitled to one vote each making a total of three votes. If there be but one representative present he shall cast the vote of the lodge. If there be two representatives present the highest in rank shall cast two votes and the lowest one vote. If the Master and the Wardens decline to serve, the Lodge by written resolution must designate any Past Master of the Lodge who shall upon presenting a certificate under the signature of the Worshipful Master and Secretary of the Lodge with the seal of the Lodge thereto attached, cast the votes of the Lodge, if said Lodge desires to cast its ballot, the Past Master will retain his additional vote by virtue of his status as a Past Master.

Section 2. Each Past Master shall be entitled to one vote, and each past Grand Lodge Officer shall be entitled to one vote, but in no instance shall any person be entitled to more than one vote except as is set in the above section.

Section 3. All persons eligible to vote as provided in above sections must be duly registered as established for each annual communication and have paid the stated sum.

ARTICLE XI - RULES FOR ELECTIONS, VACANCIES AND ROLL CALL VOTE

Section 1. This Grand Lodge shall provide rules and regulations for holding of its elections and of those of its subordinate Lodges.

Section 2. In case of death, absence or disability of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master shall fill his place; in the case of the death, absence or disability of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden shall fill the place of the Grand Master; in case of the death, absence or disability of three officers above named, the Grand Junior Warden shall fill the Grand Master; in case of the death, absence or disability of all the above named officers, the Past Grand Masters commencing with the most Senior Past Grand Master, shall fill the offices of the Grand Lodge.

Section 3. In case of the absence or disability of the Grand Master the Deputy Grand Master shall fill his place. In the event of the Grand Master's demise while in office the Deputy Grand Master shall assume his duties and have the power to immediately summons all Elected Grand Lodge Officers and Past Grand Master to a time and place of his choice to be duly installed into the Office of Grand Master. The senior Past Grand Master present may perform the installation. Timely notice must be given to Attendee's.

Section 4. The new Grand Master shall fill the Deputy Grand Master's position with a Past Grand Master until the next Annual Communication. The Senior and Junior Wardens cannot automatically move up but must complete the term for which they were elected.

Section 5. In case of the demise of the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master at the same time the available Senior Past Grand Master shall have the power and must call a Special Session of the Grand Lodge within 30 days to elect a new Grand Master.

Section 6. All other vacancies shall be filled by the Grand Master. The office of the Grand Master is never vacant.

Section 7. In any situation calling for a Yea or Nay vote, a Roll Call shall be ordered only upon demand of fifteen members of this Grand Lodge. In taking such Roll Call, Grand Lodge Officers shall be called first, Past Grand Lodge Officers second, Past Masters third, and the Lodges in their order of seniority last. A majority vote shall determine, unless otherwise provided by law. Where the vote is tied except in the cases of elections, the Grand Master shall cast the deciding vote.

ARTICLE XII - SOURCE AND NATURE OF AUTHORITY, JURISDICTION, SOVEREIGNTY

The Grand Lodge is the only source of authority and exercises exclusive jurisdiction in all matters pertaining to Ancient Craft Freemasonry within the state of Indiana; it has supreme, inherent and absolute legislative, judicial and executive Masonic authority and power; its enactments, decisions, sentences, judgments and edicts are binding upon all Lodges and Masons within its jurisdiction and faithful allegiance and implicit obedience is due it from all Lodges and Masons residing in its jurisdiction. It is subject only to the ancient landmarks, but from its decision in relating to them or any Masonic subject, there is no appeal.

ARTICLE XIII - POWERS OF THE GRAND LODGE

Section 1. This Grand Lodge has and claims all the original essential powers and privileges belonging to ancient craft Free Mason, and especially:

- A. To grant dispensation and charters for holding regular lodges of Free and accepted Masons with the right to confer therein the several degrees of Entered Apprentices, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, and when deemed expedient and for good cause, to annul, revoke or amend such dispensation or charter or any preexisting dispensation or charter as may be necessary under the circumstances.
- B. To fix the location of each subordinate lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge and to settle all controversies that may arise between the subordinate lodges chartered by this grand Lodge, and Lodges under dispensation.
- C. To make and endorse all laws and regulations for the government of the fraternity and to alter, amend and repeal the same at will; and its enactments, edicts and decisions upon all questions shall be the supreme law of its jurisdiction and shall be strictly obeyed by all lodges and masons.
- D. To make and adopt general laws and regulations for the government of the several lodges under its jurisdiction and at pleasure to alter, amend or repeal the same, and to give the final decision and determination on all matters controversy or grievances which may be brought up by appeal of otherwise from its subordinate lodges or from the Masters thereof.
- E. To establish and preserve a uniform mode of work and lectures within the ancient landmarks and customs of masonry.
- F. This Grand Lodge has power to assess and collect from the several lodges under its jurisdiction and from the craft, such sums of money annually as may be provided by law and found necessary for the support and maintenance of this Grand Lodge.
- G. This Grand Lodge has power to establish and maintain real property for any purpose considered to an improvement of this Grand Lodge and may include a Masonic home for old and indigent Master Masons, their wives, widows, and orphans and may allocate such sums of money annually as may be necessary for the payments, maintenance and support of said properties. This Grand Lodge may enter into cooperative agreements with any of the concordant bodies within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge for the purpose of joint ownership and maintenance of said properties.
- H. This Grand Lodge has power to and may supervise the state and condition of its own finances and adopt such measures in relation thereto as may be deemed necessary.
- I. This Grand Lodge has power and original jurisdiction to hear and decide all charges and complaints against the members of this Grand Lodge or against the members of subordinate lodges or against a member of the craft, residing in the jurisdiction of the regulations of this Grand Lodge, the moral law, or for any Masonic offense for violation of his oath and obligation, and upon conviction, after an impartial trial, may inflict the punishment or reprimand, suspension, or expulsion from the Masonic order as the Grand Lodge may deem

just and proper and its sentences, decisions and judgments shall be final, conclusive and binding upon the accused and the lodges, and upon all persons concerned.

- J. This Grand Lodge has power to hear and determine all appeals from subordinate lodges, to order the records in any case in a subordinate lodge and hear and determine the matters therein; and as an appellate and supreme tribunal, it has power to set aside, modify, reverse or affirm the verdicts, sentences, decisions, and judgments of subordinate lodges and the rulings and decisions of Worshipful Masters, and has power upon trial of such cases coming up by appeal, to acquit, reprimand suspend or expel any Mason from Masonic order for violation of the Moral Law, the edicts, laws or regulations of this Grand Lodge, or for any unmasonic conduct. The sentences, decisions, and judgment of this Grand Lodge in such cases are final, conclusive and binding upon the accused and the Lodge, and upon all persons concerned.
- K. This Grand Lodge alone has jurisdiction and power to hear and determine appeals from the lodges, and it alone has jurisdiction to try the Worshipful Masters of the Lodges, for the violation of the constitution, laws, edicts and regulations of the Grand Lodge, or for the violation of the moral law, or for the commission of any unmasonic conduct and upon conviction, to inflict such punishment as appears just and proper, and has power to remove Worshipful Masters from their office.
- L. This Grand Lodge shall exercise all such powers and perform all such acts as by custom usages are exercised and performed by Grand Lodges within the ancient customs and landmarks of the fraternity.

Section 2. The ancient landmarks of the Masonic Fraternity are unalterable and are the fundamental principle upon which all Masonic constitutions and laws are based. Nothing can be adopted in derogation of these landmarks nor enacted in violation thereof.

ARTICLE XIV - RECOGNITION OF OTHER GRAND LODGES AND CONCORDANT ORDERS

Section 1. Recognition of other Grand Lodges is the exclusive prerogative of this Grand Lodge and the following shall be the rules for guidance in the fraternal recognition of other Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons:

- A. Such Grand Lodge must be sovereign, independent and supreme - the sole governing body over its constituent Lodges.
- B. It must be in possession of and exclusively control the work of the ENTERED APPRENTICE, FELLOW CRAFT and MASTER MASON degrees in the Lodge under its authority.
- C. It must display the volume of the Sacred Law on its altars; require a belief in deity; make Masons of men only; exclude religious and political questions and discussions from its Lodge rooms; and must conform to, abide by, and uphold the Ancient Landmarks of Ancient Craft Masonry.
- D. Lodges forming a new Grand Lodge must be at least three in number and must trace their descent from regular sources
- E. Recognition will not be extended to a new Grand Lodge that shall warrant Lodges in occupied territory against the recognized by this Grand Lodge wishes of a recognized Grand Lodge in that territory.
- F. Recognition will not be extended to a Grand Lodge that shall warrant Lodges in territory occupied by a regular Grand Lodge against the wishes of that Grand Lodge.
- G. In countries where the doctrine of exclusive territorial Jurisdiction does not apply, two or more Grand Lodges occupying the same or overlapping territory, recognizing each other as regular and conforming in all other respects to our requirements, may be recognized.
- H. Grand Lodges of Scottish Rite descent, having renounced allegiance to any other superior authority, and having since had a long established and continuous existence, during which they have conformed to all our requirements, may be recognized.
- I. Although the original formation of a Grand Lodge may have been irregular, if it has had a long, continuous and uninterrupted existence and otherwise conforms to our requirements, it may be recognized.

Section 2. This Grand Lodge may extend fraternal recognition to any concordant order or side order, which predicates its membership upon it under the following provisions:

- A. That it be an organization presently associated by custom and usage with the Masonic order.
- B. That its purpose and methods of operation as set forth in its Constitution, Laws and Regulations are not repugnant to the ideas and dignity of the Masonic Institution.

- C. That its articles of incorporation, if incorporated, shall recite its connection with the Masonic Order and dependency upon fraternal recognition by its Grand Lodge.

Section 3. Fraternal recognition may be withdrawn at any time by action of this Grand Lodge, Ad Interim, Grand Master, when among other things, the following may obtain:

- A. Interference with or attempt to influence the work or activities of the Grand Lodge or its constituent Lodges.
- B. Deviation from the intent and purpose upon which fraternal recognition was predicated.
- C. Use of methods of operation and conduct adjusted by any Grand Lodge, Ad Interim, Grand Master, to be reflected upon the statue and dignity of Masonic Institutions, and/or to be detrimental to the best interests of Masonry in any jurisdiction.

Section 4. No Master Mason, a member of a constituent Lodge of this Grand Lodge, shall hold or maintain membership in any concordant, or side order predicated its membership upon the Masonic Institution, unless said organization be approved by and extended fraternal recognition by the Grand lodge, and whenever such fraternal recognition be withdrawn, his membership in such organization shall be automatically terminated.

ARTICLE XV - POWERS OF THE GRAND MASTER

Section 1. The Grand Master has power and authority to convene the Grand Lodge in special communication in case of emergency at such time and place as he may see fit.

Section 2. He shall preside at all communications of the Grand Lodge

Section 3. The Grand Master is the supreme head of the Order of Eastern Star

Section 4. When the Grand Lodge is not in session, he shall possess and exercise the executive power and functions of the Grand Lodge.

Section 5. He shall decide all questions of usage, order, and Masonic Law, in the interim of the Grand Lodge, and his decisions are final and conclusive, subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge in session.

Section 6. He shall have power to require the attendance of, and information from, any Grand Lodge officer respecting his office.

Section 7. He may grant dispensations during the recess of the Grand Lodge for new Lodges, for conferring degrees upon more than fifteen persons at one meeting, or for any lawful purpose.

Section 8. He shall have power to convene any lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge and in person or by deputy, to preside therein, with the Master on his left hand, inspect their proceedings and require their conformity to the regulations and edicts of the Grand Lodge and to Masonic Rules.

Section 9. He shall have power and authority in accordance with the ancient landmarks of Freemasonry,

to make Masons at sight, which shall be exercised in the traditional manner of Masonic customs as follows: The Grand Master shall summons to his assistance no less than six Master Masons, convene a lodge, and without any previous investigation or balloting confer the first, second and third degrees of Masonry on the candidates; after which the lodge so convened shall be dissolved, and the brother or brothers so raised shall be entitled to a certificate of the fact from the Grand Secretary which shall serve in lieu of a demit.

Section 10. He shall have power to suspend the functions and charter of any lodge for good reasons, as provided by law, in which case he shall report the same to the following annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

Section 11. He shall have power to summons every Grand Officer and to call on any of them for advice and assistance on business relative to the craft.

Section 12. He may constitute new lodges and install their officers; dedicate Masonic Halls, Churches, Edifices and Public Buildings and lay cornerstones for the same and perform such other official duties as may not be contrary to Masonic usage and custom.

Section 13. He shall have power to appoint representatives by warrant to other recognized Grand Lodges and receive and accredit such representatives from other Grand Lodges.

Section 14. He shall have power to command the Wardens or any member of a lodge, which he may visit, to act as Master for the time being.

Section 15. He or his representative should visit each subordinate lodge at least once a year and give Masonic instructions and advice to the craft, in general, and see that the finances of the lodges are properly administered and safeguarded. He has the power to remove and suspend from office the Master or any officer of a lodge for contumacy or unmasonic conduct; and report the same to the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

Section 16. He shall have authority to exercise supervision and govern over the fraternity in his jurisdiction during the recess of the Grand Lodge.

Section 17. He shall see that the ancient landmarks and the laws of this Grand Lodge are observed, and shall do and perform the duties of the Grand Master agreeably to the requirements of Masonry and this Grand Lodge, he shall see that the Masters are qualified as required by laws of this Grand Lodge, and he may remove from office any who is not so qualified, upon the recommendation of a commission of not less than seven past Masters after as to his qualifications and upon due notice

Section 18. He shall report all his official acts and decisions to the Grand Lodge for its approval. The acts and decisions of the Grand Master, approved by the Grand Lodge shall become and be final and conclusive. Those acts and decisions which the Grand Lodge fails to approve, or which the Grand Lodge disapproves, shall become null and void upon the close of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge to which they are presented.

ARTICLE XVI - NEW LODGES

Section 1. No dispensations shall be issued for establishing of new lodges by order of the Grand Lodge or by the Grand Master without the recommendation of the nearest lodge and where there are several lodges equally distant at least one of said lodges, provided, however, the Grand Lodge or Grand Master may grant such dispensation without such recommendation when it appears that the refusal to give such recommendation by the nearest lodge is not based upon good Masonic reason.

Section 2. No petition for new lodges shall be issued until it has laid over thirty days for consultation and consideration.

Section 3. No dispensation for a new lodge shall be issued until a sum as established by the Grand Lodge has been paid to the Grand Secretary. A charter fee as established by the Grand Lodge shall be paid to the Grand Secretary before issuance of the charter.

Section 4. Every petition for a new lodge shall be signed by seven Master Masons, accompanied by a certificate from the district deputy Grand Master of the district in which said lodge would reside, or from the Master Masons who signed said petition that the proposed Worshipful Master is a person of executive ability and able to open and close a lodge and capable of properly and correctly conferring the degrees of Masonry upon applicants.

Section 5. No dispensation or charter for constituting a new lodge shall be granted to any person or persons whomsoever residing out of the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, if within the jurisdiction of any other constitutional Grand Lodge which is recognized by this Grand Lodge.

Section 6. No lodge under dispensation shall confer the degrees in Masonry for a less sum than that prescribed by the Grand Lodge for chartered lodges.

Section 7. Upon application to the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge in session by a group of not less than twenty-five (25) persons who are not members of the Masonic fraternity but who for unique or peculiar reasons desire to become Master Masons and to form themselves into a separate and new subordinate lodge and who have the approval for such actions from at least one other lodge located nearby which has investigated the said proposed lodge and given its approval to the same, then the said Grand Lodge or the Grand Master when the same is not in session may create an occasional lodge for the purpose of conferring degrees in a manner not inconsistent with established procedures and customs and when said group has received the Master Mason's degree they may petition for a dispensation to form a new lodge in the manner otherwise provide for herein.

ARTICLE XVII - TENURE AND SUCCESSION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Section 1. No elected officer of this Grand Lodge with the exception of Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer or members of the Board of Trustees shall serve in whatever position he has been elected to for more than three consecutive years, except by two-thirds vote of the Grand Lodge in session at its annual communication shall vote to grant one additional consecutive year, and he shall be ineligible for

election to said office again until a term of one year elapses.

Section 2. It shall be the policy of this Grand Lodge to encourage and promote an orderly succession in rank for its elected officers to the Grand East and to discourage the manifestation and show of disharmony and undo striving for high Masonic office and therefore unless in cases of proven Masonic incompetence, lack of devotion to duty, death or mental or physical disability, brethren should progressively advance in the following offices: Grand Junior Warden, Grand Senior Warden, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Master.

ARTICLE XVIII - SUBORDINATE LODGES

Section 1. The Constitution and By-laws of the Grand Lodge shall become and be a part of the By- Laws of all the subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and all such subordinate lodges and the members thereof are subject thereto and shall obey the same. No subordinate lodge shall have power to enact or make any law, rule or regulation or do anything in violation or contrary to the Constitution, By-laws, Regulations or Edicts of this Grand Lodge.

Section 2. All subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge which are incorporated under the laws of the state shall include in their corporation papers the fact that such lodge is subordinate to and constituent lodge of this Grand Lodge, and is subject to its Constitution, By-Laws, Edicts and Regulations.

Section 3. Every subordinate lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge has the right and privileges:

- A. To retain possession of its warrant of constitution at the will of this Grand Lodge.
- B. To do all the work of Ancient Craft Masonry.
- C. To transact all business that can be legally transacted by regularly congregated Masons in a subordinate lodge.
- D. To be represented at all communications of the Grand Lodge in the manner prescribed by the Grand Lodge.
- E. To increase its membership by the admission of new members under the restrictions of the Grand Lodge, and in the manner prescribed by said Grand Lodge.
- F. To elect its officers as provided in its charter, By-Laws, and the Laws of this Grand Lodge.
- G. To install its officers after being elected as provided in its charter, by-laws, and laws of this Grand Lodge.
- H. To exclude a member, on causes shown, temporarily from a regular or special communication of the lodge, except the Master and the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge elective officers.
- I. To make by-laws for its local government subject to the approval of this Grand Lodge

- J. To levy an assessment upon its members for Masonic purposes.
- K. To appeal to the Grand Lodge from the decisions of its Master.
- L. To exercise concurrent penal jurisdiction over its own members, except the Master and Grand Master, or Grand Lodge elective officers, and over affiliated Masons residing within the limits of the jurisdiction, in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.
- M. To select a name for itself.
- N. To designate and change its time and place of meeting.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of every subordinate lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to take cognizance of any and all unmasonic conduct of its members, except the Master and Grand Master, and of all Masons affiliated and non-affiliated, residing within its jurisdiction, as provided by law, except in those cases where the Grand Lodge and its subordinate lodges shall have and exercise concurrent jurisdiction over Masonic offenses, in all cases where the lodge has jurisdiction.

Section 5. The charter of a subordinate lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge may be suspended or forfeited and the lodge dissolved by the judgment of the Grand Lodge for the commission of any of the following offenses:

- A. Contumacy to the authority of the Grand Master or this Grand Lodge.
- B. Departure from the original plan of masonry and ancient landmarks.
- C. Disobedience to, or violation of, the Constitution, By-Laws, Edicts, and Regulations of this Grand Lodge.
- D. Ceasing to meet for one year or more, or refusing to pay Grand Lodge taxes or dues.
- E. The indiscriminate making of an immoral candidate whereby the reputation of the institution in the vicinity of the lodge may be impaired.

Section 6. All convictions for the commission of any of the above-mentioned offenses committed by a subordinate lodge must be had by an impartial trial by the Grand Lodge; the Grand Master may arrest the charter of a lodge until the sitting of the Grand Lodge for the commission of any of the above mentioned offenses.

Section 7. The By-Laws of every subordinate lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall state that such lodge is subordinate to and a constituent lodge of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the Jurisdiction of Indiana, and subject to its Constitution, By-Laws, Edicts and Regulations and that it holds a charter from said Grand Lodge, and that the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge are made a part of the By-Laws of the Lodge.

Section 8. A Lodge is allowed to recommend to the Grand lodge for approval, one (1) Honorary Past Master every three (3) years, that brother shall have at least twenty-five (25) years of continuous service, be at least fifty-five (55) years of age and are entitled to one vote in this Grand Lodge.

**BY -LAWS OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE
HALL GRAND LODGE, FREE AND ACCEPTED
MASONS
OF THE JURISDICTION OF INDIANA**

**CHAPTER I
Relative to the Grand Lodge**

ARTICLE I - CONVENING AND COMMITTEES

Section 1. An Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge shall be held at any time during the week preceding the Fourth (4th) weekend in July each year or at any other time as deemed appropriate, at such place as the Grand Lodge shall have designated in its last communication. All communications shall open at a stated time when, if a constitutional quorum is present, this Grand Lodge may proceed to transact such business as may legally come before it.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

- A. The Grand Lodge officers shall meet at the call of the Grand Master preceding the opening of the Grand Lodge and set to work the committees, which had not previously been set to work by the Grand Lodge and may assist in the work to be brought before this Grand Lodge.
- B. Upon opening of the Grand Lodge or as soon as practicable after it shall be convened, the Grand Master shall determine the status of all appointed committees, the committees having been named through communications to each lodge prior to the annual meeting. Brethren present may be appointed to fill vacancies to insure constitutional number. The following committees shall serve for the duration of the session:
 - a. Committee on Credentials
 - b. Committee on Foreign Correspondence
 - c. Committee on Necrology
 - d. Committee on Grand Master Address
 - e. Committee on Resolutions
 - f. Committee on Budget and Finances
 - g. Committee on Audit
 - h. Committee on Accounts and Claims
 - i. Committee on Rules
 - j. Committee on Distinguished Visitors

Each of these committees shall consist of three members. Other Committees may be named as needed.

Section 2. The following committees shall be named by the Grand Master to serve for one year as standing committee. These appointments are to be made prior to the close of the annual communication to serve for the ensuing Masonic Year.

- A. Committee on Appeals and Grievances
- B. Committee on Jurisprudence
- C. Committee on Masonic Education
- D. Committee on Public Relations
- E. Committee on Works and Returns
- F. Committee on Strategy and Structure
- G. Committee on Constitution and By-Laws
- H. Committee on Information Technology (IT)
- I. Committee on Veterans Affairs

Section 3. The Committee on Charity shall be composed of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

Section 4. The Grand Master may appoint other committees to serve this Grand Lodge, as necessary, and they shall serve at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master for the term as he may designate, but must be concurred with at the first convening of the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE II - ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS

Section 1. The annual election shall be held in the manner prescribed by Article IX of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge and at such time during the annual communication as is designated by the Grand Lodge.

Section 2. In case of the death or permanent disability of any of the Grand Officers during the recess of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master shall appoint some qualified and competent Past Master to fill the vacancy until the next regular election and installation of officers.

Section 3. In all elections of officers in this Grand Lodge and in all subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, any Master Mason who is qualified and eligible under the laws of this Grand Lodge for the office sought shall have the right and privilege to run for any office for which he is so qualified and eligible as aforesaid, and any member of the body holding the election may nominate him, and an opportunity shall be given for such nominations.

Section 4. In all elections of officers to be held in this Grand Lodge and in all subordinate lodges, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, the one who presides at the election shall appoint one or more judges of election; the candidates shall have the right and privilege of appointing their tellers.

Section 5. The tellers and judges shall impartially hold the election and correctly count and record the ballots or votes, the record shall be signed by all tellers and judges and one of the judges shall read aloud the record so made and signed and then the presiding officer shall declare the decision of the brethren as expressed by their votes, and the secretary shall enter the same upon the records of the body holding the election.

Section 6. In all elections of this Grand Lodge and in subordinate lodges of this Grand Lodge, all candidates running for the same office shall be voted for at the same time, and if no one receives a majority of the votes cast, then the two receiving the highest number of votes cast in the second ballot shall be declared elected; provided that, in all cases where more than one person is required to fill the office, then in such cases the required number receiving the highest number of votes cast in the first balloting shall be declared elected; provided that, in all cases where more than one person is required to fill the office, then in such cases the required number receiving the highest number of votes cast in the first balloting shall be declared elected.

Section 7. If any of the foregoing and above mentioned rights and privileges shall be abridged in any particular, or denied in any manner, the election shall be null and void and no one elected in violation of these rules shall have any right to hold the office.

Section 8. The ballots to be used in all elections of this Grand Lodge and in all subordinate lodges of this Grand Lodge shall be such that the voter may place the name of the candidate or candidates for whom he desires to vote on the inside of his ballot.

Section 9. Each voter eligible shall be given a credentials card showing the number of blank ballots that he is entitled to receive from the committee on Credentials who shall provide the voter with the official ballots to correspond to the number shown on the Credentials card. After so marking his ballot, the voter will cast his ballot at the ballot box at the time designated by the presiding officer, which shall be determined by the Roll Call vote of each subordinate lodge, and every member of that lodge eligible to vote will at that time deposit their ballot in the ballot box; in subordinate lodges. The Roll Call will be by officers' stations and then all other members by section of the lodge in which they are seated.

Section 10. It shall be the duty of the judges of the election to review all ballots deposited in the ballot box and to call the name recorded on the same aloud. The judge designated to record the vote will repeat the name of the candidate heard and include a number corresponding to the number of votes recorded in the series of five tallied. The judge of the election shall be the final determination on any illegible ballot and will void the same.

Section 11. If any candidate is not satisfied with the results given by the judge, he may have a recount and watchers, the presiding officer may also order a recount. Anyone who willfully casts more votes than he is entitled shall be guilty of a Masonic offense, and upon conviction shall be suspended or expelled from Masonry as may be determined by the judgment of this Grand Lodge; or subordinate lodge in that case; and the election shall be void.

ARTICLE III - GRAND MASTER - COMPENSATION

Section 1. The Grand Master shall present at each annual communication of the Grand Lodge, a written report, setting forth each of the official acts and decisions during the year, which may affect the craft of this jurisdiction; also, report the general condition of masonry within the jurisdiction, and recommend such legislation as he may deem necessary or expedient for the welfare of the fraternity. He may exercise the powers and prerogatives contained in the constitution pursuant to the custom of the fraternity and the laws of this Grand Lodge.

Section 2. The Grand Master shall be allowed expenses, to defray the expense of the Grand Master's office and to assist in paying his legitimate expenses when visiting small lodges, which are unable to pay the expense of the Grand Master; such appropriation to be drawn by vouchers and checks against the funds of this Grand Lodge

Section 3. The Grand Master and Past Grand Masters shall be reimbursed for their legitimate administrative expenses as established by this Grand Lodge. A completed expense report identifying the activity, containing original receipts will be required with the reimbursement request and approval by two uninvolved officers. No payments will be made without expense reports. The amount for the ensuing year will be recommended by the committee on Budget and Finance and approved by the Grand Lodge at its annual communication. The monthly maximum should not be increased without consulting the Tax Consultant.

Section 4. All Actual Past Grand Masters shall be exempt from the registration fee of the Annual Grand Communication.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

ARTICLE IV - DEPUTY GRAND MASTER AND GRAND WARDENS

It shall be the duty of the Deputy Grand Master to assist the Grand Master in the discharge of his duties, as he may direct, and it shall be the duty of the Grand Senior and Grand Junior Wardens to provide additional assistance to the Grand Master in the discharge of his duties, as he may direct, and all three officers to exercise the powers incident to the contingencies provided for in the constitution. They shall make annual reports.

ARTICLE V - GRAND TREASURER

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer:

- A. To be present at the Grand Lodge at all of the communications, and to attend upon the request of the Grand Master when required, with the books and necessary papers appertaining to his office; and also, if required, by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master, to attend with such books and papers upon any committee which may be appointed to act in relation to the fiscal concerns of the Grand Lodge, or to turn over his papers, books and documents upon being

requested to do so by the Grand Master or Grand Lodge.

- B. To receive all monies belonging to the Grand Lodge from the Grand Secretary to give him receipts therefore, to keep in suitable books of this grand Lodge an accurate record of the funds of this Grand Lodge.
- C. To have in charge all securities, bonds, vouchers and other fiscal property belonging to the Grand Lodge.
- D. To keep all monies of the Grand Lodge in some good and reliable bank, in the name and to the credit of this Grand Lodge; to account to the Grand Lodge for all interest that may accrue upon the monies of the Grand Lodge so deposited. The selection of the bank as a depository of the funds of the Grand Lodge shall be upon the approval of the Grand Master ; provided, that the Grand Lodge itself may designate the bank as the depository of the funds. All funds remaining in the hands of the Grand Treasurer after the adjournment of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge shall be deposited in the bank within five days after receipt of such funds.
- E. To pay all orders promptly from the funds of the Grand Lodge, on order, only when they have drawn and countersigned by the Grand Secretary and signed by the Grand Master.
- F. To report at each annual communication a detailed and itemized account of his official receipts and disbursements with proper vouchers for the latter, and present a statement of the existing condition of the funds and of the finances generally of the Grand Lodge.
- G. In cooperation with the Grand Secretary cause for a financial review as a mandate every five years, beginning in the year 2000 and every five years thereafter.

Section 2. The Grand Treasurer shall furnish the Grand Master with a statement as to the condition of the Treasury at least once every three months and whenever requested by the Grand Master.

Section 3. The Grand Treasurer shall execute and file with the Grand Master within thirty days after the adjournment of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge an official bond in the sum of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) or such other sum as may be approved by the Grand Lodge or its Trustees, and in such with a surety company as shall be that has been approved the Grand Lodge or its Trustees, conditioned that he will faithfully discharge the duties of his office as prescribed in these by- laws, and at the end of his term, or sooner, if required to do so, pay over and transfer to his successor in office all funds, securities, books, records, vouchers or property belonging to the Grand Lodge which shall have come into his possession or under his control; the expense of such bond to be paid by the Grand Lodge. Upon his failure to give such bond, he may be removed from office by the Grand Master .

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

Section 4. Sums of money expended by the Grand Treasurer for books of account, postage, stationery, incidental office expenses, mileage and other expenses incurred in connection with the duties as Grand Treasurer, shall be paid by the Grand Lodge.

Section 5. At the close of his term in office, the Grand Treasurer shall account for and turn over all

monies, books, records, vouchers and properties of the Grand Lodge in his possession and under his control to his successor in office. He shall turn over to the Auditing Committee or such persons as may be designated by the Grand Master, upon request of the Grand Master, at any time during his term, all books, records, vouchers and properties in his possession or under his control, that his accounts may be audited.

Section 6. For the faithful performance of the duties of his office, the Grand Treasurer shall be reimbursed for his legitimate administrative expense as established by this Grand Lodge. A completed expense report identifying the activity and containing original receipts will be required with the reimbursement request and approval by two uninvolved officers. Expense reports totaling \$100.00 or more should be submitted monthly and those less than \$100.00 should be accumulated and submitted quarterly. No payments will be made without expense reports. The annual maximum limit for reimbursements shall not exceed the approved amount in the budget; the amount for the ensuing year will be recommended by the committee on Budget and Finance and approved by the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication. The monthly maximum should not be increased without consulting the Tax Consultant.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

ARTICLE VI - GRAND SECRETARY

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary:

- A. To attend the Grand Lodge at all of its communications, and to attend upon the request of the Grand Master, or any committee of the Grand Lodge when required by the Grand Master, with the books and necessary papers pertaining to his office and place in the hands of appropriate committees, all papers relative to matters of which they shall have jurisdiction.
- B. To keep a record of the returns made by all lodges in this jurisdiction, to receive and preserve all petitions, applications, appeals, and other documents addressed or belonging to the Grand Lodge; to record all transactions of the Grand Lodge, which are proper to be written and to present such unfinished or other business as may require its action at each communication thereof.
- C. To receive all monies due to the Grand Lodge, keep a correct, detailed and itemized account thereof in suitable books; a day book and ledger, and pay such monies monthly to the Grand Treasurer, and take his receipt for the same, provided that all monies collected by the Grand Secretary within thirty days prior to the annual communication of this Grand Lodge, and during the sessions of the annual communication of this Grand Lodge shall immediately be turned over to the Grand Master with a monthly itemized statement of all receipts and his disbursements to the Grand Treasurer.
- D. To leverage resources, create, and maintain a current database of the membership of the jurisdiction.
- E. To report to the Grand Lodge at each annual communication an itemized account of all monies received by him during the preceding Masonic year, with a specified statement of the

sources whence they were derived, and to present therewith the receipts of the Grand Treasurer thereof.

- F. In cooperation with the Grand Treasurer cause for a financial review as a mandate every five years, beginning in the year 2000 and every five years thereafter.
- G. To keep the seal of the Grand Lodge and affix the same with his attestation to all instruments emanating from that body, and to all official documents, summons and writings of the Grand Master as he may direct; also to affix said seal to, and officially attest, any Masonic certificate, diploma, or other proper document for the use of an individual brother, when requested by a lodge in this jurisdiction of which said brother may be a member.
- H. To conduct the correspondence of the Grand Lodge under the direction of the Grand Master, and if required, submit copies thereof at each annual communication for inspection.
- I. To issue notice of any special communication ordered by the Grand Master to each Grand Officer and Lodge within the jurisdiction.
- J. To furnish at least ninety (90) days previous to each annual communication each lodge in this jurisdiction, with duplicate blank forms upon which to make returns to work, etc., and to furnish such instructions in regard to them as the law and regulations of the Grand Lodge may require.
- K. To examine during the recess of the Grand Lodge, the proceedings and work of all the chartered lodges as shown in the returns made to the Grand Lodge at its annual communication and to compare the same with those of the preceding years, recording all errors discovered, and report the same at the next session of the Grand Lodge; also to report all lodges in arrears for dues or which have neglected or refused to comply with any requirements of the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.
- L. To transmit to each lodge in this jurisdiction, once in each quarter, a list of all rejections of petitions for degrees, suspensions, expulsions, restorations and reinstatements of which he shall have been notified by the several lodges; provided, that no notice of rejection shall be so transmitted until after the expiration of thirty (30) days from the date thereof; nor shall any publicity be given by circular or otherwise, to any suspension or expulsion pending an appeal, nor until the time for such appeal has expired, nor shall the names of brethren who have been rejected for membership or advancement be published at any time or in any manner.
- M. To print in the proceedings all propositions to amend the constitution or by-laws of the Grand Lodge or any other matter upon which it is necessary for the representatives of the several lodges to act upon when in the communication of the Grand Lodge, when such proposition for amendment has been offered and referred to a committee as provided in Article XIII of the constitution.
- N. To cause the journal of the proceedings of each annual communication to be provided (unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge), with all convenient dispatch, together with the name, titles, and place of address of the Grand Officers; the names of such Grand Officers as are ex-officio permanent members; and such tabulated Masonic trial emanating from the committee of Appeals and Grievances, whereby only the name of the accused, the offense charged, shall be published in the printed proceedings, but that the Grand Secretary shall number such cases, giving name and number of the lodge, and final action of the Grand Lodge had thereon.

- O. To furnish every Grand Officer elected or appointed, with a certificate under seal, of his election or appointment, signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary (unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge).
- P. To forward to each lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, one copy of the proceedings,
(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)
- Q. To correct and compare carefully with the original manuscript and bound copy of the proceedings approved by the Grand Lodge of the annual communication, certify to the same under the seal of the Grand Lodge as a true and correct copy and file it among the archives thereof with said original manuscript copy.
(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)
- R. He shall write the original proceedings or minutes of all sessions of the Grand Lodge in a journal of the Grand Lodge, which journal shall be the original and authentic manuscript of the communication of the Grand Lodge.
- S. To furnish to the Grand Lodge or the Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, the proceedings of other Grand Lodges and all documents relating thereto received during the recess of the Grand Lodge and after which the same shall be filed with the archives of the Grand Lodge.
- T. To record the date of every charter issued by the Grand Lodge, the names of the Grand Officers signed thereto, and names of the charter members of the lodge.
- U. To invite public bids for the printing of the Grand Lodge, for the year following the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and to present the proposals to the Grand Trustees, and to represent the Grand Lodge in taking a contract for said work according to the direction of the Grand Trustees.
- V. To leverage resources, create and maintain a current database of the membership of the Jurisdiction.
(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

Section 2. The Grand Secretary shall execute and file with the Grand Master, within thirty (30) days after the adjournment of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge and his installation, an official bond in the amount of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars or such other sum as may be approved by the Grand Lodge or its Trustees, and in such with a surety company that has been approved by the Grand Lodge or its Trustees, conditioned that he will faithfully discharge the duties of his office as prescribed by these by-laws. The expense of such bond to be paid by this Grand Lodge. Failure to secure such bond renders the Grand Secretary liable to be removed from office by the Grand Master with the concurrence of the Grand Trustees.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

Section 3. The Grand Secretary shall at the close of his term of office, immediately turn over all money, books, records, documents and properties, etc., of this Grand Lodge in his possession or under his control, to his successor in office.

- A. He shall from time to time during his term in office, upon request of the Grand Master, turn over to Auditing Committee or such other persons as may be named by the Grand Master, all books, records, accounts, vouchers etc., in his possession in order that the same may be audited.
- B. For the faithful performance of the duties of his office, the Grand Secretary shall be reimbursed for his legitimate administrative expense as established by this Grand Lodge. A completed expense report identifying the activity and containing original receipts will be required with the reimbursement request and approval by two uninvolved officers. No payments will be made without expense reports. The amount for the ensuing year will be recommended by the committee on Budget and Finance and approved by the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication. The monthly maximum should not be increased without consulting the tax Consultant.

ARTICLE VII - GRAND TRUSTEES

Section 1. The Grand Trustees of this Grand Lodge shall have the power to take and receive for the Grand Lodge any property, real or personal, by gift, conveyance, bequest or devise and to sell and convey the same; and said trustees shall have exclusive custody, control and management of all real estate and tangible personal property belonging to the Grand Lodge.

Section 2. The Grand Trustees of this Grand Lodge, together with a like Board of Trustees selected by the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, shall compose and serve as members of the Board of Directors of the Prince Hall Masonic Order of Eastern Star Foundation Inc., in accordance with the Foundations Articles of Incorporation and By-laws, and as members of this Board of Directors shall reflect the will of this Grand Lodge by their vote and actions in performance of their duties as may be directed by majority vote of this Grand Lodge when in annual communication.

Section 3. The Grand Trustees shall maintain a complete inventory record of all Grand Lodge property, insuring that all property is in good repair, adequately covered by insurance where required, and insure proper storage in suitable storage areas when not in use by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

Section 4. The Grand Trustees shall make an annual report to this Grand Lodge at the annual communication on the decisions made pertaining to their duties, including recommendations to this Grand Lodge for major expenses not covered by approved budget, or other decisions not specified by the constitution.

ARTICLE IX - GRAND CENTENNIAL BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Section 1. The Grand Centennial Benevolent Foundation Trustees shall compose the Board as stated in Article V of the Constitution and shall perform those duties as outlined and stated in the trust agreement of the Centennial Benevolent Foundation of *the* Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana, Free and Accepted Masons, and the related resolutions which are to *be* and are considered a part of these By-Laws.

Section 2. The Grand Centennial Benevolent Foundation Trustees shall make an annual report to this Grand Lodge as to the status of the Centennial Benevolent Foundation Funds, and shall as a member of

the Individual Trustees Board reflect the will of this Grand Lodge by their vote in the performance of their duties as may be directed by majority vote of this Grand Lodge when in annual communication.

ARTICLE X - APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Grand Marshall, Grand Chaplain, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Senior and Grand Junior Stewards, Grand Senior and Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Lecturers and all other appointed officers to perform such services incidental to their respective stations, as the traditions and the customs of the craft prescribe, and such other usages as may be directed by this Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

Section 2. Each District Deputy Grand Master shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as are required by law, or which may from time to time be delegated to him by the Grand Master.

Section 3. Each District Deputy shall report to the Grand Master at such time as he may direct and shall make also annual report to the Grand Master thirty days (30) prior to a meeting of the Grand Lodge, setting forth in detail his acts during the year, with an itemized statement of all monies coming into his possession, and to make a statement concerning the state of masonry within his jurisdiction, the condition of lodges within his district and suggesting such measures as to him may appear conducive to the general good of the fraternity, the substance of which report shall be attached as appendix to the Grand Master's annual report. The District Deputy shall make a special check on the number of copies of the book of constitutions in possession of each lodge, and the stations located therein and report the same to the Grand Master, who shall not excuse any lodge under any circumstances for failure to have on hand the five copies provided by law.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Grand Tiler to guard the entrance of the Grand Lodge; report all applicants for admission to the Grand Junior Deacon; announce their names and Masonic addresses, and see that all who enter are duly qualified and properly clothed.

ARTICLE XI - COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence (CCFC), and committee member service this Grand Lodge and Grand Master by giving a critical analysis of all correspondence, proceedings, acts and general operations of recognized sister Grand Lodges; by performing the duties of initiating, forwarding, receiving and examining all printed or written proceedings or other documents interchanging with other Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, and report to each annual communication all matters of importance and of interest to the craft.

Section 2. The Committee on Appeal and Grievances shall receive all petitions for change of location, or change of name of any chartered lodge; petitions for the restoration of expelled masons and those suspended by the Grand Lodge, provided that such petitions shall contain anything that can be constructed as an appeal from the action of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master or any lodge or the Worshipful Master thereof. It shall be the further duty of said committee to report, with such

recommendations as they may deem proper, upon appeal from the proceedings or decisions of any lodge, or the Master thereof, and upon all papers and documents relating to any matters of complaint or grievance, appertaining to Masonic discipline, or any other matter which may be referred to them.

Section 3. The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence shall consider and report to the Grand Lodge all matters concerning all by-laws and amendments to the by-laws of subordinate Lodges, and amendments to the constitution and by-laws of the Grand Lodge and the acts and decisions of Masonic Law and usage, as may be referred to them and state their conclusions and recommendations. In its discretion, it shall initiate legislation which it may deem expedient.

Section 4. The Committee on Masonic Education shall devise and execute plans and methods, which will encourage the establishment, maintenance, and growth of Masonic libraries by the lodges; promote interest in the attainment of Masonic knowledge among the craft in this jurisdiction; create and execute methods whereby such knowledge or instructions may be adequately disseminated and made available to all the brethren and endeavor to bring about among the craft a better understanding and appreciation of masonry and the application of Masonic principles to the individual mason.

Section 5. The Committee on Public Relations shall devise ways and means whereby the Grand Lodge may most effectively perform its Masonic duty to the general public, all within the limits of sound Masonic doctrine and the ancient usages and customs of the craft. It should include utilizing the Grand Lodge Official Publication, various local news media, and other promotional efforts.

Section 6. The Committee on Works and Returns shall receive and examine the returns of the proceedings and works of all chartered lodges each year and make a tabulated report, showing the number of members; the number admitted, initiated, passed, raised, demitted, deceased, rejected, reinstated, suspended and expelled; also showing the net increase and decrease of the membership of each lodge for the year, and the number of degrees conferred; also the proper amount of dues and monies due the Grand Lodge, noting the number of dispensations granted and the amount due and paid for the same. Any additional information deemed necessary or important may be included.

Section 7. The Committee on Strategy and Structure shall provide suggestions and recommendations to the Grand Lodge and Grand Master on matters of interest and concerns which will provide directions for continued programs to teach and inculcate freemasonry, provide closer co-operation with the order of Eastern Star and other concordant Masonic bodies, develop and encourage dedicated Masonic leadership, rehabilitate our Masonic membership, develop a comprehensive community action program throughout the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge and the Grand Master.

Section 8. It shall be the duties of the Committee on Credentials at each Annual Communication:

- A. To examine with care the credentials of all masons claiming the right of membership in this Grand Lodge, insuring that all are properly registered.
- B. To list properly the names of all present and past Grand Lodge Officers, Past Masters, and the name of every representative with the name and number of his lodge, and his official position therein, insuring that all are properly registered at the Annual Communication, and that each represented lodge has submitted the proper report on

time, and any irregularity be presented to the Grand Lodge for a determination of eligibility of those lodges representatives to vote.

- C. To require from each brother representing himself as a proxy, a written commission, signed by the Master and Wardens of the lodge which he represents the same to the Grand Lodge immediately after its opening.

Section 9. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Necrology to arrange a lodge of sorrow during the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge to memorialize our beloved deceased to make such report relative to deceased brethren as deemed fitting and to conduct worship services prior to the official resumption of business each morning the Grand Lodge is in session.

Section 10. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Grand Master address to subdivide the same and refer the several matters therein contained to appropriate committees, and to consider and report upon all special matters therein not otherwise referable, provided that if the Grand Master has subdivided his report and referred any matters to a committee or committees, the committee on Grand Master address shall note the fact and make no report on matters thus referred.

Section 11. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations to examine all matters presented to this Grand Lodge on the subject of dispensations and charters and make such recommendations to the Grand Lodge as may be deemed necessary.

Section 12. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Resolutions to receive all resolutions presented to this Grand Lodge by members of the craft on subordinate lodge representatives, to review the same and present them to this Grand Lodge in appropriate written form with recommendations and suggestions on the disposition of those presented.

Section 13. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Budget and Finance:

- A. To ascertain the state of financial conditions of the Grand Lodge and to make such recommendations as they deem proper for the safe guidance of the finance of the Grand Lodge.
- B. To ascertain the number of reports of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge that is necessary to be printed, and to make such recommendations, as they shall deem proper.
- C. To present at each annual communication a budget for the operation of this Grand Lodge during the ensuing year. The budget shall provide for the reimbursement of the administrative expense and maintenance of the Grand Master's office, Past Grand Masters, the Grand Treasurer's office, the Grand Secretary's office, and all other Grand Lodge obligations. The maximum amount and the regularity of the reimbursements will be included in the recommendations to the Grand Lodge for approval.
- D. The Budget and Finance Committee shall consist of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, a Past Most Worshipful Grand Master, and one additional appointee by the Grand Master, who because of financial expertise may or may not be a Past Master.

E. A financial review should become a mandate every five (5) years.

Section 14. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Audit:

- A. To examine and compare the books, papers and vouchers and accounts of the Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Mortuary Relief Fund, Trustees, Public Relations Committee and any all other persons or committees who handle any of the funds of this Grand Lodge, and make separate detailed reports thereof and submit the same to the Grand Lodge before the close of each annual communication.
- B. To examine and report upon all accounts and financial matters referred to them during each session making note of the manner and method of accounting the books of account are being maintained insuring that a full, detailed report of all transactions are provided.
- C. To audit no bill or other demand not authorized by the Grand Lodge or provided for in these by-laws; and when any valid claim shall be found correct, it shall be approved by the committee. All bills approved shall be paid upon approval of the Grand Lodge.
- D. To receive a copy of the audit report prepared by a disinterested, Certified Public Accountant on the receipts, disbursements and undisbursed funds contained by the trustees of the Centennial Benevolent Foundation fund and this report shall be made a part of the annual audit report with recommendations to this Grand Lodge as deemed appropriate for sound business stability.

Section 15. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Accounts and Claims to review every claim for reimbursement of per diem and or mileage to determine the appropriateness of the claim and submit their approval to the Grand Secretary for proper payment of all accounts found to be just and fair.

Section 16. The committee on Constitution and By-laws shall study, update and present laws by which the Grand Lodge shall effectively govern in a legal and constitutional manner. Whose duty is to submit a report of proposed revisions, deletions and additions, to the Grand Lodge for approval or rejection, by vote of the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XII - MEETING OF COMMITTEES

Section 1. All committees of this Grand Lodge shall meet the first day of the annual communication for the purpose of preparing their reports, exceptions to this may be made where it is determined that work to be accomplished is voluminous, in which case the committee shall meet one day prior to the opening of the Grand Lodge Annual Communication.

Section 2. Whenever the Grand Master finds in the hands of the Grand Secretary sufficient work for any committee, he shall call that committee or committees to meet three days before the convening of the Grand Lodge in its annual communication, and all work shall be placed in the hands of the Committee by the Grand Secretary.

Section 3. The reports of all committees shall be typewritten at the expense of this Grand Lodge, and all Grand Lodge officers and committee members who perform the duties of the responsibilities they have

are entitled to be compensated by payment of per diem and mileage as established by this Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XIII - ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. No brother shall be eligible to hold office in or serve upon any committee of this Grand Lodge unless qualified as provided in Article V II of the constitution of this Grand Lodge.

Section 2. No brother, after taking his seat as a member, shall be allowed to retire or absent himself from a session of this Grand Lodge without permission of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master.

Section 3. No brother, not a member of, or representative to the Grand Lodge, shall be admitted to the floor thereof nor permitted to speak on any matter before the body without leave of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master; provided, however, that any Master Mason in good standing, upon being properly vouched for, may occupy a seat provided for visitors.

ARTICLE XIV - MASONIC MORTUARY RELIEF FUND

Section 1. All members of all subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge are eligible to participate in the Relief Fund program regardless of age

Section 2. All new members of all subordinate lodges under this jurisdiction who are affiliated as of January 1, 1969, between the ages of eighteen (18) years old and fifty-five (55) years old shall automatically become members of this program. Subordinate lodges may accept members for affiliation in the lodge who exceed the age limitation but shall submit to the Secretary of the Masonic Mortuary Relief Fund a written waiver signed by such members.

Section 3. All restored member of all subordinate lodges under this jurisdiction who are between the ages of eighteen (18) years old and fifty-five (55) years old shall automatically become members of this program. Subordinate lodges may restore members who exceed the age limitations but shall submit to the Secretary of the Masonic Mortuary Relief Fund a written waiver signed by such members.

Section 4. The Grand Lodge Masonic Relief Fund Program shall be supervised by the Grand Secretary as prescribed in Article V of the Constitution, and said board shall have exclusive custody, control and management of this program with a limitation of twenty (20) percent of funds received being allowed for the administrative expenses.

Section 5. The Masonic Mortuary Relief Fund Board shall meet quarterly, upon call of the Grand Master, with a ten-day notice being given to all board members such notice shall include time and place and tentative agenda. All activities of the board shall be reported to the Grand Lodge at its annual communication and all books, papers, vouchers and account shall be submitted to appropriate Committee for Audit. The annual report may include recommendations to this Grand Lodge for improvement to the Relief Program.

Section 6. The Grand Lodge or Grand Master may assess an additional levy to subordinate lodge members to meet emergencies.

Section 7. Each subordinate lodge through the office of Worshipful Master and Secretary shall supply the Grand

Secretary a correct listing of all members, lodge secretary shall collect and maintain, in a separate account, apart from the general lodge monies, all funds for Mortuary Relief, and such funds shall not be used for any other purposes, than to transmit donations each quarter of each year for each participant; these donations and reports are to be submitted following the lodge meeting of March, June, September and December. Forms for these reports shall be provided by the Grand Secretary and shall include a beneficiary designation form. Failure to report for two consecutive quarters shall be cause for Masonic discipline to the subordinate lodge.

Section 8. Each participant shall name a beneficiary to receive the benefits of this program and he may name any person or entity whom he feels will be in need of the benefits by the death of the participant.

Section 9. All monies paid by the participants of this program are donations and not insurance premiums. Donations shall be established by the Grand Secretary with Grand Lodge approval.

Section 10. Mortuary Relief Benefits are established by Grand Lodge and may increase by recommendation to the Grand Lodge at its annual communication from the Office of the Grand Secretary and approval by that August Body.

Section 11. Subordinate Lodge Worshipful Master and Secretary shall upon notification of the death of a participant submit the appropriate form accompanied with proof of death to the Grand Secretary. The Grand Secretary shall notify the Grand Treasurer who shall send benefits check to the donee by certified mail. The Grand Secretary will notify the Worshipful Master and Secretary of the subordinate lodge that the check was delivered.

ARTICLE XV - HONORARY PAST GRAND MASTER

In order to receive the title of Honorary Past Grand Master, one must meet the following criteria:

Section 1. The recipient be an Actual Past Master of his Lodge and said Lodge be on the roles as a Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge except, that Actual Past Grand Masters of a sister Jurisdiction may be considered.

Section 2. That he shall have held and served this Grand Lodge in some capacity of an elected or appointed office at the time of his recommendation.

Section 3. That his length of service as a member of this Grand Lodge shall have been for a period of THIRTY FIVE (35) years of uninterrupted service, regardless of any Grand Lodge office, elected or appointed he may have held.

Section 4. That this title be listed and recognized as Honorary only and to include any of the rights, listings, privileges, receptions or seating accorded an Actual Past Grand Master.

Section 5. That this HONOR be bestowed only once every THREE (3) years and then only by a two thirds (2/3) vote of this Grand Lodge while in session.

Section 6. That a maximum of two (2) nominee's be accepted regardless of the number nominated

and they by the required two thirds (2/3) vote for each nominee.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

ARTICLE XVI – EMERITUS MEMBERS

Section 1. Individuals who have been chairpersons or members of Grand Lodge committees and displayed commitment and rendered distinguished and meritorious service are eligible for Emeritus Status. Only one person from each committee will be eligible for Emeritus Status at a time.

Section 2. If the brother granted Emeritus Status becomes unfinancial with his subordinate lodge, that brother will be notified by letter informing him that his Emeritus Status will be revoked.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

**BY-LAWS OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE
HALL GRAND LODGE, FREE AND ACCEPTED
MASONS
OF THE JURISDICTION OF INDIANA**

**CHAPTER II
Relative to Subordinate Lodges**

ARTICLE I - COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

Section 1. Every lodge shall consist of a Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Stewards, Chaplain and Tyler together with such other officers as its By-Laws may provide and its members find convenient.

Section 2. All lodges can assemble legally only when there is a dispensation or charter from this grand Lodge.

ARTICLE II - POWERS AND NAME

Section 1. All lodges have judicial powers as are specifically set out in our penal code executive power in the Master and legislative power in the Craft in such ways and to the extent provided herein.

Section 2. A lodge shall be designated Lodge Number Free and Accepted Mason.

ARTICLE III - DUTIES AND AMENDMENTS OF BY-LAWS

Section 1. A lodge has the following duties:

- A. To hold one regular Communication a month in a suitable room dedicated and approved by this Grand Lodge.
- B. To make a full report of its transactions to this Grand Lodge together with its annual dues and assessments.
- C. To have a seal and an approved Code of By- Laws.
- D. To assess uniform dues.
- E. To prohibit political, sectarian or religious discussions within its lodge room and in its meetings.
- F. To read in open lodge every Grand Lodge communication.
- G. To place its Secretary and Treasurer under surety bond.
- H. To pay all bills by check and to deposit all funds in a bank.

- I. To audit its accounts and its Secretary's Treasurer's books once a year.
- J. To own at least five copies of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge.
- K. To amend its By-Laws only upon written notice posted in its Hall at least twenty days before the meeting when said amendment shall be voted upon and only upon two thirds vote of those present.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS

Section 1. Nature

- A. All meetings shall be either regular or special. Regular meetings shall be those called for by the By-Laws of the lodge. Special meetings shall be those called by the Master solely in his discretion for whatever reason but only upon one week's written notice to the last known address of each member.
- B. All meetings must be had with at least seven Master Masons present and can be opened only by the elected Master, Senior or Junior Wardens in that order and if all are incapacitated then by any Past Master if so designated by the Grand Master.
- C. The Master of a lodge when ordered to call a special meeting by the Grand Master must so do and must open all records to said Grand Master or his representative.
- D. Lodge notices must be sent under seal except where only the time and place of a meeting is announced.
- E. The conferring of more than one degree on a day or upon more than fifteen candidates is specifically prohibited.
- F. A lodge cannot be called from Labor to refreshment for a period beyond the limits of a particular day.
- G. It is irregular and unlawful for a lodge to hold Communications for Work in two separate halls at the same time.
- H. All notices emanating from lodges or their officers shall be sent to members under sealed cover, provided that the bare notice of time and place of meeting may be published or sent by postal card, but no details of Work to be done or business to be transacted shall be made public.
- I. A lodge should not transact any business involving final action by vote of the lodge at any communication after the Work of conferring degrees has begun.
- J. When a lodge has been regularly opened for a special meeting on the date of a regular meeting but earlier than the hour named in the By-Laws for regular meetings, the special meeting may be changed to a regular without going through the ceremonies of closing and opening, but in the following manner only, viz: At a time not less than five nor more than thirty minutes after the hour named in the By-Laws for the regular meeting having arrived and the lodge having been opened in form, further work in the special meeting will be dispensed with and the business of the regular taken up. The records shall show that above declaration was made by the Master and give the name of the officers and members

present. At the proper time, the meeting shall be closed in form

- K. When a Worshipful Master of a lodge is notified that the District Deputy is to visit his lodge on an order from the Grand Master, the Master shall convene his lodge as ordered by the District Deputy and shall show him all courtesies due to the Grand Master. The District Deputy shall give fifteen (15) days' notice of his intended visit to a lodge except in cases of his visits to the regular meetings of the lodge
- L. The District Deputy shall read his instructions from the Grand Master and take control of the lodge or carry out the orders of the Grand Master.

ARTICLE V - ELECTION, APPOINTMENTS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

Section 1. Every lodge shall elect, appoint and install its officers annually, at such times and in the manner prescribed by its By-Laws. The Master, Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, and Trustees must be chosen by ballot; the other officers may be elected by ballot or appointed, as the By-Laws may provide. There must be a ballot for each elective office at which time each member present shall have the opportunity to vote, and a majority of the whole number of votes cast shall elect the Brother to the office sought. The installation ceremonies shall be held annually in December, and may occur at the Lodge Hall or in the near vicinity thereof and within the jurisdiction of the lodge. It may be held as a joint ceremony with other lodges of this jurisdiction.

Section 2. Every lodge shall, within thirty days after the Annual Installation, transmit to the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary, a duly certified list of names of the newly installed officers, with the dates of their election and installation.

Section 3. Removal from the territorial jurisdiction of a lodge does not affect the right of an officer-elect to be installed therein.

Section 4. The refusal of an officer-elect to give bond as required by the By-Laws of his lodge is a refusal to qualify for installation, and shall be so treated.

Section 5. In the absence of the Master-elect, the officers of a lodge cannot be installed. The ceremonies must begin with that officer; however, the passing of the Chair Degree for a new Master may be given later, but must be given before the elected Master may conduct a lodge meeting.

Section 6. The Master having been legally installed, it becomes his right, as well as his privilege, to install the other officers elected and appointed, at the same Communication or as soon thereafter as practicable during the month of December.

Section 7. In case any lodge shall fail to elect its officers at the time prescribed by its By-Laws, it shall forthwith lay the matter before the Grand Master who, for good cause shown, may grant a dispensation to hold an election as soon thereafter as may be practical; such dispensation shall be entered at length upon the records of the lodge. But in no case shall an election be held prior to the time specified in the By-Laws.

Section 8. Neither the Master, Senior Warden, nor Junior Warden of a chartered lodge shall resign, demit or take part in the formation of a lodge under dispensation during his official term. The right of the Senior Warden to rule and govern the lodge in the absence of the Master and of the Junior Warden in the absence of both the Master and Senior Warden cannot be taken away or debarred by a new election or appointment to fill the vacancy.

Section 9. Resignations of appointed officers may for good reasons be received and vacancies filled by the Master.
Section 10. A Brother having been elected Master or Warden, but not installed, is not debarred a demit.

Section 11. The duly elected and installed Master, Senior and Junior Wardens and Trustees of a lodge, by virtue of their office and the powers and prerogatives appertaining thereto, are the only ones qualified to represent the lodge in its corporate capacity and to be designated Trustees, and they are the Trustees of the lodge; provided that the lodge may, by vote, select any competent member to represent the lodge for any certain or stated purpose.

Section 12. (1) No elected officer of a lodge shall be removed from office except by two-thirds vote of the lodge upon a full and impartial hearing to which all members of the lodge shall have twenty (20) days' notice. Nothing in this section shall apply to the Master of the lodge, nor to any action of the Grand Master in removing an officer for contumacy.

(2) Any officer of a lodge who is convicted of a crime as a result of a masonic trial or a criminal trial in a criminal court shall be removed from office by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE VI - ELIGIBILITY - INSTALLATION

Section I. No one shall be eligible to the office Master of any chartered lodge unless he is an actual member thereof, nor unless he has been duly elected and regularly installed and previously served in the office of Warden of some legally chartered lodge, nor unless he be a person having a good education and of good morals, of great skill and intellectual ability, true and trusty and a lover of the fraternity; provided, that in case of an emergency, when neither of the Wardens, nor anyone who has previously filled the office of Master or Wardens, will consent to serve as presiding officer, the lodge may elect any not so qualified, but no member so elected can be installed except by dispensation applied for by written petition of the lodge, signed by the present Master and Wardens and seven Past Masters, provided further, that this section shall not apply to the Master of a lodge under dispensation. Acting as Warden of a lodge under dispensation does not make a Brother eligible to the office of Master in a chartered lodge, but a member nominated in a charter as Warden of a lodge and regularly installed thereby become eligible to the office of Master, provided the other qualifications named herein are possessed by him.

Section 2. Any member of a lodge qualified to vote in the election of officers shall be eligible to any office in the lodge except that of Wardens or Master, provided that no member shall hold more than one office in the lodge at the same time. To be eligible to the office of Warden, one must have the qualifications required for the office of Master, except that of having previously served in the office of Warden.

Section 3. Officers of a chartered lodge must be installed as often as elected or appointed.

Section 4. No officer of a lodge can be legally installed by proxy.

Section 5. No Brother is masonic ally qualified to install the officers of a lodge except one who has been duly elected and regularly installed as Master of a chartered lodge working under the jurisdiction of some recognized Grand Lodge, and who is at the time of exercising such official authority, an actual member, in good standing, of some regular lodge; provided that this shall not be construed to affect the Grand Master or his proxy, and non-affiliation cannot be accepted under the Constitution as constituting disability of the Grand Master. The elective officers of the Grand Lodge and the past elective officers of the Grand Lodge, in good standing, may install the officers of a lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, upon the request of the Master of the lodge.

Section 6. No Master-elect can begin upon the duties of his office until legally installed, and he cannot be legally installed until he shall have received the Secrets of the Chair. This provision does not apply to a Master or a lodge under dispensation; provided that the master named in a charter cannot be legally installed until he receives the Secrets of the Chair.

ARTICLE VII - POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE MASTER

Section 1. The Master shall have the power:

- A. To convene his lodge in Special Communication whenever he may deem proper.
- B. To preside at all meetings of his lodge.
- C. To cause to be issued all notices and summons, which may be required.
- D. To appoint all officers of the lodge whose election is not provided for in the By-Laws, except the Junior Deacon who is appointed by the Senior Warden and the two Stewards who are appointed by the Junior Warden.
- E. To appoint all committees not otherwise provided for.
- F. To fill a vacancy in any office of the term of any meeting of the lodge.
- G. To discharge all the executive functions of his lodge.
- H. To represent his lodge in the Grand Lodge, even though not residing in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.
- I. To require every member of the lodge present to vote upon all questions coming before the lodge unless excused by the Master, or by vote of the majority of the members present.
- J. To perform such other acts as by ancient usage pertain to his office, which shall not contravene any of the provisions of the Constitution, laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge.

- K. The Master has one vote in all questions as every other member, and in addition, a casting vote, if there be a tie, except in cases of election.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Master:

- A. To convene his lodge in Regular Communication at the time prescribed by its By-Laws.
- B. To convene in a Special Communication upon notice from the Grand Master.
- C. To superintend the official acts of the officers of his lodge and see that their respective duties are properly performed.
- D. To guard carefully against any infraction of the By-Laws of his lodge. the Constitution, laws, regulations and edicts of the Grand Lodge, or the general regulations of masonry, and suffer no departure there from upon the plea of convenience or expediency, except in cases of emergency, and then only by dispensation of the Grand Master.
- E. To see that proper and true returns of Work, etc., are annually transmitted to the Grand Secretary, and that the Grand Lodge dues and taxes are promptly paid.
- F. To cause summons to be issued only when the welfare of Masonry, the interest of the lodge, or the rights of a Brother demand, and to take special care that disobedience of a duly served summons be promptly followed by discipline, unless the offender renders excuse for the offense satisfactorily to the lodge.
- G. To cause all necessary notices to be issued in the prescribed manner and form.
- H. To permit no appeal from his decision to be made to the lodge.
- I. To pay homage to the Grand Master, his Deputy and elective Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge for the time being, and the edict of the Grand Lodge, its Constitution and By-Laws.
- J. To make the Secret Work practiced in his lodge conforms to the standard recommended or adopted by the Grand Lodge.
- K. To see that his lodge owns and has on hand at all times, no less than five (5) copies of the Book of Constitution and that one each is constantly in each of the follow Stations: Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section 3. The Master shall have no power or authority to spend the funds of the lodge nor in any manner to obligate his lodge financially without such authority being first had from the lodge, except in cases of emergency, and then subject to the approval of the lodge. The funds of the lodge can only be spent at the will of the lodge.

Section 4. Any Master of a lodge who keeps his lodge in turmoil, or who creates or causes to be created, unwarranted disturbances in his lodge, or who acts in a manner detrimental to his lodge and the fraternity, may be removed from office by the Grand Master, after an impartial investigation.

Section 5. Since the master is the executive officer of the lodge, he must not act in any capacity where

he will have to submit his acts to the lodge for its approval except in case of emergency and except in those cases where he is commanded by these laws to act. He shall not be the recipient, custodian, or dispenser of any funds of his lodge, but he shall see to it that those who are to receive the funds and pay the bills of his lodge perform their duties promptly.

ARTICLE VIII - WARDENS

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Wardens to assist the Master in discharge of his duties and to perform such other acts as Masonic usage has assigned to their respective Stations. The Senior Warden has the right to appoint the Junior Deacon and the Junior Warden that of appointing the two Stewards.

Section 2. In the absence of the Master, the duties of his office shall be fulfilled by the Senior Warden, and if the Master and Senior Warden both be absent, the Junior Warden shall fulfill the duties of the Master.

Section 3. No Warden can call a special meeting of the lodge while his official superior is within the territorial jurisdiction thereof and able to authorize a call, but a Warden presiding in the Master's absence may, while thus acting; perform any act which the Master might do were he present.

Section 4. The Junior Warden cannot assume duties of the Senior Warden when he is present or drops out of office. If the Senior Warden becomes incapacitated the Worshipful Master can appoint a Past Master to serve until a regular election is held.

ARTICLE IX - OTHER OFFICERS

Section 1. The Treasurer of a lodge is the proper custodian of all its monies, securities, bonds, and other fiscal property, and they cannot be taken from his control and placed in the hands of Trustees. He should keep the funds and accounts of the lodge entirely distinct from all others and, in case he has a bank account, the funds of the lodge should be deposited to the credit of the lodge by him as such Treasurer. He shall give such bond as the lodge shall direct or prescribe in its By-Laws. The funds of the lodge shall not be paid out by the Treasurer unless by the order of the lodge, which must be certified to him by the Master and attested by the Secretary.

Section 2. The Secretary, in addition to performing the duties prescribed by the ritual, shall record the time when the lodge is opened and closed, and the names of officers, members and visitors present at each meeting; provided that he may have a separate book especially prepared for keeping the official record of members in attendance, and that this book may be placed in the Tyler's room at each meeting, it being the duty of every member to record his name therein before entering the lodge. He shall promptly transmit to the Grand Secretary notice of all rejections for degrees, expulsions, suspensions and reinstatements, with the date of same, and when a member has been suspended or expelled, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify him and his nearest relative of such suspension or expulsion. He shall perform such other services pertaining to his office as are required by the lodge or the Master or the Grand Master or the customs of the fraternity, or as are designated by the By-Laws of the lodge or

the Grand Lodge. He may receive such compensation for his services, as the lodge shall provide. He shall draw and attest all orders for the payment of the funds of the lodge only upon the affirmative vote of the lodge. He shall give notice to the members of the lodge to meet the Grand Master in a Special Communication upon the notice or order of the Grand Master. He shall give such bond as the lodge shall direct or prescribe in its By- Laws.

Section 3. The Trustees of the lodge shall have the responsibility and authority to oversee all of the property of the lodge and take such action as may be necessary in their collective judgment to be in the best interest of the lodge as it pertains to lodge property and paraphernalia. They are to advise the lodge and receive authorization for their action in advance, if possible; however, they shall not incur any indebtedness for the lodge in excess of a designated amount as established by the lodge.

Section 4. A II other officers of a lodge shall perform such duties therein as may be directed by the Master and Wardens, not conflicting with the By-Laws of the lodge, the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge, and the usage's and general regulations of Masonry.

Section 5. At the close of their term of office, all officers of the Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall immediately turn over all books, papers, documents, money, funds, properties, etc., of the Lodge in their possession or under their control, to their successor in office, under penalty of suspension or expulsion from the Masonic Order.

ARTICLE X - THE SUCCESSION TO THE CHAIR

Section 1. The succession to the Chair during the term of an election shall be as follows:

- A. That in the temporary or permanent absence of the Master or during his temporary removal from office, the Senior Warden, or in his absence, the Junior Warden, succeeds to the Chair.
- B. That on the permanent removal of the Master by death or expulsion, there can be no election for a successor until the Constitutional night of election.
- C. The right to succeed the Master is a personal right vested in the wardens and cannot be taken away so long as the Wardens remain members of the lodge.

ARTICLE XI - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in a lodge may be acquired:

- A. By having been named in a charter issued to a lodge under dispensation.
- B. By having regularly received the Degree of Master Mason therein and signing the By-Laws of the lodge and the Constitution and By- Laws of the Grand Lodge.
- C. By a Master Mason petitioning a lodge for affiliation, and upon due election to membership, and signing the By-Laws of the lodge and the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

Section 2. Every petition for degrees or membership contemplates membership. The By-Laws of the lodge and the Constitution and By- Laws of the Grand Lodge should always be present when candidates are raised or elected to membership, and a refusal to sign them deprives the petitioner the rights of membership. If he exercises the privileges of membership, he cannot thereafter deny the responsibilities thereof, and he would then be subject to discipline for refusing to sign the By-Laws of the lodge and Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

Section 3. Members of a chartered lodge who are also members of a lodge U. D. may vote and hold office in both lodges.

Section 4. No Mason shall be an actual member of more than one chartered lodge at the same time; provided that a lodge may by unanimous ballot confer the title of Honorary Membership upon any Master Mason who is a member in good standing of some other regular lodge, his name having been proposed at a previous regular meeting, but such Honorary Membership may be terminated by a three-fourths ballot at a regular meeting, notice having been given in open lodge at a preceding regular meeting of such proposed action.

Section 5. The status of a Brother in his lodge cannot be changed after his death. One who is in good standing at tile time of his death is entitled to Masonic burial, if he made such request or if requested by his family.

Section 6. Membership in a chartered lodge can be terminated only:

- A. By dissolution of the lodge.
- B. By voluntary formal dismissal there from.
- C. By becoming a charter member of a new lodge.
- D. By death.
- E. By suspension or expulsion by the lodge or Grand Lodge.

Section 7. It is the duty of every Mason to be a member of some lodge. Non-affiliation is a violation of Masonic Law, for which a Mason, if he refuses to abandon that condition, may be tried and punished.

Section 8. It shall be the duty of every Mason to respect and pay homage to the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand master, the District Deputy and the elective Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge when on official duty for this Grand Lodge, and to the Master of his lodge, and to meet his lodge whenever notified by its Secretary or its Master, or the Grand Secretary or the Grand Master.

ARTICLE XII· LODGE'S JURISDICTION

Section 1. Every chartered lodge shall have certain personal and territorial jurisdiction.

Section 2. The personal jurisdiction of a lodge shall extend over all of its members (except its Master and The Grand Master and elective Grand Lodger Officers), wherever they may reside, and over its unfinished

work and rejected material wherever they may be dispersed.

Section 3. The territorial jurisdiction of a lodge shall extend in all directions halfway on straight lines between the actual location of the lodge rooms of neighboring lodges, without regard to county or other geographical divisions; and includes the exclusive right, on the part of the lodge, to accept or reject all original petitions for the degrees from persons residing within its territory; and the right to exercise concurrent with the Grand Lodge, penal powers over all Mason, unaffiliated as well as affiliated, any violation of the moral law or Masonic law (except the Master and the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge elective Officers), provided that in any town or city where two or more lodges are located, their territorial jurisdiction shall be concurrent.

Section 4. Lodges within the corporate limits of a city or town have concurrent jurisdiction, but over such territory and candidates only as are nearer to one of said lodges than to a lodge outside of said limits. Corporation lines are ignored except to determine which lodge has a part in the concurrent jurisdiction.

ARTICLE XIII- THE QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES

Section 1. Every candidate applying for the degrees in masonry must have the senses of a man, especially those of hearing, seeing and feeling; be a believer in God and a future existence, be able to read and write, and possessing no main defect in his body that may render him incapable of conforming literally to what the several degrees respectively require of him. No provision of this section shall be set aside, suspended or dispensed with by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge or anyone else.

Section 2. The Landmark respecting physical qualifications, of which the next preceding section is substantially a repetition, manifestly refers only to the time of making, hence the Brother maimed after initiation must be advanced.

Section 3. Masonry knows no distinction of race or color. It is the mental, moral, and physical qualifications of a man that are to be considered.

Section 4. A candidate, who is unable or unwilling to express a belief in the existence of God and a resurrection to a future life, lacks an essential qualification for the degrees in masonry. In such cases the fee shall be returned with the information that he cannot become a Mason

Section 5. No lodge shall knowingly receive a petition from or initiate a candidate who is less than eighteen (18) years old, or who is in his dotage, or who is not a man or is not a believer in God and a future existence, or who is a keeper of a saloon or dram shop or a house of ill- fame, or who is a known gambler, or who is a habitual drunkard, or who is unable to read and write, or who does not possess the qualifications mentioned in the laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge, or who has been convicted of a felony, or who has been declared ineligible by any of the laws or regulations of this Grand Lodge, or who has not been an actual resident of the jurisdiction of the Grand lodge at least twelve months, and of the jurisdiction of the lodge at least six months next preceding the date of such petition, nor of an applicant who has been rejected by another lodge.

Section 6. By the Masonic residence of an applicant is meant a permanent settled domicile or fixed abode, from choice, and as a rule, is identical with his legal residence.

Section 7. A man who has no fixed abode or legal residence cannot petition any lodge within jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

Section 8. If it shall be ascertained after the election of an applicant that he is disqualified by lack of residence or any other requirement or cause, the petition with the fee shall be returned without further action for want of jurisdiction.

Section 9. To be naturalized is not a prerequisite qualification of a candidate, either for initiation or affiliation.

Section 10. In case any petition for the degrees shall have been rejected by a lodge in other organized grand jurisdiction, the regulations specified in Section 6 of this succeeding Article (XIV) shall apply.

Section 11. If any candidate or person shall have been initiated by a lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, who, by the laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge, is ineligible to become a member of the fraternity, he shall not by such initiation become a member of such lodge, but upon the discovery of the fact of his ineligibility he shall be tried for such an offense, and upon conviction he shall be expelled from the Masonic order, provided that, the candidate has made false statements or intended to deceive the lodge about his eligibility or ineligibility to be made a Mason. Where a lodge unknowingly initiates a candidate who has been rejected by another lodge, it shall nevertheless, have the right to retain the initiation fees.

ARTICLE XIV - PETITIONS

Section 1. All petitions for the degrees or for membership shall be made in writing and signed by the applicant in person, with his full name; shall state his age, occupation, name of wife, if married; name of nearest relative, and his place of residence and telephone number, and in case of a petitioner for the degrees, whether he has previously made application to any lodge. The petition shall be accompanied by a fee as established by lodge By-Laws, but no less than \$35.00, if for degrees, and a completed background check. Every petition shall be recommended in writing by two members of the lodge, and be read at a regular meeting, and entered in substance upon the records. After it has been read the lodge accepts it, or at its pleasure the lodge may refuse to accept it.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

Section 2. Every petition for the degrees or membership after it is received shall be referred to a committee of three members of the lodge, whose names shall be announced in open lodge at the meeting when the petition is received, who shall diligently inquire into the moral, mental intellectual and physical qualifications of the applicant, and whether he has been a citizen of the state, and make such report thereon to the lodge as they may deem proper; provided that the report be written and the nature thereof, whether favorable or unfavorable, shall be entered of record. A majority of the committee is not sufficient. All must report, the lodge being entitled to the information derived from three sources if inquiry.

Section 3. The Master may grant a committee appointed on petition for degrees or membership more time and in case any of the committee fails to report, the Master may remove him and in open lodge appoint another Brother in his place, but the ballot shall not be taken before the next stated meeting after a new member has been appointed.

Section 4. All petitions for admission shall state the name, number and location of the lodge of which the applicant was last a member, and the name of the lodge in which he was made a Master Mason, and the name of the Grand Lodge under which such lodge is or was working; such petition shall be accompanied by a demit or other satisfactory evidence that the petitioner has lawfully withdrawn from the lodge of which he was last a member; or if such membership has been lost in any other manner, he must submit proof of his standing in the fraternity. Every such petition shall be recommended by two members of the lodge who vouch for the petitioner as a Master Mason, and shall be read and, if accepted, referred in the same manner as petitions for degrees. If the petitioner is elected, the documentary evidence shall be filed among the records of the lodge; if rejected, the same shall be promptly returned to the Brother, provided that the lodge may retain his petition and again vote upon him at any subsequent meeting.

Section 5. Master Masons applying for membership shall not be required to state whether they have or have not applied to any other lodge; nor shall the regulations of these By-Laws concerning physical qualifications or jurisdictional residence, whether residing in this state or elsewhere, apply to such applicants, nor shall any of the requirements of the preceding sections apply to Entered Apprentices or Fellowcraft seeking advancement in the lodge in which they were initiated or passed; but the said requirements shall apply to the petitions of Entered Apprentices or one in which they may have been initiated or passed. An applicant having received the Degree of Entered Apprentice or the Degrees of Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft in a lodge not having territorial jurisdiction, said applicant petitioning the lodge having jurisdiction must again pass the ordeal of the ballot. An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft, after moving into the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, may petition the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides, for advancement, at any time; provided that the lodge, which conferred the degree or degrees upon him, waive jurisdiction in favor of the lodge petitioned. The petitions being governed by the same rules that applies in case of petitions for degrees.

Section 6. No lodge shall knowingly receive a petition for the degrees from an applicant who has been rejected by another lodge, nor shall it confer the degrees upon any such applicant. A candidate having been once rejected can apply to no other lodge for admission except the one, which rejected him, and if in this jurisdiction he may apply to such lodge for the degrees not oftener than once every three months. Each application must be an entirely new petition, which must be made in the same manner, treated and acted upon as the original petition.

Section 7. No lodge can receive a petition for membership from a Mason holding a demit from a lodge working under the jurisdiction of any Grand Lodge to which this Grand Lodge has refused recognition. Applications from such persons must be treated as applications for degrees; provided that if the applicant has been properly and regularly made a Mason the ceremonies may be omitted except the oaths of penalty and obligation.

Section 8. Whenever a lodge shall grant permission to any other lodge to receive the petition of a person residing within its jurisdiction, or an entered Apprentice, or Fellowcraft, over whom it may have lawful jurisdiction, it shall thereby be held to have permanently relinquished the same, and the lodge receiving such permission shall thereby acquire lawful jurisdiction; provided that all such petitions shall be subject to the laws governing original petitions for the degrees, and defined in this and in the following Article.

Section 9. All requests for waiver of jurisdiction must come from a lodge, which the applicant has petitioned, and jurisdiction is transferred to said lodge if request is granted. All applications for waivers of jurisdiction shall be read at a regular meeting and lie over until the next regular meeting before being voted upon, and in all such cases the Master may appoint a Committee of Investigation if he deems it for the best interest of masonry. In all cases of waiver over original petitions the vote shall be by ballot and be unanimous, but in cases of waiver over Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts, the vote may be by show of hands, and a majority is sufficient, provided that the questions of waiver cannot be considered until the candidate is accepted and elected for the degrees.

Section 10. If the request for a waiver of jurisdiction is refused, it may, in cases of original petitioner, be renewed after a lapse of three months. In other cases it may be renewed at pleasure, though not oftener than four times in any one year.

Section 11. If a lodge grants permission to another lodge to complete unfinished work. (That is, jurisdiction over candidates for advancement). It thereby relinquishes its claim upon the candidate and, upon being regularly elected, receiving the remaining degrees and signing the By- Laws of the lodge, the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, he becomes a member of the lodge completing the work. But if a lodge merely requests another to do work for it, and the work is done, the applicant becomes a member of the first lodge, upon signing its By- Laws, and Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

Section 12. The action of a lodge requesting, or consenting to the conferring of degrees on its material by another lodge may be rescinded by vote of the lodge before the work is done. Action waiving jurisdiction cannot be rescinded.

Section 13. When a lodge waives jurisdiction over an Entered Apprentice or a Fellowcraft, who has paid in advance the fees for all the degrees, it shall refund that portion of the fees for which it has not given an equivalent in degrees.

Section 14. When a candidate, after being rejected by one lodge, moves into the jurisdiction of another, he cannot renew his petition without first returning to the jurisdiction of the lodge which rejected him.

Section 15. When an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft moves from the jurisdiction of his lodge, and it surrenders or loses its charter, he cannot become a member of another lodge without election therein nor be advanced without the consent of the lodge that acquires jurisdiction over the majority of the defunct lodge.

Section 16. Waiver of jurisdiction over material residing in territory possessed in common by two or more lodges may be granted only by the lodge located nearest to the home or residence of the petitioner, and when several lodges are equally near, then the petition may be filed with either of said lodges. Request for such waiver shall be referred to an Investigating Committee and due notice shall be given to all other lodges holding concurrent jurisdiction and a vote on such request shall be taken at the next or some subsequent regular communication.

Section 17. No petition for the degrees shall be withdrawn or returned, after having been received by a lodge, unless the lodge has no jurisdiction, in which case the petition and the money shall be returned. When the petition is rejected, the same, together with the fee accompanying it, shall be returned to the applicant, provided that where a lodge has by mistake received and referred a petition of an applicant who resides within the jurisdiction of another lodge, or from one disqualified by lack of residence or otherwise, the petition, with the fee, shall be returned without balloting; provided further, that when the Investigation Committee shall report an applicant for degrees to be ineligible on account of his moral, mental, intellectual, or physical disqualifications, he shall be rejected without a ballot.

Section 18. The petition and the fee of a Brother Master Mason applying for membership may be withdrawn or returned upon written application therefore and the concurrence of a majority of the members present at a regular meeting of the lodge.

ARTICLE XV - BALLOTING

Section 1. No ballot shall be taken on a petition for any degree or for membership at any other than a regular communication, nor in less than four weeks from the time the petition was received and referred, except by dispensation from the Grand Master, nor unless there be present at such communication at least three members of the lodge. One clear ballot entitles the petitioner to the three degrees, but if an Entered Apprentice or Fellow craft transfers his allegiance to another lodge, his petition for the remaining degree or degrees must again pass the ordeal of the ballot.

Section 2. In balloting upon petitions for the degrees or for membership, the same shall be acted upon separately, and every member of the lodge present shall vote. No member shall be excused from this duty except at his own request and by unanimous consent of the other members present.

Section 3. No ballot shall be had upon petitions for the degrees when the report of the Investigating Committee is unfavorable, nor when it appears that from the moral, mental, intellectual and physical qualifications of the applicant, he is ineligible. In such cases the Master shall order the petitioner rejected. If the Master or lodge is not satisfied with the report of the first Investigating Committee, he may appoint a second Committee of Investigation. The vote to elect to the degrees, or to membership, must be unanimous.

Section 4. The right of every member of a lodge to the secret ballot for the degrees or for membership is inherent and absolute, and the lawful and legitimate exercise of such rights shall not be questioned by the Master, the lodge, the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge, and if any member shall make it known that he was actuated by unworthy motives in the exercise of this right, or shall willfully use the ballot to interrupt the legitimate labors of or the peace and harmony of the lodge, or shall expose the character of his own vote before, at the time of, or after casting it, or shall attempt to ascertain the character of the vote of any other member, he shall be liable to Masonic discipline and punishment.

Provided that a member may challenge the ballot when he has evidence of the fact that the ballot is contrary to the declaration, and provided further that a member may give evidence against one whom he knows to be using his ballot to obstruct the progress of the lodge.

Provided further, that when a member challenges the declaration of a clear ballot, he does not have to give his evidence, but the Master shall again send the ballot box to the Wardens for inspection, and if the ballot is found to be clear, the challenge shall be disregarded and the declaration of a clear ballot shall stand.

Section 5. When a ballot is in progress, it shall not be suspended or postponed, nor shall any ballot be recommended under any pretense whatever, after the decision of the Master is rendered, except as provided in Section 4 of this Article.

Section 6. No debate shall be permitted in open lodge upon (he merits or demerits of any candidate, at or before the time of balloting. The secret vote of each member is the only legal expression of his option.

Section 7. No applicant can be elected in the degrees or membership unless upon a unanimous or clear ballot. After the ballot has been taken and duly examined, first by the Wardens and finally by the Master, when, if all the ballots prove to be white, the ballot is pronounced clear, and the candidate is declared by the Master, elected. If, however, there is one black ball only, the ballot is pronounced foul, and the Master may order a new ballot, which must be had immediately, and if on the second ballot the one ball again appears, the candidate is declared by the Master to be rejected. If, on the first ballot, two or more black balls appear, the candidate is declared by the Master as having been rejected without the formality of a second ballot. These decisions and declarations of the Master are [mal and conclusive and shall not be set aside by the Master, the lodge, the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XVI - REJECTIONS

Section 1. Any candidate for the degree who has been rejected by a lodge may renew his application after the expiration of three months from the date of such rejection, to the same lodge, only if it be in existence; if not in existence, then in that case, the lodge having territorial jurisdiction of the lodge which has ceased to exist. The personal jurisdiction which a lodge acquires over a candidate by rejecting his petition for the degrees is not affected by the lapse of time, nor by his removal elsewhere.

Section 2. Any Master Mason whose application for membership has been rejected may renew his application to the same or to any other lodge without regard to time or place; the rejection of the petition

of a Master Mason for membership shall not affect his Masonic standing.

Section 3. When a candidate is declared rejected, the money, which accompanied his petition, shall be regularly withdrawn from the treasury and returned to him by the Secretary, who shall distinctly inform him of his rejection. This information shall be conveyed to him in person, if practicable, and if communicated to any other non-Mason, the offender shall be subject to Masonic discipline.

Section 4. Any Mason who, concealing the fact of such rejection, shall knowingly assist or recommend for initiation to any lodge any candidate who has been rejected by a lodge except to the lodge which rejected him, shall be liable to Masonic discipline; and any candidate who may receive the degrees by false representation, or through deception, shall be brought to trial and punished by expulsion,

ARTICLE XVII - OBJECTIONS

Section 1. Any Master Mason who is a member of a lodge may raise well-grounded objections to the initiation or advancement of candidates in such lodge.

Section 2. Whenever objection is made by any member of a lodge to the initiation or advancement of a Brother therein, to the second or third degree, the reasons therefore must be made known, if required by the lodge or the Master; or the matter may be referred to a committee with power to inquire into such reasons, which shall report thereon to the lodge as soon as practicable. Upon the reception of such report, if no cause for objection has been assigned, or if the reasons assigned be, in the opinion of the majority of the members present, insufficient, the lodge may confer the degrees in the same manner as if no objection has been made; but if the reasons assigned shall be deemed to be sufficient to stay the degree, the candidate shall be entitled, upon application, to trial upon the alleged objection. A brother who, in the exercise of the right of objection, if proved to be actuated by unworthy motive or who maliciously uses it to interrupt the legitimate labors or to mar the peace and harmony of the lodge, is liable to discipline and punishment.

Section 3. Objections to either initiation or advancement, when made by a Brother not a member of the lodge having jurisdiction, shall be subject to the provisions of the last preceding Section.

Section 4. When objections are entertained against a Brother seeking advancement, and such Brother demands trial, the objections must be formulated into charges and the trial thereof is to be conducted as laid down in the Grand Lodge By-Laws. The status of an entered apprentice or fellow craft would depend upon the result of such trial, viz.; acquittal, expulsion, suspension or reprimand.

Section 5. An objection to the initiation of a legally elected candidate, to be operative, must be made before he is prepared for initiation, provided that if the candidate is ineligible under the Grand Lodge laws or has fraudulently concealed his defects, objections may be made at any time.

Section 6. No candidate whose initiation or advancement is stayed by personal objection shall be recorded or published as rejected, and lodges are not required to report such stay to the Grand Secretary.

ARTICLE XVIII - FEES

Section 1. No chartered or U. D. lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall be permitted to confer three degrees of masonry upon any member for a sum less than forty-five (\$45.00) Dollars, and the apportionment of such sum for the degrees, respectively, shall be regulated by the By-Laws of such subordinate lodge.

Section 2.

(1) No lodge shall confer any degree or admit to membership until the prescribed fee shall have been paid to the proper officer, nor shall any written or verbal promise to pay the same be received in lieu thereof, nor any portion of the fee be remitted in any case, either directly or indirectly.

(2) The Grand Master shall not permit degrees to be conferred upon any person within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge for a less sum than that prescribed in Section 1 of this Article, except by his special dispensation.

(3) No Master of a lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge shall cause or permit the degrees to be conferred upon any applicant for a less sum than that prescribed in Section 1 of this Article, except by dispensation, under the penalty of being removed from office. If the Grand Master finds that a Master has openly violated the provisions of this Article, he shall remove the Master from office until the sitting of the Grand Lodge, and shall report the Master to the Grand Lodge for its further disposition.

Section 3. Where one lodge confers a degree for another, the lodge that does the work can collect only such fee as is charged by the lodge for which the work is done.

Section 4. The Secretary shall pay over to the Treasurer the fees of an applicant for the degrees as soon as received. If the petitioner is rejected, the lodge shall draw an order at once and return the fee to the applicant. In no case should the lodge use any part of the fee until the petitioner has been elected.

Section 5. Any candidate failing to appear for initiation within six months after his election, except for good cause, of which the lodge shall be the judge, and for which a majority vote may excuse him, must again petition the lodge and be subject to the laws governing the presentation of his first petition. The lodge, for good reasons, may credit such candidate with the fees paid with his first petition.

Section 6. The fee for non-affiliated Masons to be admitted to membership of a lodge shall not be less than twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars. A non-affiliated Mason can only be admitted to membership on a demit from a regular constituted lodge. No other person can be admitted to membership for a less fee than forty-five (\$45.00) dollars.

ARTICLE XIX - CONFERRING DEGREES

Section 1. No lodge shall confer any degree upon any person who declines to conform to the

requirement of masonry or to obligate himself to obey the By-Laws of the lodge, the Constitution, laws and edicts of this Grand Lodge. No exception in this requirement shall be made in favor of any particular person or candidate.

Section 2. No candidate shall be advanced to the second or third degree until he shall have passed a satisfactory examination in open lodge upon his Masonic proficiency, unless by dispensation of the Grand Master. The test of the Masonic proficiency of a candidate for advancement may be decided by the Master or by a majority vote of the members present. A Brother may be advanced at any meeting of the lodge subsequent to the day on which he received the degree after being duly examined and found proficient as herein required; provided that four weeks or a minimum of thirty days have expired since the conferring of the last degree.

Section 3. No candidate shall receive more than one degree on the same day, except by dispensation of the Grand Master, nor shall any part of the work be omitted, abridged or shortened, nor any work be used save that recommended or adopted by the Grand Lodge. The explanatory parts of the entered apprentice degree, the obligation in each degree, the second section of the fellow craft's degree, the historical account in the Master Mason's Degree, and the charge in each degree may be given to more than one candidate at the same time, but all other parts of the degrees must be given in full to each candidate separately.

Section 4. There is no limit of time within which an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft may be required to advance; his advancement must be of his own free will and accord.

ARTICLE XX - RIGHT OF VISIT

Section 1. It is the privilege of every Master Mason in good standing to visit a lodge, subject, however, to the right of the lodge, or any member thereof, to object to his admission as a visitor.

Section 2. Objection to a proposed visitor by a member made to the Master of his lodge is not valid during the absence of the objector.

Section 3. A member of a lodge cannot be disciplined for objecting to a Brother, who is not a member, visiting the lodge. Nor can his reasons for objection be inquired into.

Section 4. Objection cannot be made by a member against a District Deputy Grand Master sitting in a lodge, while making an official visit, nor against any elective Grand Lodge officer visiting a lodge.

Section 5. The application of a Mason to visit may be entertained if he be lawfully made. The right to visit is possessed equally by all, who have been made in a constituent lodge in this jurisdiction, or in a lodge subordinate to any Grand Lodge recognized as legitimate by this Grand Lodge and who still remains in good standing. None possess the right who lacks these qualifications.

Section 6. No visitor shall be admitted to any lodge under this jurisdiction unless lawfully vouched for as a Master Mason in good standing. Documentary evidence alone shall not be sufficient to justify avouchment. In addition to strict trial and due examination of his knowledge of masonry; every lodge or

committee shall require a strange visitor to affirm that the lodge of which he is or was formerly a member is working under and by virtue of a charter or dispensation issued by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master recognized by this grand Lodge as having jurisdiction over the country, state, province or territory in which such lodge may be situated.

Section 7. The legal information necessary to enable one Mason to vouch for another may be acquired by sitting together in a regularly constituted lodge of Masons, by an examination authorized by the proper officer of a lodge, or by one Mason definitely stating to another, whom he knows to be a Mason, that he vouches for a third then present with them as a Mason. This information may be passed along indefinitely as long as the conditions herein stated are *met*. No Mason can legally acquire the necessary information to vouch for another by sitting with him in any other lodge than a lodge of Ancient Craft Masons, nor unless the Brother vouched for is actually present.

ARTICLE XXI - DEMISSION

Section 1. All applications for demits shall be made in writing, signed by the applicant, be presented to the lodge at a regular communication, and shall be read in open lodge, and lie over until the next or some subsequent regular meeting, when if the applicant's dues are paid, to the time when his written application was presented, and there are no formal or written charges against him, a demit shall be granted and a record made thereof. An applicant for demission may withdraw by application at any moment before the announcement that the demit is granted, has been made.

Section 2. A demit shall date from the lodge record when the same shall be granted, and membership ceases from and after such date; the Brother so demitted shall be entitled to a copy of such record; but should the Secretary neglect to furnish such copy, or the Brother refuse to receive the same, such neglect or refusal shall not in any manner invalidate the joint action of the application and the lodge.

Section 3. If any Brother shall lose the certificate of his demission, the Secretary of the lodge shall, upon request and satisfactory proof of such loss, furnish him another certificate, with the original date, and the fact of re-issuance, which shall be entered upon the record of the lodge: Limit demit good for sixty (60) days.

Section 4. Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts shall not receive demits, but a lodge may grant them a certificate setting forth their status in the lodge.

Section 5. A Brother who has been tried on charges of unmasonic conduct and acquitted but in whose case an appeal is pending, shall not be permitted to demit until the case is finally disposed of.

Section 6. All demits from outside the Jurisdiction of Indiana must go through the Grand Master for approval for admission into this Jurisdiction. Upon successful vote by the subordinate lodge, the prospective demission should be forwarded to the Grand Master for final disposition of the demit.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

ARTICLE XXII - NON-AFFILIATED MASONS

Section I. All Masons residing in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge should belong to some subordinate lodge, for it is contrary to the usages and precepts of the Masonic fraternity to reside within the jurisdiction of a regular lodge without making an effort to become a member thereof, and a Mason so refusing shall be disciplined therefore.

Section 2. Voluntary non-affiliated Masons shall not be permitted to take part in any of the ceremonies of the lodge, nor shall they of right be entitled to any of the privileges or benefits of masonry, such as Masonic burial, uniting in Masonic processions or celebrations; nor shall they or their families have any claim upon the fraternity for pecuniary aid in cases of misfortune or distress; provided, that nothing herein shall be construed to deprive a lodge, or any member thereof, of the right to render to a non-affiliated Mason aid and assistance, Masonic burial, or any fraternal courtesy (except the privileges of the lodge, when objection is made), they may deem just and proper. If, in such cases, relief is extended or any privileges granted, it shall be done as a courtesy and not accorded as a right.

Section 3. Non-affiliated Masons shall be subject to the discipline of this Grand Lodge or the Lodge in whose jurisdiction they may reside for any violation of the moral law or for Masonic offenses.

ARTICLE XXIII- SPECIAL DISPENSATION

Section 1. All applications to the Grand Master for dispensations to confer any degree shall emanate from a lodge at a regular or special communication, and be concurred in by the unanimous vote of the members present at such meeting; and such application shall set forth fully and clearly the emergency under the seal of the lodge and be signed by the Master and attested by the Secretary.

Section 2. All applications for dispensations for special purposes, not otherwise provided for, may emanate from the Master.

Section 3. The fee for dispensations shall accompany the petition therefore to the Grand Master.

Section 4. All dispensations granted a subordinate lodge shall be entered upon the record of the lodge and prompt report shall be made to the Grand Master of the doings by authority thereof and the number of dispensations granted the lodge and the amount of monies paid for the same shall be reported annually to the Grand Lodge as a part of the returns of the lodge.

ARTICLE XXIV - LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION

Section 1. The formation of new lodges shall be subject to the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 2. No petition to form a new lodge shall be granted by the Grand Master, or ordered by the Grand Lodge, unless the petition shall state the name, number, and location of the respective lodges to which the petitioners belong, or, if unaffiliated, of which they last were members.

Section 3. No dispensation shall be granted unless the petitioners shall have procured a suitable and safe room with convenient ante-rooms, in which to conduct Masonic ceremonies, nor unless the material in the proposed jurisdiction shall be sufficient to sustain a healthy and reputable lodge.

Section 4. Every petition for a new lodge shall set forth the proposed name thereof, the names of the brethren nominated for the first Master and Wardens, the name of the county and place of the proposed location, the population of such place, the time of holding the meeting, the number and location of the nearest lodge, and the distance from the location of the proposed new lodge, provided that no new lodge shall be named after any living person.

Section 5. No dispensation shall be granted for a new lodge, if the proposed location is within five miles of any other lodge in this jurisdiction unless such other lodge has twenty or more members or unless the new lodge is to be located in a town or city having at least ten thousand inhabitants.

Section 6. Every petition for a new lodge shall be accompanied with the demits of all non-affiliated petitioners and lodge certificates that all dues have been paid by all affiliated petitioners, to the date of the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Section 7. In the formation of a new lodge, the recommending lodge must be a chartered lodge. Every recommendation for the formation of a new lodge emanating from a chartered lodge shall certify to the truth of the statements contained in the petition under consideration, and no recommendation shall be granted by any lodge without the affirmative ballot of two-thirds of the members present at a regular communication. Such recommendation shall set forth the date of the meetings of the lodge at which the request was received, and acted upon, the number of votes cast for and against the same, and the number of members belonging to the lodge so recommending. Any lodge in a city where concurrent jurisdiction exists may recommend the formation of a new lodge in such city. In all places outside of such concurrent jurisdiction it must be the nearest lodge, whether within or without corporate limits; provided that when the nearest lodge is within the city the consent of the nearest outside lodge whose territorial jurisdiction is abridged must also be obtained.

Section 8. Whenever a chartered lodge shall recommend the formation of a new lodge, it shall be held to thereby code territorial jurisdiction to the new lodge.

Section 9. No charter shall be issued to a lodge under dispensation until it shall have conferred the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason, in manner and form as prescribed by the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Section 10. Every lodge, while working under dispensation, shall strictly conform to the requirements except those, which refer to election and installation of officers.

Section 11. Every dispensation shall be copied at length upon the records of the lodge, and the charter, when issued, shall be recorded in like manner.

Section 12. Every lodge under dispensation shall make its return to the Grand Lodge on or before the first day of its session next succeeding the date of its dispensation, and a record of its proceedings. After

making such return, no lodge meeting shall be held until the Grand Lodge shall grant a charter, and the requirements of Section 14 of this Article are complied with.

Section 13. All lodges organized under dispensation after the first of July shall be exempt from so much of the requirements of the last preceding section as refer to the time of making returns, but shall fully comply therewith at the Annual Grand Communication to be held one year thereafter; provided that the continuance of such dispensation shall be sanctioned by an endorsement thereon by the Grand Master.

Section 14. Every newly chartered lodge shall be duly constituted, and its officers properly installed by the Grand Master or his special representative, assisted by an occasional Grand Lodge, before said new lodge can work or do business under its charter. As soon as a lodge has been given a Warrant of Constitution, it shall present at its first communication a code of By-Laws conforming with the By-Laws adopted by this Grand Lodge for the government of subordinate lodges and submit the same to the Grand Lodge for its approval, and upon being approved by the Grand Lodge, it shall become the law of the lodge.

Section 15. Every lodge under dispensation shall pay dues as prescribed for chartered lodges.

Section 16. A Brother joining in a petition for a dispensation for a new lodge shall not thereby sever his membership from the charter lodge of which he may be a member, but shall be liable for dues to the new lodge from the date of the dispensation and to the chartered lodge to the date of the charter issued to the new lodge, unless he shall be sooner demitted.

Section 17. A Brother, on becoming a charter member of a new lodge, shall be thereby demitted from the elder lodge, and the master of the new lodge shall cause immediate notice to be sent to the elder lodge of the name of such member; provided that this section shall not be construed as to permit a member or a lodge in this jurisdiction to become a member of a chartered lodge until he has obtained a regular demit from the lodge of which he was a member, or has honorably withdrawn.

Section 18. A petition for a charter should have attached a certificate of the names of the brethren contained in the original letters of dispensation and the names of such brethren as may have been made Masons while the lodge was working under dispensation. These brethren cannot be debarred from signing the petition for a charter, nor shall any other names than those specified be entered in the charter.

Section 19. The Master of a lodge under dispensation shall not be amenable to discipline by any chartered lodge during his official term; but in case such dispensation be annulled or a charter withheld, the lodge of original jurisdiction may take cognizance of the conduct of such Master, unless the same shall be of a strictly official character.

Section 20. Lodges under dispensation shall comply strictly with these By-Laws, and no exception shall be made by the Grand Master or anyone else in reference to fees.

ARTICLE XXV - ANNUAL RETURNS

Section 1. The fiscal year of all constituent lodges shall commence on the first day of July and end on

the thirtieth day of June of each year, and the payment of Grand Lodge dues and Mortuary Relief taxes, of each shall be paid to the Grand Secretary, on or before the 15th day of May of each year. The returns of work shall be in the hands of the Grand Secretary on or before the 15th day of May each year. The returns shall embrace a complete list of officers, Past Master, and members, number of all dispensations granted, of all initiations, passing and raisings, of the number of degrees conferred, of all admissions, rejections, suspensions, expulsions, reinstatements, demission, and deaths, with their respective dates, the amount of money taken in or received by the lodge during the year, the amount paid out or disbursed, the total balance on hand, total amount of liabilities, total amount of assets, total expended for charity and such other matters as may be required by the blank form; which returns shall be under the seal of the lodge and signed by the Master and attested by the Secretary. The returns shall also state the number of members of the lodge reported at the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, and the number of persons who subsequently become members. Failure to make the returns and payments as provided herein shall subject the lodge neglecting to the penalties of being denied representation and participation by lodges present at Grand Lodge Annual Communication vote to deny, or other penalties as provided in the Grand Lodge Constitution. The willfully making of false returns render the Master and Secretary liable to be removed from office by the Grand Master and such other punishments as the Grand Lodge may inflict.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

ARTICLE XXVI – ANNUAL DUES

Section I. Every lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge annual dues shall be due in full on January 1st of each year. Every lodge shall pay Grand Lodge and Mortuary Relief taxes on or before May 15th, each year.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

Section 2. Where a lodge is in arrears for the taxes mentioned in the preceding section for more than one year, any payment made must be applied to the taxes of the year farthest back, for granting an extension on payment of taxes or any other indebtedness must be in accordance with the Grand Lodge Constitution.

ARTICLE XXVII - MORTUARY RELIEF FUND

Section 1. Every lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall participate in the Mortuary Relief Fund and must supply the Grand Secretary with a correct listing of all members of the Lodge and collect and transmit each member's donation each quarter for every member of the lodge on appropriate form to the Grand Secretary's office.

Section 2. Every lodge must maintain a list of named beneficiaries of each member on forms to be provided by the Grand Secretary. Beneficiaries may be the wife, child, father, mother, sister, brother, any person, or entity who will become in need by the death of the participant. The designation must be in writing and contain the signature of the member and date designation was made.

Section 3. Upon the affiliation of a new member, reinstatement of former member, the Lodge is to make proper notice and submit fees as required to the Grand Secretary.

Section 4. Upon notification of death of the member, the Lodge Secretary must submit proof of Death to the Grand Secretary designating appropriate beneficiary.

Section 5. The Grand Secretary shall send to the Lodge Secretary a check draft for the relief benefits as has been established by the Mortuary Relief Board made out to the beneficiary as designated.

Section 6. Local Lodge Secretary and Worshipful Master must deliver benefits to donee. Proof of delivery must be returned to and registered with the Grand Secretary.

Section 7. All undesignated benefits revert to the Grand Lodge or may be applied to funeral costs.

ARTICLE XXVIII - REPRESENTATION IN THE GRAND LODGE AND PROXIES

Section 1. The Master and Wardens are the legal representatives for their lodge in the Grand Lodge. Whenever the Master and Wardens of a lodge shall be unable to attend the Communication of the Grand Lodge, the lodge may depute any Past Master who is a member of the lodge, in good standing, as proxy to represent the lodge in the Grand Lodge, and the proxy so deputed shall be entitled to the same privileges and subject to the same penalties as the legal representatives to the lodge; such deputizing shall be in writing and signed by the Master and Wardens and under the seal of the lodge and attested by the Secretary.

Section 2. Only one person can be deputed to represent a lodge at one and the same Communication of the Grand Lodge. Where a legal representative of the lodge is present, no one can act as representative by proxy for the lodge. No Brother shall represent more than one lodge at the same Communication, either as the legal representative of said lodge or as a representative by proxy. No one shall represent a lodge as proxy except the lodge of which he is a member in good standing. No Brother shall represent his lodge, as proxy except he is a Past Master in good standing in the lodge. All commissions as proxies shall expire with the closing of the Grand Lodge Communication.

Section 3. No one but a lodge can be represented by proxy in any Communication of the Grand Lodge. The right of the legal representative to represent their lodge in the Grand Lodge cannot be denied or abridged by the lodge or Grand Lodge.

Section 4. A Lodge in a regular communication may, by a majority vote, instruct its Master and Wardens or representatives on any subject to be considered in the Grand Lodge, and such instructions shall be binding upon such representatives.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of the lodge to pay and advance the reasonable expenses of its legal representative incurred, or to be incurred, in attending a Communication of the Grand Lodge. A lodge cannot refuse to send all of its legal representatives to the Communications of the Grand Lodge if its finances will warrant it. It is an imperative duty of all legal representatives of a lodge to attend the Communications of the Grand Lodge. A willful refusal to perform this duty is a violation of the moral law.

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the subordinate lodge selected to entertain the Grand Lodge at its

Annual Communication to prepare in its entirety its souvenir program for the Grand Communication, and to submit same to the Most Worshipful Grand Master not less than thirty days before the convening of the Grand Session for his approval or modification.

ARTICLE XXIX - DISSOLUTION OF LODGES

Section 1. A lodge may be dissolved:

1. By the voluntary surrendering of its charter.
2. By the revocation of its charter by the Grand Lodge.

Section 2. The charter of a lodge may be surrendered if the proposition be presented to a regular communication thereof, and the same be acted upon at a subsequent regular communication, of which all the members whose residences are known shall have due and timely notice, but no charter can be surrendered as long as seven Master Masons, members of the lodge, desire to continue to work under it in accordance with the laws of masonry, and the laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge.

Section 3. The charter of a lodge may be revoked or suspended for the causes mentioned in the Constitution, Article XVI, Section 3.

Section 4. No charter shall be suspended or revoked except for cause, of which the lodge shall have due notice, and an opportunity to be heard; provided, the Grand Master may suspend the charter of a lodge until the sitting of the Grand Lodge

Section 5. Upon the revocation or suspension of the charter of any lodge, or if from any other cause a lodge shall become dormant, it shall be the duty of the last Master, Treasurer, or Secretary thereof, to surrender to the District Deputy (subject to the orders of the Grand Master), the charter, books, paper, jewels, furniture, moneys, or other property belonging to said lodge, within two months from the time of such revocation, suspension of becoming dormant, and every member of a lodge who shall refuse to make such surrender, or who shall, by vote or otherwise, make any other disposition of said effects than as herein designated, shall be liable to Masonic discipline for violating the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge. All moneys accruing from property as herein prescribed shall belong to the funds of the Masonic foundation.

Section 6. If at any time it shall be found necessary to suspend or revoke the charter of any lodge under this jurisdiction for irregular or unmasonic conduct, the members of such lodge implicated in such conduct shall be subject to discipline by the Grand Lodge.

Section 7. Upon the dissolution of a lodge for any cause, its members who are not subject to the provisions of the last preceding section, upon payment of any back dues to the Grand Secretary, shall be entitled to a certificate from that officer, setting forth their Masonic standing, which certificate shall be recognized in this jurisdiction in lieu of a regular demit.

Section 8. Whenever any lodge shall cease to work for six months, the nearest lodge or lodges may

exercise jurisdiction over the territory and act upon petitions from citizens residing therein, unless cause for such cessation shall be presented to and be deemed satisfactory by the Grand Master.

Section 9. When a lodge has taken action in any matter and has afterward ceased to exist any further action required or authorized by law, including the completion of unfinished work, shall be performed by the lodge acquiring jurisdiction, but entered apprentices or fellow crafts so advanced shall not become members of said lodge without being duly elected therein.

Section 10. A lodge whose functions have been suspended by the Grand Master does not lose jurisdiction over its rejected material until its charter has been declared vacated by the Grand Lodge.

Section 11. When a lodge ceases to exist, its members can petition any lodge having territorial or concurrent jurisdiction. Personal jurisdiction belongs to the lodge and ceases when it becomes defunct.

Section 12. Any Mason who shall be present at or assist in the work of a lodge, knowing its charter or warrant to have been suspended or revoked, shall be liable to discipline of suspension or expulsion.

Section 13. When any charter shall be declared vacated by the Grand Lodge, it shall be erased from the register, and its number shall not be again used upon a charter in this jurisdiction.

ARTICLE XXX - CONSOLIDATION OF LODGES

Section 1. Any two or more lodges may consolidate their membership into one lodge, provided that the proposition for such consolidation shall be presented at a regular communication of the lodges interested, and shall not be acted upon until a subsequent regular meeting, of which all the members shall have due notice, and such consolidation shall only be affected by a three-fourths vote of the members present when such proposition shall be acted upon.

Section 2. When the consolidation shall have been accomplished as provided in Section I of this Article, the matter shall be reported to the Grand Lodge, and if approved by the Grand Lodge, the consolidation shall be declared perfected and a new special charter shall be issued upon the payment of a appropriate fee, containing the names of the new officers and bearing the number of one of the said lodges and such name as may have been selected.

Section 3. The title to all property and effects of the lodges so united shall be vested in the lodge named in the new charter, and such new lodge shall be duly constituted, and its officers installed by the Grand Master or his proxy, before it shall lawfully act under said charter.

ARTICLE XXXI - CHARTER OR WARRANT

Section 1. Whenever the charter or warrant of a lodge shall be destroyed, stolen or surreptitiously taken and detained, without the fault of the lodge or Master, it shall be the duty of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master to cause a duplicate charter to be issued, upon the payment of a appropriate fee, bearing the original name and number together with the names of the original Grand Officers and charter members,

supplemented with the cause of its issue, and signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary, and under the seal of the Grand Lodge.

Section 2. The master shall have the custody and care of the charter of the lodge at all times, and it should be present at all meetings of the lodge, but its temporary absence through accident or other unavoidable cause shall not invalidate the actions of the lodge so long as no act of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master has suspended the functions of the lodge.

Section 3. Whenever the charter of a lodge shall become so defaced or illegible as to be unfit for use, the Grand Lodge or Grand Master may, upon satisfactory proof of such information, and the payment of a appropriate fee to the Grand Secretary, cause a new charter to be issued in the manner provided in Section I of this Article.

Section 4. When a lodge desires to change its name, a resolution to that effect embodying the new name shall be introduced at a regular meeting, and action thereon deferred to the next or some subsequent regular meeting, Notice of the proposed change and the date of voting thereon shall be given to all members. If the proposed change is favored by a two-thirds ballot, the Secretary shall, under seal, certify the fact to the Grand Secretary thirty days previous to the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, and he shall transmit the same to the Committee on Petitions. If the Grand Lodge consents to the change, the Grand Master, Wardens, and Secretary shall sign a proper certificate to be appended to the Lodge charter.

ARTICLE XXXII - SUMMONS

Section 1. Every summons issued by the Grand Lodge or a chartered lodge shall be written or printed, attested by the seal of the lodge and signed by the Grand Master or Grand Secretary in the case of the Grand Lodge and Master or Secretary in the case of the subordinate lodge. All summons will be binding upon written notice to the last known address of the member. The written notice shall be by certified mail or personally served by two or more brothers of the lodge.

(Modified during Grand Lodge Special Session, November 5, 2022)

Section 2. Every Mason shall faithfully obey a summons issued and served upon him if within his power under the penalty of suspension or expulsion for contempt of the lodge, unless excused in the case of a subordinate lodge for reasons satisfactory to the majority of members present and in the case of the Grand Lodge, for reasons satisfactory to the Grand Master or Grand Lodge.

Section 3. Upon every summons, due return shall be made of the services thereof.

ARTICLE XXXIII - OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS - PUBLIC APPEARING

Section 1. Every document or paper whatsoever designed for masonic use, emanating from a chartered lodge, to be valid, shall have an impression of its seal affixed and be attested by the Secretary, and should be under the signature of the Master of the lodge.

Section 2. No Mason under this jurisdiction shall appear in any public procession, nor in any private or

public assembly with masonic regalia unless under the auspices of some regular lodge; nor shall any lodge unless by special dispensation of the Grand Master, take part in any public procession except to perform or assist in some ceremony recognized as strictly masonic, such as burying the fraternal dead, public installation of officers, laying cornerstones, dedicating masonic halls, etc. No masonic lodge can properly be seen in public merely for show or to help others to make a show. Masonic Lodges cannot act as escort to any other body, whether other organizations are composed in part or wholly as Masons. All public processions must be in Masonic dress.

ARTICLE XXXIV - RULES OF ORDER-ORDER OF BUSINESS WHICH MAY BE CHANGED BY THE GRAND LODGE AT ANYTIME

Section 1. After a lodge has been opened according to the formalities of the order, the first thing to be done is the calling of the roll of officers and reading of the minutes of the preceding Communication. Minutes are read for information purposes, but are then to be corrected and confirmed by a vote of the lodge, if they were not approved at the end of the previous meeting.

Section 2. No lodge can at an extra or special meeting alter or amend the proceedings of a regular meeting.

Section 3. The lodge being opened and the minutes read, it may then proceed to business, which will generally commence with the consideration of the unfinished business left over from the last meeting. But the order of business is strictly under the direction of the Master, who may exercise his own discretion in the selection of the matters which are to come before the lodge, subject, of course, for an arbitrary or oppressive control of the business, to an appeal to the Grand Lodge.

Section 4. No alarms should be attended to the door, nor members or visitors admitted during the time of opening or closing the lodge, or reading the minutes.

Section 5. All votes, except those required by the laws of the Grand Lodge, to be taken by ballot, must be taken by a show of hands, and the Senior Warden will count and report to the Master, who declares the result.

Section 6. No lodge can be resolved into a "Committee of the whole".

Section 7. The minutes of a meeting shall be read at its close, that errors may at once be corrected and omissions supplied by the suggestion of those who are present during the transactions; these minutes are to be finally confirmed and read at the next regular communication for information purposes only.

Section 8. Masonic decorum requires that during the transaction of business, the brethren shall not entertain any private discourse, or in any other way disturb the harmony of the lodge.

RULES OF DEBATE

Section 9. No Brother can speak more than once on any subject until all the other brethren present shall

have an opportunity to speak, and then only with the permission of the presiding officer.

Section 10. Every Brother must address the presiding officer standing; he must confine himself to the question under debate, and avoid personalities.

Section 11. Any Brother who transgresses this rule may be called to order, in which case the presiding officer shall immediately decide the point of order, from which decision there can be no appeal to the lodge.

Section 12. When two or more brethren rise at once in debate, the Master shall name the Brother who is first to speak and then the others.

Section 13. No motion can be put unless it is seconded, and if required, it must be reduced to writing.

Section 14. Before the question is put on any motion, it should be distinctly stated by the presiding officer.

Section 15. When a question is under debate, no motion can be received but to lay on the table; to postpone to a certain time; to commit; to amend, or to postpone indefinitely, which several motions, by parliamentary usage, have precedence in the order in which they are arranged, and no motion to postpone to a certain time, to commit, or to postpone indefinitely, being decided, is again allowed at the same communication.

Section 16. When motions are made to refer a subject to different committees, the question must be taken in the order in which the motions were made.

Section 17. When a motion has been once made and carried in the affirmative or negative, it is in order for any member who voted in the majority to move for reconsideration thereof at the same communication.

Section 18. When an amendment is proposed, a member who has already spoken to the main question may again speak to the amendment.

Section 19. Amendments may be made so as totally to alter the nature of the proposition, and a new resolution may be engrafted, by way of amendment, on the word "resolved".

Section 20. Any member may call for a division of a question, which division will take place if a majority of the members consent.

Section 21. A motion to lay on the table is not debatable, nor is one in the Grand Lodge to close the session on a given day.

Section 22. A motion for adjournment is unmasonic and cannot be entertained. The Master alone has the right of closing his lodge at will.

Section 23. No motion for the "previous question" can be admitted. The previous question being unknown to Ancient Masonry, should find no resting place in a regular Masonic lodge.

COMMITTEES

Section 24. All committees must be appointed by the Master, unless otherwise specially provided for, and the first one named on the committee shall act as chairman; but no one should be appointed on a committee who is opposed to the matter that is referred.

Section 25. A committee may meet when and where it pleases, if the lodge has not specified a time and place. But a committee can only act when together, and not by a separate consultation and consent.

Section 26. The report of a committee may be read by the chairman, or other member in his place, or by the Secretary of the lodge.

Section 27. A majority of a committee constitutes a quorum for business.

Section 28. When a report has been read, if no objections are made, it is considered as accepted: but if objections are made. the question must be put on its acceptance.

Section 29. If the report contains nothing which requires action. but ends with resolutions, the question must be on agreeing to the resolutions.

Section 30. If the report embodies matters of legislation, the question must be on adopting the report, and on agreeing to the resolution, if resolutions are appended to it, the acceptance of the report, either tacitly or by vote, disposes of it.

Section 31. Reports may be recommitted at any time before final action has been taken on them.

Section 32. Elections in all subordinate lodges of this Grand Lodge shall be held in accordance with the rules and regulations of this Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XXXV - CLUBS AND AUXILIARIES

Section 1. Any subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction shall have the power and authority to permit the organization of clubs and auxiliaries to be organized from among the membership of the lodge, and such clubs when so organized, shall adopt a set of By-Laws which, among other things, shall contain the following articles and provisions:

- A. The purpose for which this club is organized is to promote the purely social relationships among the members of the lodge, to aid the lodge in building up a strong and prosperous treasury.
- B. To assist the lodge in building its membership.
- C. To instruct and train its members intensively in the ritualistic work of the order.
- D. To engage in all cultural and beneficent activities in behalf of the parent lodge, consonant with the sound practices masonry.

Section 2. All members of the parent Lodge shall be eligible for membership in the club.

Section 3. The club shall elect its own officers from among its membership. Consideration should be given to establishing the lodge's secretary and treasurer as the Club Secretary and Treasurer, where possible.

Section 4. All funds of the club shall be deposited in a reputable bank and shall not be withdrawn there from except by check issued and signed by the secretary and treasurer of the club, and counter-signed by the president.

Section 5. The secretary and treasurer of the club shall be bonded by a reputable surety company and the premium for said bonds shall be paid from the treasury of the parent lodge, and said bonds on said officers shall be held by the Worshipful Master of the lodge. The said club shall make a financial report to the parent lodge signed by its secretary and treasurer of the parent lodge all funds in its possession in excess of Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars, which fund so turned over to the lodge treasurer shall be deposited with the general funds of the lodge, but shall be segregated on the financial records of the lodge for the purposes of identifying its source.

Section 6. The club may, in making its semi-annual report to the lodge, direct that certain portions of its funds so turned over to the parent lodge may be earmarked and used for a specific purpose, provided, however, that such purposes thus indicated, shall be in harmony with the policy of the lodge and in keeping with the customs and practices of masonry.

Section 7. In event any dispute or controversy should arise within the club, and if the same cannot be settled therein, the same shall be reported to the parent lodge, which shall adjudicate the same, with the right of appeal as provided for in all other matters involving subordinate lodges.

Section 8. The By-Laws of the club shall be submitted to the parent lodge for its approval, modification or rejection. The organization of a club or auxiliary of a subordinate lodge is regarded as a commendable and meritorious form of lodge activity and the growth and promotion of them is to be fostered and assisted.

**BY-LAWS OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL
GRAND LODGE, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF THE JURISDICTION OF INDIANA**

**CHAPTER III
Relative to Discipline and Procedure**

ARTICLE I - PENAL POWERS

Section 1. The Grand Lodge shall have the right and authority to discipline and punish any Mason belonging to the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction and also affiliated and nonaffiliated Masons, except the Grand Master, residing in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and may exercise any and all of its powers and authority under the Constitution for Masonic discipline and punishment; and every subordinate lodge, when the Grand Lodge does not assume original jurisdiction, shall have the right, and it shall be its duty to exercise discipline over all of its members, wherever residing and over all nonaffiliated, as well as affiliated Masons (except present Master, the Grand Lodge Elected Officers and the Grand Master), residing or sojourning within its territorial jurisdiction for any violation of the moral or Masonic law.

Section 2. Any Master Mason may prefer charges against a Brother in the Grand Lodge which said charges shall be put in writing and filed with the Grand Secretary, who shall immediately present the same to the Grand Master and upon the Grand Master receiving such charges, he may appoint a commission of not less than seven Past Masters to fairly and impartially hear and receive all evidence and report the same, together with their findings and recommendations to the Grand Lodge; provided the Grand Lodge may proceed to try the accused before its body without appointing a commission; and provided also the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge may refer the charges to the subordinate lodge of which the accused is a member, for trial, and may order it to try the accused, except in cases of trials of Worshipful Masters, Grand Lodge elective offices and subordinate lodges. It is the sense of this Grand Lodge, that all cases of which a subordinate lodge has jurisdiction which are begun in the Grand Lodge shall be referred to such subordinate lodge for trial except in extreme cases which the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master may deem in the best interest of the fraternity, that the same be tried by the Grand Lodge.

Section 3. Any member of a lodge may prefer charges against an offending Brother, but to further administration of justice it shall be the special duty of the Junior Warden, in the absence of other accusers, to take steps to bring to trial all Masonic offenders.

Section 4. In case of offending Masons who are members of any other lodge, the lodge within whose jurisdiction the offender resides, or is sojourning, shall, in case the offender shall be suspended or expelled, give notice thereof to the lodge of which he may be or shall have last been a member. A nonaffiliated Mason residing within the jurisdiction of one lodge and having his place of business in another is sojourning in the latter, and is amenable to that lodge and to the Grand Lodge for any Masonic offense committed therein.

Section 5. A suspended Mason, charged with unmasonic conduct, which, if established, would justify a greater punishment than he is undergoing, may be arraigned for trial and if found guilty adequate punishment be inflicted.

Section 6. A lodge cannot by its By-Laws, deprive a Brother of his rights, except as the result of a trial and judgment of a tribunal having jurisdiction under the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, nor can the relation a Mason sustains to the fraternity at the time of his death be changed.

Section 7. No lodge, or member thereof, shall publish in any newspaper, magazine, pamphlet, or circular, or otherwise make public the details of any trial therein, except the result, decision, sentence or judgment of the lodge.

Section 8. The presence of visitors in a lodge during any of the proceedings of a Masonic trial shall be optional with the lodge or the Master, except as provided in Section 4. Article V of this chapter. In case of a trial before a commission appointed by the Grand Master, the presence of visitors shall be optional with the commission, except as above provided.

Section 9. In all cases of trials for Masonic offenses where the Master of a lodge is defendant, said trial shall be had in the Grand Lodge as provided in Section 2 of this Article. No lodge shall have the jurisdiction to try its Master for any offense. In all cases where a lodge is a party to the controversy, the trial shall be had by the Grand Lodge as provided in Section 2 of this Article. Where a subordinate lodge has no jurisdiction to try a Brother alleged to have committed an offense, the Grand Lodge shall take jurisdiction and try him, (Except the Grand Master).

Section 10. When the Grand Master or Grand Lodge shall transfer the charges filed in the Grand Lodge to a subordinate lodge for trial of an accused Mason, it shall be the duty of such lodge, within thirty (30) days from the time the charges are transferred to it, to proceed and fairly try the accused, in the same manner as if the charges had been filed in the lodge in the first instance; provided, that in such cases the Junior Warden, in his official capacity, shall sign the charges as the accuser and the Master shall see that his name is so attached and that the case is impartially and fairly tried.

Section 11. When the Master of a lodge is in fact the accuser or directly connected with the subject matter of the charges preferred against a Brother Mason, the Master of the lodge shall lay the matter before the Grand Master and thereupon the Grand Master shall appoint his District Deputy or specially deputize a Past Master to preside at the trial of such an accused Brother. In no case shall a lodge place a Brother on trial with the Master sitting as the presiding officer and the accuser; provided that this section does not apply in cases of contempt or contumacy. All actions taken by the Master or lodge in violation of this section are void.

ARTICLE II - MASONIC OFFENSES

Section 1. A masonic offense is the violation of masonic obligations, or an oath and obligation of a Mason, or the violation of the moral law, the masonic law, or the Constitution, Laws, Edicts, or Regulations of the Grand Lodge, or the commission of any act, which tends to impair the good name of

masonry. Every Mason guilty of a masonic offense shall be punished by expulsion, suspension, or reprimand.

Section 2. For the commission of masonic offenses, a lodge shall take cognizance and shall give a fair and impartial trial and upon conviction, shall administer adequate punishment; provided; that in such cases the Grand Lodge has not taken original jurisdiction for the trial of the accused and in all cases where the Grand Lodge takes original jurisdiction for the trial of the accused, the subordinate lodge shall not have jurisdiction in such cases, but, the decision and judgment of the Grand Lodge shall be conclusive and binding upon both the subordinate lodge and the accused.

Section 3. The punishments, which a lodge may inflict for the offenses mentioned in Section I of this Article, are reprimand, suspension, or expulsion; provided, that in all cases of suspension and expulsion, the matter shall be reported to the Grand Lodge, and the action of the grand Lodge in such case shall be final and conclusive both upon the accused and the subordinate lodge.

Section 4. The Grand Lodge may take cognizance of any or all masonic offenses or unmasonic conduct and may inflict such punishment upon the guilty as it shall deem just and adequate.

ARTICLE III- PRESENTATION OF CHARGES AND SPECIFICATIONS

Section 1. All charges of unmasonic conduct (that is of masonic offense), shall be made in writing specifying with reasonable certainty the character of the offense alleged, and the time and place of its commission, as near as may be practicable, and be signed by the accuser, who must be an affiliated Master Mason in good standing. Charges must be so explicit that the accused will have a fair understanding of what he has to answer. If a Master discovers that the lodge has entertained charges manifestly too vague, he should, in his official capacity, refuse to proceed until they can be properly framed, and in the case of trials in the Grand Lodge, if the Grand Master discovers that the charges are manifestly too vague for the accused to make answer there unto and understand of what offense he is charged, he shall refuse to proceed until the charges can be properly framed.

Section 2. All charges and specifications, for trial in the subordinate lodges, shall be filed with the Secretary of the lodges; if received at regular meeting, they shall be then and there read; if received during recess of the lodge, said charges shall be read the next regular communication thereafter, of which meeting all members shall have due notice provided, that in case where the magnitude of an offense demands or where the lodge or Master shall deem it for the best interest of masonry, the matter may be read and received at a special communication of the lodge, called for that purpose, of which due notice shall be given the members.

Section 3. The trial of charges may proceed at any meetings appointed for that purpose, and continue until completed.

Section 4. When a Brother is charged with a masonic offense or unmasonic conduct, he being at the time of confinement for an offense against the state, the Grand Lodge, the Commissioners or the lodge need not, after having given him due notice and reasonable time and opportunity to prepare his defense, wait

for his term of imprisonment to expire, but may proceed with the trial to a final hearing without his presence, as provided in Section 3 of the following Article.

Section 5. In the trial of masonic offenses there is no statute of limitations.

ARTICLE IV - RECEPTION OF CHARGES

Section 1. In case where the charges are filed with the Grand Secretary, the Grand Master, upon the receipt of such charges shall not place the accused upon trial unless within his judgment an offense has been cited in the charges and when the charges have once been received by him, or the Grand Lodge, or transferred or initiated in a subordinate lodge, they cannot be withdrawn.

Section 2. Immediately upon the acceptance of charges by a lodge the Master shall appoint the time and place for trial. It shall be the duty of the Master to cause the accused to be served with a duly attested copy of the charges and specifications, and citation stating the time and place appointed for the trial thereof, and to give notice of the same to all members of the lodge; provided, that the accused shall be entitled to a reasonable time and an opportunity to prepare his defense.

Section 3. If the accused shall neglect or refuse to attend in person, after notice has been duly served on him personally, by reason of his residence being unknown, or his being beyond the jurisdiction of the lodge and the limits of the county in which the lodge is located, then a copy of such notice shall be sent to him by mail, addressed to him at his last known place of residence, and upon proof that the notice has been sent to him as herein prescribed, the lodge at the time in such notice specified may proceed, without his presence, with the trial to a final judgment; provided that in trials by the Grand Lodge a similar procedure shall be followed, but twenty days shall intervene between the time of mailing such notice and the time of the hearing and the proceedings of the trial. In such cases the lodge shall appoint a competent Brother to act in behalf of the accused, but this shall not be construed to give said representative any claim against the lodge for service unless the lodge specifically agrees thereto at the time of the appointment, and likewise in the trial of such cases before the Grand Lodge.

Section 4. In every case where a flagrant offense shall be committed by any Mason present while the lodge is at its labor, the foregoing rules requiring notice and delay may be dispensed with; and the Master may order the offending Brother to show cause instantly why he should not be punished.

ARTICLE V - WITNESS AND TESTIMONY

Section 1. Every Mason in good standing shall give his testimony upon his honor as a Mason. He shall be a man of sound mind.

Section 2. All witnesses in masonic trials who are not Masons shall be any person of sound mind, of such religious belief as to feel the obligations of an oath, which may be administered by any competent legal officer.

Section 3. The evidence of both the accuser and the accused, if offered, shall be received in any masonic

trial. The status of a Mason under charges is not affected until after conviction.

Section 4. The testimony of witnesses who are Masons may be taken in open lodge or by a special committee appointed by the Master. Witnesses who are not Masons shall be examined by a committee. In either case the accused and the accuser, in person or by attorney, shall be entitled to be present and propound such relevant questions as they may desire; provided, that the attorney must be a Master Mason in good standing. A Mason employed as counsel by a brother on trial, or the accuser or by the lodge is not to be considered as a visitor during such trial, and therefore cannot be excluded. If an accused Mason, whose trial is pending, appears before the commissioners, lodge or the committee taking the evidence and persists in such boisterous and indecorous conduct, as to prevent the evidence being taken in his presence, the commissioners, lodge or the committee would be warranted in ejecting him and taking the evidence in his absence. A committee appointed by a lodge to take evidence in a trial cannot squash or modify the charge and specifications. It can only take evidence and report the same.

Section 5. The testimony of any witness unable to attend the commission of the lodge, may be taken by deposition before a properly authorized person or persons, due notice of the time and place having first been given.

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the accused and accuser to secure the attendance of their respective witnesses who are not Masons, and through the Master and Secretary of the lodge, they may, when necessary, summons for such purpose any resident Mason, and in trials before the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master or the Grand Secretary shall summons any Master Mason in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to appear before the Grand Lodge or commission and give testimony.

Section 7. When testimony is taken in open lodge, the lodge shall be opened on the highest degree to which the accused has attained in Ancient Craft Masonry; but the decision as to guilt or innocence and the question of punishment, shall be severally determined in and by a lodge of Master Masons.

Section 8. The Master shall decide all questions arising as to the relevancy of the evidence and the regularity of the proceedings; and the Secretary shall take down or cause to be taken down in writing all the evidence submitted by both the prosecutor and defense, and note all objections made by either party, and the rulings of the Master; and the record thereof shall be filed among the archives of the lodge; and the main facts of the case shall be entered upon the lodge records. In the case of trials by a commission appointed by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master, the chairman of the commissioners shall decide all questions arising as to the relevancy of evidence and the regularity of the proceedings and he shall appoint a secretary for the commission and shall take down in writing all the evidence submitted by both the prosecution and the defense and note all objections made by either party and the rulings of the chairman of the commissioners; and that after the hearing all evidence and the arguments in the case, the commissioners shall exclude all parties not members of the commission and consider their verdict and recommendations which shall be unanimous. The records of the trial and conviction of an accused Mason of felony or misdemeanor in any way in a Court, whose judgment stands unreversed, shall be prima facie evidence of his guilt, and sufficient to warrant a conviction in trials before subordinate lodges, but the same shall not preclude the accused from showing a miscarriage of justice and his innocence. In all trials, the case must be conducted according to rules laid down by the Grand Lodge

which require Grand Lodge commissioners to hear and consider all evidence before voting upon the question of guilt, or innocence, or punishment, and which require in trials before subordinate lodges, that the members of the lodges who sit as jurors in the case shall hear and consider all evidence before voting on the question of guilt or innocence or punishment.

Section 9. At the conclusion of the evidence the accuser and the accused in person, or through their attorneys, may if they desire, address such relevant remarks to the lodge or tribunal upon the merits of the case as may be deemed proper, after which the accused and the accuser shall retire from the lodge or tribunal and remain in an anteroom until the final decision; provided, that if the Junior Warden shall be the accuser, in his official capacity, he shall not be obliged to retire; after which any member entitled to vote may express his views of the case and of the law and the facts involved and no member shall be permitted to withdraw from the lodge until after [mal action, except for urgent cause, and by consent of two thirds of the members present.

Section 10. When a committee is appointed, as provided in Section 4 of this Article, it shall consist of not less than three members of the lodge, either of whom, if objected to by either of the parties for cause, may be removed by the Master and another appointed.

Section 11. Every such committee shall convene and select from their number a secretary, and when so organized shall have power, through the Master and Secretary of the lodge, to summon before them the accused and accuser with their respective witnesses.

Section 12. The proceedings before the committee shall be reduced to writing and returned to the lodge without any finding or comment by the committee.

Section 13. The committee may sit whenever and as often as it may deem best for the interest of masonry' provided, that every trial begun shall be prosecuted with as much dispatch as the law covering the same, and full justice to the accused and accuser, will permit.

Section 14. Any Brother against whom charges have been preferred, shall be summoned to make answer thereto on or before a certain date and he may deny or admit any portion or the whole of the said charges and specifications and upon his refusal to plead to said charges, a plea of not guilty may be entered for him; provided, that if his whereabouts are not known or if he is confined in prison, instead of issuing a summons for him, a notice shall be mailed to him to his last known place of residence.

Section 15. In case an accused Brother shall plead guilty to either of the charges or specifications, such plea may be accepted as evidence, and the lodge or Grand lodge commissioners may take such other evidence, as they may desire, but such plea shall not excuse the Grand Commission or the lodge from voting upon the question of guilt or innocence. An unauthorized plea of guilty, entered in the absence of the accused by an attorney who has been appointed to defend him, cannot be accepted by a lodge or Grand Lodge Commission as a bar to the taking of a testimony.

ARTICLE VI - THE VERDICT AND JUDGMENT

Section 1. Upon the conclusion of trials by a Grand Lodge Commission, they shall vote upon the question of guilty or not guilty and their verdict shall be unanimous, and in case of trials before subordinate lodges, after the conclusions of the trial, the Master shall put the question of guilty or not guilty before the lodge and each Member present shall be required to vote by ballot and it shall require two thirds vote of the members present to find the accused guilty. In trials before the Grand Lodge, the vote shall also be by ballot.

Section 2. In the case of the Grand Lodge Commission, if their verdict is guilty, the question shall be put as to the amount of punishment, beginning with that of expulsion, and if that is not sustained, then suspension, and if that is not sustained, then next reprimand. Whatever penalty is decide upon, it must be by unanimous vote of the commissioners, and in case of trials before subordinate lodges, if the accused is found guilty, then the Master shall put the question as to the amount of punishment, beginning with the greatest, and if not sustained the next grade and so on, ending with the least masonic penalty in order. The vote of two thirds of the members present by ballot shall be necessary to decide the degree of punishment when the Grand Lodge commissioners cannot agree on the verdict or degree of punishment the Grand Master may discharge them and appoint another commission, but where the Grand Lodge Commissioners render a verdict and recommendations, the Grand Master shall on behalf of the Grand Lodge, if the Grand Lodge is not in session, review the proceedings and may render such judgment as he shall deem just and proper, and if the judgment is that of suspension or expulsion the same shall be entered upon the records of the subordinate lodge of which the accused is a member upon notice without any other action and such judgment shall be conclusive and binding upon the lodge and the accused, until the meeting of this Grand Lodge where it shall dispose of the matter as it sees fit.

Section 3. When any Mason, after due trial, shall be found guilty of unmasonic conduct, that is of a masonic offense, the punishment shall follow, which in the judgment of Grand Lodge is just and proper.

Section 4. When any Mason shall have been suspended or expelled by the Grand Lodge, the judgment of suspension or expulsion shall be binding and conclusive upon both the accused and his subordinate lodge, and he shall be ipso facto suspended or expelled from his subordinate lodge. When a Mason shall have been suspended by a lodge or the Grand Lodge he shall be notified of such action by the Secretary in person, if practicable, or by registered letter to his known address. When any Brother shall have been acquitted, he shall be notified of the same by the Master in open lodge.

ARTICLE VII - PUNISHMENT

Section 1. The Masonic punishment which shall be inflicted by chartered lodges or the Grand Lodge for masonic offenses or unmasonic conduct, after due trial and conviction, shall be, in the discretion of the lodge or the Grand Lodge, either expulsion, indefinite suspension, definite suspension, or reprimand.

Section 2. Expulsion deprives the expelled person of all the rights, privileges and benefits of masonry he ever enjoyed, not only of the lodge or Grand Lodge expelling him, but of the Fraternity at large, and he is forever debarred from the rights and privileges of the masonic order. Suspension deprives the

suspended Brother of all his masonic rights and privileges and puts him, while the judgment of suspension is in force, out of the masonic order.

Section 3. No lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall expel a member for nonpayment of dues.

Section 4. Indefinite suspension subjects an offender during such suspension, to the same penalties as are prescribed in the preceding Section 2. The relation, which a Mason sustains to his lodge after having been suspended from it or the Grand Lodge, is that of a member under disabilities; and the Grand Lodge and the lodge still retains its rights of original penal jurisdiction over him for any masonic offense committed within its territory or elsewhere.

Section 5. Reprimand shall be the least masonic punishment, and shall be only inflicted after due trial and conviction. The reprimand shall be administered in open lodge by the Master.

Section 6. Any Brother violating the properties of lodge etiquette may be censored therefore upon a motion and a vote of a majority of members present.

Section 7. The judgment of expulsion or suspension has the same force and effect whether rendered by the Grand Lodge or a subordinate lodge.

Section 8. All suspended or expelled Masons are strictly denied and forbidden the privileges of any lodge, or affiliating with or joining in any masonic procession, or receiving assistance or relief or masonic burial. No Mason shall hold a masonic communication of affiliating with a suspended or expelled mason upon penalty of himself being suspended or expelled.

ARTICLE VIII- SUSPENSION FOR NONPAYMENT OF DUES

Section 1. The payment of annual dues is a duty incumbent upon every member of a lodge, and the neglect or refusal to fulfill this duty shall be (except for good cause) an infraction of masonic law and a violation of masonic covenant, and shall subject the delinquent to lodge discipline, and no lodge shall authorize or create any form of life membership or in any manner exempt any of its members from the payment of dues (except for old age and poverty) provided, however, that a lodge by a majority vote, may remit the whole, or any portion of the dues of any of its members then due if his pecuniary circumstances justify such action. Nothing herein shall be construed to affect any rights acquired by any member of a lodge under the By-Laws of any constituent lodge.

Section 2. No lodge shall suspend a member for nonpayment of dues for any period of less than six months and without due notice and a fair trial, nor can lodge By-Laws calling for the payment of dues in advance be enforced by disciplinary proceedings. A Brother cannot be suspended for nonpayment, unless the delinquency is for the time already passed; nor should he be suspended while he is sick and unable to work and financially unable to pay his dues. A Lodge shall not indulge indolence.

Section 3. The formalities of written charges herein before prescribed for the trial of offenses requiring proof may be dispensed with, and proceeding as prescribed in the following sections shall be deemed

due notice and a fair trial for the offense of nonpayment of dues.

Section 4. Any member who may be in arrears for dues to a lodge, according to the provision of its By-Laws, shall be notified thereof in writing by the secretary, with a request for *the* payment of the same at or before some subsequent meeting of the lodge; and if said member neglects or refuses to make answer to such notice at or before the time designated therein, he shall be notified in person, if possible, to appear at such subsequent stated meeting as may be deemed proper, and show cause why he should not be suspended for nonpayment of dues; if his whereabouts be unknown, a written notice shall be addressed to him at his last known place of residence. This shall be deemed due notice, and the lodge may proceed without his presence. In extreme cases the Master may in his discretion summon a delinquent. If summoned and he fails to answer, upon proof that such summons has been served, the offense of the nonpayment of dues shall be held in abeyance until the delinquent shall show cause for disobedience of said summons; for which offense any Mason may be expelled or suspended, after trial and conviction in the manner and form prescribed in Articles I to VII, inclusive, Chapter III.

Section 5. When any member shall refuse or neglect to answer the notices prescribed in the last preceding section, his delinquency may be communicated to the lodge at a regular meeting thereof, which facts, together with the lodge records showing his indebtedness, shall be deemed ample proof of the delinquency. If the Brother is present, he shall be entitled to make such pleas as he may deem proper, after which he shall retire; and upon such evidence a vote may be taken upon a motion to suspend the delinquent member indefinitely. A vote by show of hands of two thirds of the members present at a regular communication of the lodge shall be necessary to fix such penalty; this shall be deemed fair trial.

Section 6. No lodge or Grand Lodge dues shall accrue against a mason during the term of his suspension.

Section 7. No lodge shall for any cause abridge the rights or privileges of membership of any of its members without due notice and a fair trial as prescribed in these By-Laws. Lodge By-Laws which deny or in any manner abridge the rights and franchises of members in arrears for dues, unless their delinquency shall, upon due trial, as provided in the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, have been adjudged an offense, are inoperative and void.

Section 8. Compulsory process by a lodge to enforce the payment of dues lies only against a member thereof: if a Brother has been demitted from a lodge by the act of the Grand Lodge, he cannot afterwards be disciplined for the nonpayment of arrearages existing at the time of his demission.

Section 9. An insane Brother cannot be disciplined for nonpayment of dues, nor can a lodge charge a Brother who has been declared insane with dues, nor shall it be chargeable with Grand Lodge dues upon a Brother so declared insane, while such disability existed. As an insane person is practically dead to the state, so an insane Brother is practically dead to his lodge, to which he is not amenable for his conduct during the time of his mental aberration. A lodge cannot legally demit an insane Brother the petition of a conservator or any persons. If such Brother did not wish to sever his connection with the lodge while he was responsible, it would be an act of injustice to demit him when he is wholly irresponsible. The lodge shall not suspend a Brother who is a resident or occupant of the Masonic Home.

ARTICLE IX - APPEALS

Section 1. Appeals shall be forwarded to the Grand Lodge to review the judgments, orders, verdicts, decisions, or sentences of a lodge in any disciplinary proceedings of the lodge or the rulings or decisions of Masters, or to review the judgments and decisions of a lodge on any subject except the admission of members or the election of candidates; and the accused or the accuser or any member of the lodge, has the right to and may appeal to the Grand Lodge from any judgment, order, verdict, decision or sentence rendered or adjudged by the lodge except in the case of admitting members and election of candidates, and from any decision or ruling of the Master of the lodge and the lodge may also appeal from the decision of its Master.

Section 2. All appeals from any chartered lodge shall be made in writing and may contain a statement of the case, the exceptions taken to the decision or judgment of the lodge appealed from, and the grounds upon which the same are based. The appeal shall be filed with the Grand Secretary at least thirty days prior to the next succeeding Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Section 3. The appellant shall give the lodge from whose decision an appeal is desired, notice of his intention, within ninety days after the decision of the Master. After such notice has been given the appeal cannot be withdrawn. The Secretary of such lodge, under the direction of the Master shall, at least thirty days before the meeting of the Grand Lodge, transmit to the Grand Secretary an attested copy of all the chargers, specifications, papers, proceedings, judgment, and evidence in the case and, if requested, furnish the appellant with a like attested copy at his cost; provided thirty days shall have intervened between the taking of such appeal and the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge; if not, then such appeal shall go to the next succeeding Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge, or may be disposed of by the Grand Master during the recess of the Grand Lodge, which shall mean the appeal and judgment in such case the decision of the Grand Master shall stand and be binding until the sitting of the Grand Lodge which shall hear the appeal and render judgment thereon, and its judgment shall be conclusive upon all parties.

Section 4. Whenever an appeal shall be taken from any constituent lodge, as provided in the foregoing sections, the Grand Lodge shall have sovereign jurisdiction over the whole case, and may upon trial of cases coming up for appeal:

- A. Dismiss the appeal, approve the proceedings, or affirm the judgment, verdict, order, sentence or decision appealed from.
- B. Modify or change a judgment, decision or sentence, or inflict a penalty where the constituent lodge has failed to do so.
- C. Set aside the proceedings of the lodge for informality, or errors and demand the case for further proceedings, or acquit the accused.

Section 5. Whenever the Grand Lodge shall modify or change a judgment, decision or sentence rendered by a constituent lodge, the judgment and decision of the Grand Lodge, in such case, shall be final and conclusive upon all parties concerned; and upon notice thereof such constituent lodge shall cause the

same to be entered upon its records, and it shall thus become and be the judgment of the lodge without any other action.

Section 6. Whenever the Grand Lodge, on a review of the trial or other proceedings of a lodge resulting in the expulsion or suspension of a Mason, shall reverse or annul the judgment of said proceedings, or shall order a new trial, the accused shall be thereby restored to all his rights, privileges, and membership. When a case is remanded for new trial, no amendment shall be made to the original charges and specifications, unless the accused have due and timely notice thereof.

Section 7. Every lodge shall communicate to the Grand Secretary all suspensions and expulsions as they may severally occur.

Section 8. In all cases of trials by the Grand Lodge, before a commission, the report of the commissioners and the actions of the Grand Master thereupon shall be reported by the Grand Master to the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge may grant a hearing and render such judgment or decision as it shall deem just and equitable; and in all cases, the judgment and decision of the Grand Lodge shall be conclusive and binding upon the accused and the subordinate lodge, and upon notice the subordinate lodge of which the accused is a member, shall enter the same upon its records and it shall become and be the judgment of the lodge, without any other action.

Section 9. When an appeal is taken from the decision or judgment of the lodge or from the ruling of the master, no further action shall be had in the matter at issue until the appeal is disposed of.

Section 10. In order that justice may be done, the Grand Lodge may, at any time, at will, order a subordinate lodge to send up a complete transcript of the records, proceedings and evidence of a trial had before the lodge, and may proceed to determine the matters therein, as in case of an appeal, as provided in Section 4 of this Article.

Section 11. All appeals from the decision or ruling of the Master or a lodge may be taken to the Grand Master and the Grand Master shall have power and jurisdiction to dispose of the appeal, and his decision shall be binding until the meeting of the Grand Lodge, which shall dispose of the matter as it sees fit.

ARTICLE X - RESTORATION AND REINSTATMENTS

Section 1. No lodge shall have power to restore an expelled Mason to membership, nor to his former rights and privileges in masonry; nor to reinstate a Mason suspended by the Grand Lodge.

Section 2. The Grand Lodge reserves to itself the sole right, by a majority vote, at any Annual Communication, upon a petition and recommendation, as provided in the succeeding Section 4 of this Article, to restore an expelled Mason to good standing in the fraternity, as a nonaffiliated Mason only, but not to membership in any lodge. Any Brother restored by the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to a certificate of the fact from the Grand Secretary, which shall serve in lieu of a regular demit in case of application for membership to any lodge in this jurisdiction.

Section 3. The resumption of membership in any lodge by a Brother restored to good standing in the

Masonic fraternity by the Grand Lodge must be acquired in the manner provided in the laws of the Grand Lodge, and by a clear ballot, and shall not be resumed in any other manner.

Section 4. An expelled Mason seeking restoration may petition the Grand Lodge through the lodge from which he was expelled asking that lodge for its recommendation to the Grand Lodge for his restoration; which petition shall be presented at a regular communication of the lodge and be acted upon at the next subsequent regular communication, when, if such be concurred in by ballot of two thirds of the members present at a regular communication of the lodge, the same shall be so indorsed, under seal, and be transmitted to the Grand Secretary, at least thirty days before the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge; provided that in case such lodge has become extinct, said petition may be made direct to the Grand Lodge, with the statement of that fact; and upon favorable action thereon by the grand Lodge, the Brother shall be entitled to resume the status of a nonaffiliated Mason. Such restoration shall not be construed to give the restored Brother membership in the lodge upon whose petition he is restored to masonry but before membership in the Lodge can be resumed, Section 3 of this Article must be strictly complied with.

Section 5. Any Mason indefinitely suspended for nonpayment of dues, which suspension has been in force for a period of more than one year, may ask for reinstatement at any time; and upon seeking reinstatement, shall petition in writing to the lodge having jurisdiction. The petition shall layover for action until the next regular meeting and be referred to an investigating committee, upon their favorable report, and when on payment of a sum not less than the first six month's arrearage, and upon favorable vote of two thirds vote of the members present at a regular communication, the petitioner may be restored to membership of the lodge; provided that if the lodge from which a Mason shall have been suspended has ceased to exist, the petition for reinstatement may be made to the Grand Lodge, which, upon a favorable report of the Committee on Petitions, may reinstate the petitioner to good standing in the fraternity; provided, further, that if a member has been suspended for the nonpayment of dues for a period of less than a year, he may be reinstated by a majority vote of the members present upon the payment of all arrears due at the time of his suspension, without petitioning for that purpose.

Section 6. If, upon the presentation of the required application, a motion that a suspended Brother for nonpayment of dues be carried in that simple form, he is thereby reinstated to all his rights, including membership in his lodge.

Section 7. A lodge cannot refuse to act upon an application for reinstatement in cases of suspension for nonpayment of dues.

Section 8. In case a lodge declines to reinstate, as required by the Grand Lodge Laws, the amount of the delinquent dues paid by the applicant for reinstatement should be promptly returned to him.

Section 9. Definite suspension shall expire by limitation, and any Mason so suspended shall be entitled to resume membership, and all the rights and privileges thereof, at the expiration of the time defined in his sentence, without vote or other action on the part of the lodge; provided that if a brother suspended for a definite term desires to be reinstated before the expiration of such suspension, he can only be reinstated upon petition and upon thirty days' notice to the members of the lodge and upon two thirds

vote by ballot.

Section 10. The reinstatement of a suspended Mason by a chartered lodge shall be determined by secret ballot, in all cases where the suspension is for violation of the moral law or the masonic law; provide that in cases of indefinite suspension a resolution for reinstatement may be presented at any regular communication of the lodge and acted upon at the next or subsequent communication, and can only be granted by a two thirds vote of the members present. If refused, application for reinstatement may again be made at any regular meeting, but not oftener than four times in anyone year, and the application shall always lay over at least one regular meeting before the ballot is taken.

Section 11. A Brother is reinstated or restored to membership in a lodge when the decision suspending or expelling him is reversed or set aside by the Grand Lodge.

Section 12. In the event of the unqualified suspension of a Brother by this Grand Lodge, said Brother can only be reinstated by the action of the body suspending him; a sentence of suspension pronounced by this Grand Lodge may be so qualified at the time it is passed as to authorize the reinstatement by the Grand Master. A suspended Brother reinstated by the Grand Lodge is thus reinstated in his lodge.

Section 13. An expelled Mason who has been restored to good standing in the fraternity by the Grand Lodge cannot resume his membership in the lodge by simply filing his Grand Lodge certificate, but can only acquire it by unanimous ballot and in the manner provided in the laws of the Grand Lodge, and is not subject to dues until after favorable petition and ballot.

Section 14. No Mason shall be reinstated by any lodge nor shall he be restored to membership or to the fraternity who, at the time of his application for reinstatement or restoration, is living in open violation of the moral law or the masonic law or of the laws of this Grand Lodge.

Section 15. The petition for reinstatement or restoration of a Mason who has been expelled or suspended as a result of a trial for a masonic offense shall not be received or considered until the costs of such trial are paid in full; unless the same are waived or released by vote of the body to which the costs belong.

ARTICLE XI - MASTERS AND LODGES

Section 1. A Master may be disciplined by his lodge after the expiration of his official term for any unmasonic conduct, except for official misconduct or a violation of his official obligations. All complaints for official misconduct shall be made to the proper authority (the Grand Lodge or Grand Master) during the official term of the offender; otherwise, he shall not be disciplined therefore.

Section 2. When a controversy shall arise between lodges or between a lodge and its Master, or charges be preferred, or an informal complaint be made, the same may be filed with the Grand Lodge; if in session, or during recess by Lodges with the Grand Master; if the matter be deemed by him of sufficiently grave character to warrant investigation, he may proceed in person, or appoint a commission of seven Masters or Past Masters with, if consistent, the District Deputy Grand Master as Chairman, to investigate such charges or complaint; such commission shall have the authority to Summon witnesses

and shall have such other power as may be especially delegated to them by the Grand Master; and said commission shall make such report and give such opinion to the Grand master as will enable him to make a decision. The decision of the Grand Master in such cases shall be conclusive until the meeting of the Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication, and the Grand Lodge shall dispose of the matter as it sees fit, and the decision of the Grand Lodge shall be final and conclusive. Nothing in this article shall be construed to authorize the Grand Master to deprive a Master disciplined under its provisions of the right and privileges of masonry for a longer period than during the recess of the Grand Lodge, unless upon judgment rendered in a trial provided in the preceding Article of this chapter for the trial and punishment for masonic offenses and then only upon a decision of this Grand Lodge.

Section 3. When a Master or other officers of the lodge shall be deposed from office only, he shall not thereby be deprived of any of the rights or privileges of membership. This provision shall not be construed to prevent the infliction of such deprivation by the lodge, for unmasonic conduct (as distinguished from official misconduct, whereof the party has been duly convicted), upon a Master who has been permanently deposed from his office and thus brought again within the disciplinary powers of the lodge.

Section 4. When any trouble shall arise between brethren or between lodges which shall require the presence of the Grand Master or other Grand Officers, or a commission, such brethren or lodges shall be required to pay the reasonable expense incurred by such commission or officers in the discharge of their official duty.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENT AND APPEALS

Section 1. All forms of Resolutions shall be submitted to the Chairman of the following Committees:

- a. Grand Secretary
- b. Resolutions
- c. By-Laws
- d. Jurisprudence

Section 2. The By-Laws of this Grand Lodge may be amended by proper preparation and presentation to the Grand Lodge Committee on resolution before the deadline at an Annual Communication and this Committee referring the matter to the proper committee within the Grand Lodge and a ruling established by the Committee on jurisprudence and their presentation to the Grand Lodge in session after due notice being given to all subordinate lodges prior to the Annual Communications. Upon two-thirds vote by majority present, the amendment will be adopted and be distributed to subordinate lodges for their concurrence in writing to the Grand Secretary within one year of the provisional adoption and upon majority acceptance by lodges. Notice of adoption or rejection is to be announced by the Grand Secretary at Annual Communications.

Section 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with these By-Laws are hereby repealed. All matters not covered within this document are to be referred to Mackey's Jurisprudence.

INSTALLATION OF THE OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE

The chair being taken by the Grand Master of the preceding year, or, in his absence, by some other Past Grand or Past Deputy Grand Master. The other chairs are filled by the officers who having served their time, are about to retire from office.

The Grand Secretary then reads from the records of the Grand Lodge the names of the officers who have been elected to serve the ensuing year. The Grand Master-elect, preceded by the Grand Marshal is then conducted by two Deacons to the front of the pedestal, and the Grand Marshal says to the presiding Grand Officer:

Most Worshipful Sir, you here see present at the pedestal, Brother _ who, having been duly elected to preside over the Craft as their Grand Master, now declares himself ready for installation.

The presiding Grand Officer then rises and says:

Brethren, you here behold before the pedestal, Brother __who, having been duly elected to preside over the craft as their Grand Master, now declares himself ready for installation. If any of you know any reason why he should not be installed, you will state your objections now, or else forever hereafter hold your peace.

(Objections)

Installing Officer (*To the Grand Master-Elect*): My Brother, the exalted station to which the free choice of your Brethren has called you involves great responsibilities and requires you to be inaugurated by solemn sanctions.

It elevates you to a position from which the power and prerogative may depart with the expiration, of your term of service, but the honor and dignity except by your own act, never

And as we are now upon the threshold of a great and important undertaking. Masonic teachings require that we should bow in solemn prayer with our Worshipful Grand Chaplain.

GRAND CHAPLAIN: Brethren, let us pray. *The Grand Chaplain may then make an appropriate extemporaneous prayer, or use the following*

Eternal Source of Life and Light; we, Thine unworthy creatures reverently bow before Thee in adoration and praise. As when we first saw the light at our mystic altar, we first implored Thy guidance, pro-highest estate; we are but frail and feeble beings. We humbly implore now Thy servant before Thee, who is about to assume a new and important relation to his Brethren. Give him wisdom; give him strength; give him love. Enable him so to bear rule that he may keep in view the best interests of the great brotherhood as he is now about to assume great and trying responsibilities, and enable him so to discharge them as to win all hearts. Add Thy blessing upon the Brethren who are to be associated with him in office. May they feel a just sense of their accountability to thee and to the Fraternity; and may they ever be faithful and zealous, and assist to uphold the hands of their chief in all good deeds. In Thee, O God, as in the days of our apprenticeship, do we put our trust, Be Thou our faithful Friend, Conductor, and Guide, in the unseen vicissitudes of life before us, and bring us all, at last, to see the Great Light,

inaccessible and full of glory, in Thy presence, where we shall behold Thee with unclouded vision for evermore. Amen.

RESPONSE: So mote it be.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Worshipful Grand Marshal, you will conduct our Brother to the altar and place him in position to take upon himself the obligation appertaining to the duties of his office.

The Grand Marshal conducts him to the altar, where he kneels. The acting Grand Deacons holding their rods crossed over his head. The Installing Officer then administers the oath of office, the Grand Master- Elect repeating after him as follows:

I, _____, in the presence of Almighty God and before the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the Jurisdiction of Indiana, do promise and swear that to the best of my ability I will faithfully, honestly and impartially perform the duties of Grand Master of Masons in this jurisdiction during my term of office; and that I will conform to and maintain the Constitutions, laws, rules and regulation of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, and at all times enforce a strict obedience thereto, So help me God,

He then rises and the Grand Marshal conducts him near the chair of the Installing Officer.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Most Worshipful Brother, for from henceforth you are entitled thus to be hailed, in inducting you to your chair of office, as a symbol of the commencement of your government over the Craft, I am performing a most solemn duty by immemorial usage and the irrevocable landmarks of Masonry, you are invested, as Grand Master of Masons, with powers and prerogatives which are well nigh absolute. The interests of the Craft for weal and woe are placed in your hands during your term of office. The good resolutions which I doubt not that you have formed in your own mind that these powers shall not be abused or perverted by you, I would gladly strengthen by a word of admonition, which it will not become me henceforth to utter. The very consciousness of the possession of a great power will ever make a generous mind cautious and gently in its exercise. To rule has been the lot of many and requires neither strength or intellect or soundness of judgment; to rule well has been the fortune of but a few, and may well be the object of an honorable ambition. It is not by the strong arm or the iron will that obedience and order, the chief requisites of good government, are secured, but by holding the key to the hearts of men.

The office of Grand Master is of great antiquity and respect, and is one of the highest dignities to which we may aspire. Its' incumbent, to rule well, should possess and practice several important requisites.

As a man, he should be of approved integrity and irreproachable morals; freed from the dominion of hasty

temper and ill-governed passions; of good repute in the world and practicing, as an example to the Craft, the cardinal virtues of Temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice.

As a citizen, he should be loyal to his government, obedient to its laws, prompt in the duties he owes to society, and a pattern of fidelity in all social and domestic relations.

As a Mason, he should cling to the old landmarks and be sternly opposed to their infringement; be proficient in the laws, language, and literature of the Fraternity; be desirous to learn and apt to teach; though not for the time a workman, yet be master of the work and qualified to earn his wages; be prompt to aid and relieve and slow to demand it; be ever mindful that though elevated for a time above his fellows, that he is elevated by them, and that he is yet a Craftsman, more sacredly bound by a Craftsman's obligation; and that he should cultivate everywhere and that at all times the golden tenets of Brotherly Love, Belief, and Truth.

As an officer, he should remember, first of all, that he is an individual Mason, sharing in that respect a common lot with his Brethren and therefore interested in the welfare of each and all; be devoid of undue ostentation and haughty overbearing; be accessible to all, cultivating the closet friendship and the most unlimited confidence with his associate officers; be eager to take counsel with his Brethren, and ready to give it; be patient in investigation and hearing; be deliberate in judgment; be prompt in execution; be forbearing long and much with evildoers; be watchful over the treasury, having an eagle eye upon every portion of his jurisdiction, and breasting over the restless spirit of innovation.

Such are some of the most important qualifications which a Grand Master should possess, and leading errors which he should avoid. It may be that most, if not all, of your predecessors have failed to reach this standard,

but it is attainable, and be it your purpose to reach it and be a bright and shining example to those who shall come after you.

Nor it remains for me to clothe you with the external insignia of your rank and authority.

I, now with great pleasure invest you with this jewel of your office, whose symbolic meaning will now have a new and striking significance to you, (presents the jewel),

I also present you with this gavel, as the potent emblem of Masonic power which, in your hands, should never be sounded in vain (presents gavel).

I now surrender to you this seat of authority (places him in the chair). And render you this, the first act of homage due to you as Grand Master.

The Grand Master, having been covered on taking the chair, the Installing Officer uncovers and bows very low.

INSTALLING OFFICER: I now hail, salute and proclaim you Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the Jurisdiction of Indiana. Brethren, behold your Grand Master.

SENIOR GRAND WARDEN: Brethren, behold our Grand Master.

JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN: Brethren, behold our Grand Master.

The Brethren, with their arms crossed; and then all, under the direction of the Installing Officer, salute with the public Grand Honors.

The procession of the Craft is then made three times around the Lodge, the Marshal leading, and the Installing Ode is sung.

It will be proper for the Grand Master here to announce the names of the appointed officers, that they may be installed with the rest.

The Grand Master then proceeds with the installation of the remaining officers, or he may place the Installing Officer again in the chair, delivering him without ceremony, the gavel and jewel. In designating the officers hereafter, we will suppose the last to have been done,

INSTALLING OFFICER: Worshipful Grand Marshal, you will now present the Deputy Grand Master-elect for installation,

GRAND MARSHAL: MOST WORSHIPFUL, I have the pleasure to present to you, for installation, Brother, _____ who has been duly elected to the office of Deputy Grand Master.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brethren, you here behold before the pedestal, Brother, _____ who having been elected to serve the Craft as their Deputy Grand Master, now declares himself ready for installation. If any of you know any reason why he should not be installed, you will state your objections now, or else forever hereafter hold your peace.

The new Deputy Grand Master then receives the following charge, and being invested with the insignia of his dignity is placed at the right hand of the Grand Master.

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Right Worshipful Brother, the station to which you have been called by the suffrages of your Brethren is one of great dignity and much importance. In the absence of the Grand Master, you are to exercise his prerogatives in presiding over the Craft; in his presence, you are to assist him with your counsel and cooperation. But while your power and privileges are thus extensive remember that they carry with them a heavy share of responsibility. The honor that has been conferred upon you and the trust that has been reposed in you demand a corresponding fidelity and attachment to the interests of those to whose kindness and confidence you are indebted for your official elevation. Let the Book of Constitutions be your constant study, that you may be the better enabled to preserve inviolate the laws and ancient landmarks of our Order, and that you may be ever ready to exercise the functions of that more exalted office to which you are so liable to be called. Receive this jewel of your office and sit at our right hand to aid us with your counsel.

The remaining Grand Officers are introduced in like manner by the Grand Marshal and receive

their appropriate charges as follows. (When the former Grand Marshal has been re-appointed, he is introduced to the pedestal by the Grand Sentinel.

GRAND SENIOR WARDEN

Worshipful Brother, by suffrages of your Brethren, you have been elected their Grand Senior Warden and we now invest you with the jewel of your office.

Your regular attendance at the communications of the Grand Lodge is essentially necessary. In the absence of the Grand Master and his Deputy, you are to govern the Craft; in their presence, you are to strengthen and report the authority of your chief.

We firmly rely on your knowledge of Masonry and your attachment to our institution, for the faithful discharge of duties of this important trust ... **LOOK WELL TO THE WEST.**

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN

Worshipful Brother, by the suffrages of your Brethren, you have been selected their Grand Junior Warden, and we now invest you with the jewel of your office.

Your regular and punctual attendance at the communications of the Grand Lodge is earnestly requested. In the absence of your superior officers, you are to govern the Craft; in their presence you will aid them in their arduous labors.

We have no doubt that you will faithfully execute the duties which are incumbent on you in your present position. **LOOK WELL TO THE SOUTH.**

GRAND TREASURER

Worshipful Brother, you have been elected to the responsible office of Grand Treasurer, and we now invest you with the jewel of your office.

It is your duty to receive all monies due the Grand Lodge, to make due entries of the same and pay them out by order of the Grand Master, and with the consent and approbation of the Grand Lodge. The office to which you have been elected embraces an important trust, and the choice of your Brethren is an evidence of the high opinion they entertain of your fidelity and discretion.

We do not doubt that you regard for the Fraternity will prompt you to the faithful discharge of your duties.

GRAND SECRETARY

Worshipful Brother, you have been elected to the important office of Grand Secretary and we now invest you with the jewel of your office.

It is your duty to observe all the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, and to make fair record of all things

proper to be written. You are also the official organ of the Grand Lodge, and in that capacity will conduct its various correspondences, and act as the medium of intercourse between the Fraternity and its Grand Master. In the discharge of these extensive duties, let your carriage and behavior be marked by that promptitude and discretion that will at once reflect credit on yourself and honor on the body whom you represent.

GRAND TRUSTEES

Worshipful Brothers, you have been elected to the important office of Grand Trustee, and we now invest you with the jewel for that office.

It is your duty to take and receive for the Grand Lodge any property, real or personal by gift, conveyance, bequest or devise, and to have exclusive custody, control and management of all real estate and tangible personal property of this Grand Lodge. The choice of your Brethren in your being elected to this most important trust is evidence of the high opinion they entertain in your judgment.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS

Brethren, you have been appointed as District Deputy Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, and we now invest you with the jewel of those offices.

It is your duty to represent and act on behalf of the Most Worshipful Grand Master in your designated jurisdiction on any and all tasks so assigned by him and report the same to the Most Worshipful Grand Master. While your power and privileges are extensive, remember they carry a heavy share of responsibility. Your diligence and care in performance of duty are necessary virtues to carry out the functions of your offices.

GRAND DEACONS

Brethren, you have been appointed the Grand Deacons of this Grand Lodge, and we now invest you with the jewels of your office, and these rods as insignia of your authority.

It is your province to attend upon the Grand Master and Wardens, and to act as their proxies in the active duties of the Grand Lodge. Let vigilance and attention actuate you in the discharge of the functions of your office.

GRAND STEWARDS

Brethren, you have been appointed Grand Stewards, and we now invest you with the jewels of your office and place in your hands these white rods as insignias of your station.

It is your duty to superintend the tables at the hour of refreshment, and see that every Brother is suitably provided. It is, therefore, indispensably necessary that yourselves should be temperate and discreet in the indulgence of your own inclinations, carefully observing that none of the Craft transgress the due bonds of moderation in the enjoyment of their pleasures.

GRAND CHAPLAIN

Most Reverend Brother, the sacred position of Grand Chaplain has been entrusted to your care, and we now invest you with the jewel of your office.

In the discharge of your duties you will be required to lead the devotional exercises of our Grand communications and to perform the sacred functions of your holy calling at our public ceremonies. Though Masonry be not religion, it is emphatically religion's handmaid, and we are sure that in ministering at its altar, the service you may perform will lose nothing of their vital influence because they are practiced in that spirit of universal tolerance which distinguished our institution. The doctrines of morality and virtue, which you are accustomed to inculcate to the world, as the minister of God, will form the appropriate lessons you are expected to communicate to your Brethren of the Lodge. The profession which you have chosen for your lot in life is the best guarantee that you will discharge the duties of your present appointment with steadfastness and perseverance in well-doing. The Holy Bible, that great light of Masonry, we instruct to your care.

GRAND LECTURER

Worshipful Brother, you have been appointed the Grand Lecturer of this jurisdiction, and we invest you with the jewel of your office.

It is your duty to instruct the Craft in the due performance of their duty; to communicate light and information to the uninformed; to preserve our ritual and our traditions in the memory of the Fraternity; to see that the ancient Landmarks of the Order are not removed by unskilled hands; and by your instructions to the Subordinate Lodges, to illustrate the genius and vindicate the principles of our institution. [It is to be presumed that one whom his Brethren have thought capable of discharging so important and difficult a trust, will require no prompting for the proper performance of his duty. Let it be your object, while inculcating upon the members of this time-honored society a faithful regard of its obligations, to impress the world at large with a favorable opinion of its design and tendency.

GRAND MARSHAL

Brother, you have been appointed Grand Marshal, and we now invest you with the jewel of your office, and present you with this baton as the insignia of your authority.

It is your duty to proclaim the Grand Officers at their installation; to arrange all processions of the Grand Lodge, and to preserve order according to the forms prescribed. Skill and precision are essentially necessary to the faithful discharge of these duties.

GRAND SENTINEL

Brother, you have been appointed Grand Sentinel, and we now invest you with the jewel of your office, and instruct this sword of state to your keeping.

Your station is near the door, whence you will receive all reports from the Grand Tiler, and announce the name and Masonic Rank of all who desire admission. You will see that none enter without wearing their appropriate decorations. You will also carry the Grand Sword of State in all public processions and perform such other duties as appertain to your office. Your early and punctual attendance at all communications of the Grand Lodge is essentially necessary.

GRAND HISTORIAN

Brother _____, you have been appointed Grand Historian, and we now invest you with the jewel of your office.

You will have charge of and be responsible for the care, maintenance and surety of the many documents of various kinds that or will become property of this Grand Lodge. You will strictly conform to the regulations pertaining to the use and disposition of all such material. Let discretion and vigilance mark your conduct in the faithful discharge of your important trust.

GRAND TILER

Brother _____, you have been appointed Tiler of this Grand Lodge, and we now invest you with the jewel of your office, and place this sword in your hands, the more effectually to enable you to guard against the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers, and to suffer none to pass or repass but such are duly qualified.

It is your duty to guard the door of the Grand Lodge on the outside; to report to the Grand Sentinel those who desire to be admitted; to summon the members of the Grand Lodge under the direction of the Grand Secretary and to attend to such other duties as may be required of you by the Grand Lodge. Your punctual attendance is essentially necessary.

GRAND MASTER: Worshipful Marshal, I now declare the several officers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the Jurisdiction of Indiana, duly installed into office for the ensuing year in ample form. You will cause proclamation to be made in the South, West and East ... once, twice, thrice.

GRAND MARSHAL: By order of the Most Worshipful Grand Master by authority of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the Jurisdiction of Indiana, I proclaim that its Grand Officers are now duly installed in ample form.

The public grand honors are then given, and the Brethren make the responses.

So mote it be.

An address may then be delivered by any brother appointed for the occasion. After which the Grand Chaplain pronounces the benediction: and the Grand Lodge is closed in ample form.

CONSECRATION, CONSTITUTION AND DEDICATION CONSECRATION OF LODGES

The time having been appointed for that purpose, the Grand Master or his Deputy, and his officers meet in the hall or some convenient place near the Lodge to be constituted, and open an occasional Lodge.

The officers of the new Lodge, which should be opened in the third degree, are then examined by the Deputy Grand Master, after which he sends a messenger to the Grand Master, with the following message:

Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Officers and Brethren of ____Lodge No. ____, who are now assembled at _have instructed me to inform you that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was pleased to grant them a charter, authorizing them to form an open Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the ____ of _____. They are now desirous that their Lodge should be constituted, and their officers installed in due and ancient form; for which purpose they are now assembled and await the pleasure of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The messenger then returns to his Lodge, who prepares to receive the Grand Lodge. When notice is given, the Grand Lodge walk in procession to the hall of the new Lodge. When the Grand Master enters, the Grand Honors are given by the new Lodge, the officers of which resign their seats to the Grand Officers, and take their several stations on the left.

If the Master has not previously received the Past Master's degree, then the necessary cautions are given, and all expecting present or Past Masters of Lodges are requested to retire until the Master of the new Lodge is inducted into the Oriental Chair. He is then bound to the faithful performance of his trust, and invested with the characteristics of the chair.

Upon due notice, the Grand Marshal conducts the Brethren into the hall, and all take their places, except the members of the new Lodge, who form a procession on one side of the hall. As they advance, the Grand Master addresses them:

"Brethren, behold your Master;" "Master, behold your Lodge."

The Brethren make the proper salutations as they pass the East. If the ceremony of constitution is to be performed in any other place than the new Lodge hall, then a grand procession is formed in the following order (see regulations for processions.)

If the ceremony is to be performed in the new hall the Grand Lodge only will be formed in possession.

The Marshals conduct the procession to the church or hall where the services are to be performed. When the front of the procession arrives at the door, they halt, open ranks to the right and left and face inward, while the Grand Master and others in succession pass through and enter the house. The Grand Officers are provided with seats in the East. The Holy Bible, Square and compasses and Book of Constitution are placed upon a table in front of the Grand Master; the flooring is then spread in the center upon the platform, covered with white linen and encompassed by three tapers, and the vessels of com, wine and oil.

1. Music
2. Prayer
3. An Oration
4. Music

The Grand Marshal forms the officers and members of the new Lodge in front of the Grand Master, the Master of the new Lodge in the center, supported on either side by his officers in the order of their rank.

The Deputy Grand Master addresses the Grand Master as follows:

"Most Worshipful, a number of Brethren duly instructed in the mysteries of Masonry, having assembled together at stated periods by virtue of a dispensation granted them for the purpose; do now desire to be constituted into a regular Lodge, agreeably to the ancient usages and customs of the Fraternity."

The dispensation and records are presented to the Grand Master, who examines the records and, if found correct, proclaims; "Due deliberation, the Grand Lodge has granted the Brethren of this new Lodge a charter, establishing and confirming them in the rights and privileges of a regular constituted Lodge; which the Grand Secretary shall now read."

After the charter is read, the Grand Master then says: "We shall now proceed, according to ancient usage, to constitute these Brethren into a regular Lodge."

Whereupon the several officers of the new Lodge deliver up their jewels and badges to the Worshipful Master who presents them, with his own, to the Deputy Grand Master, and he to the Grand Master, saying: "Most Worshipful, I present you Brother ___whom the members of the Lodge now to be constituted have chosen for their Master."

The Grand Master asks them if they remain satisfied with their choice. (They bow in token of assent).

The Master-elect then presents, severally, his Wardens and other officers, naming them and their respective officers. The Grand Master asks the Brethren if they remain satisfied with each and all of them. (They bow as before).

The officers and members of the new Lodge then form in front of the Grand Master, and the business of consecration begins with solemn music.

The Grand Master, attended by the Grand Officers and the Grand Chaplain, form themselves in order round the Lodge, all devoutly kneeling.

Solemn music is performed while the Lodge is uncovered, after which, the first clause of the consecration prayer is rehearsed by the Grand Chaplain, which is as follows:

"Great Architect of the Universe, Maker and Ruler of all worlds.

Deign, from Thy Celestial Temple, from realms of light and glory, to bless us in all the purposes of our present assembly.

We humbly invoke Thee to give us, at this and at all times Wisdom in all our doings. Strength of mind in all our difficulties, and the Beauty of harmony in all our communications.

Permit us, O Thou Author of light and life, great source of love and happiness, to erect this Lodge and now solemnly to consecrate it to the honor of Thy Holy Name.

Glory be to God on High,"

RESPONSE BY THE BRETHREN: "As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: World without end. Amen."

While this response is being given, the Deputy Grand Master takes the golden vessel of corn and the Senior and Junior Wardens take the silver vessels of wine and oil and sprinkle the elements of consecration upon the Lodge, all other remaining on their knees. The Deputy Grand Master and the two Grand Wardens again kneel and the Grand Chaplain then continues: "Grant, O Lord, our God, that those who are now about to be invested with the government of this Lodge may be imbued with wisdom to instruct their Brethren in all their duties. May brotherly love, relief, and truth always prevail among the members of this Lodge; and may this bond of union to strengthen the Lodges throughout the world.

Bless all our Brethren, wherever dispersed; and grant speedy relief to all who are either oppressed or distressed.

We affectionately commend to Thee all the members of Thy whole family. May they increase in grace, in the knowledge of Thee, and in the love of each other.

Finally, may we finish our work here below with Thy approbation and then have our transition from this earthly abode to Thy Heavenly Temple above, there to enjoy light, glory and bliss ineffable and eternal. Amen.

Glory be to God on High."

RESPONSE BY THE BRETHREN: "As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: World without end. So mote it be. Amen."

DEDICATION

Solemn music is performed while the Lodge is uncovered, by the Grand Master, his Deputy and his two Wardens. All again kneel except the Grand Master, who stands stretching forth his hands over the Lodge and dedicating it in the following language:

"To the memory of the Holy Saint John, we dedicate this Lodge." "May every brother revere their character, and imitate their virtues." "Glory be to God on High."

RESPONSE: "As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: World without end. So mote it be. Amen."

Music is performed, while the Brethren of the new Lodge advance in procession to salute the Grand Lodge, with their hands crossed upon their breast and bowing as they pass. They then take their places as they were.

CONSTITUTION

The Grand Master then rises and constitutes the new Lodge in the following form:

"In the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, I now constitute and form my beloved Brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. From henceforth I empower you to meet as a regular Lodge, constituted in conformity to the rites of our fraternity and the charges of our ancient and honorable institution; and may the Supreme Grand Architect of the Universe prosper, direct and counsel you in all your doing. Amen."

RESPONSE: So mote it be!

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES

When installing officers in constituted Lodges, do not use the title Grand Master. Simply - The Worshipful Master, Senior or Junior Warden, Chaplain, Marshal, Tyler.

The Grand Marshal will see that the jewels of the officers to be installed, together with a small Bible, square and compass, ruler (twenty-four gauge), and plumb line, a book of Constitutions, the Charter, and a copy of the Lodge By-Laws are placed on a table or stand near the East, arranged for convenient use.

THE GRAND MASTER WILL THEN SAY: *(The Installing Officer is addressed as M W Grand Master).* Brother (Grand) Secretary, you will announce the names of the officers elected (appointed) to govern this (new) Lodge.

Grand Master, continuing says:

BRETHREN OF ____ LODGE: You have heard the names of the Brethren who have been selected as officers of your Lodge for the ensuing term. If any Brother present knows of any just cause why either of the Brethren should not be installed into office, he will make it known now or hereafter forever hold his peace.

NOTE: Should any objection be made, either publicly or privately to the installation of either of the Brethren named as officers, the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens (if in a new Lodge), will retire to a private room, and cite the objector to appear and give his reasons for the objection. (If in an old Lodge, the presiding officer, assisted by three Past Masters, or other competent Brethren, will pursue the same course). In case the objections are deemed valid, the installation of the brother objected to must be deferred; but the other officers may be installed. The Grand Master or the Lodge may subsequently make such orders in regard to the objections as circumstances may require. Should valid objections be made to the installation of the brother named as W.M., the ceremony of installation cannot proceed until ordered by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge.

Grand Master continuing says:

R. W. Deputy Grand Master (who arises): Are you satisfied that the brother nominated in the warrant is eligible and well skilled in the noble science and royal art?

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: I am satisfied.

Deputy Grand Master conducts the new Master in front of the East and continues:

And I now present to you my worthy Brother _____, to be installed Master of his (new) Lodge; I believe him to be of good morals, and of great skill, true and trusty; and as he is a lover of the whole Fraternity, where so ever dispersed over the face of the earth, I doubt not he will discharge his duties with fidelity.

(The Deputy Grand Master resumes his seat).

GRAND MASTER: Brother Grand Marshal, you will place our brother at the altar, there to receive the

benefit of prayer, and to take his official obligation.

The Grand Marshal will conduct the Master-elect to the Altar: cause him to kneel facing the East. In like manner the Chaplain is conducted to the Altar, where he kneels facing the West, and (the Brethren being called up) offers the following or an appropriate:

PRAYER

Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, we approach Thee with reverence, and implore Thy blessing on this Brother, appointed to preside over this (new) Lodge; and now prostrate before Thee. Fill his heart with Thy glory. Make him steadfast in Thy service. Grant him firmness of mind. Animate his heart and strengthen his endeavors. May he teach Thy judgments and Thy laws, and be Thy true and faithful servant. Bless him, O Lord, and bless the work of his hands. Accept us in mercy. Hear Thou our prayer and grant our earnest supplications. Amen.

RESPONSE: So mote it be.

The Grand Chaplain will rise and return to his station, the Master-elect still kneeling at the Altar. The Grand Master rising, and standing to the East, says:

Brother _____, you will now repeat after me your official obligation:

I solemnly promise, upon the honor of a Mason, that in the office of Master of ___Lodge No. ___, I will, to the best of my ability strictly comply with the constitutions, laws, edicts, and regulations of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the Jurisdiction of Indiana; the By-Laws of

_____Lodge No. ___ and all other Ancient Masonic usages, so far as the same shall come to my knowledge.

Master rises in his place; the Brethren are seated. NOTE: The address here prescribed, and all that follows up to the fifteen charges, may be omitted at discretion.

GRAND MASTER: My brother, inducting you into your chair of office as a symbol of the Commencement, (or continuation) of your government of this Lodge, I am performing a most pleasing duty. By immemorial usages and the irrevocable landmarks of Masonry, you are installed as Master of this Lodge with powers and prerogatives which are of high importance and due solemnity. The good resolutions, which doubt not, you have formed in your own mind, that these powers shall not be abused or perverted by you, I would gladly strengthen by a word of admonition.

The very consciousness of the possession of a great power will ever make a generous mind cautious and gentle in its exercise. To rule has been the lot of many, and requires neither strength of intellect nor soundness of judgment: to rule well has been the fortune of but few, and may well be the object of an honorable ambition. It is not by the strong arm, or the iron will that obedience and order - the chief requisites of good government - are secured, but by holding the key to the hearts of men.

The office of Master is of great antiquity and respect, and is one of the highest dignities to which we may aspire. Its incumbent, to rule well, should possess and practice several important requisites.

As a **MAN**, he should be of approved integrity and irreproachable morals, freed from the dominion of hasty temper and ill-governed passions; of good repute in the world, and practicing, as an example to his Brethren, the cardinal virtues of **TEMPERANCE, FORTITUDE, PRUDENCE, and JUSTICE.**

As a **CITIZEN**, he should be loyal to his government; obedient to its laws, prompt in the duties he owes to society, and a pattern of fidelity in all social and domestic relations.

As a **MASON**, he should cling to the old landmarks, and be sternly opposed to their infringement; be desirous to learn, and apt to teach, be prompt to aid and relieve, and be ever mindful that, though elevated for a time above his fellows, that he is elevated by them, and should therefore cultivate everywhere, and at all times, the golden tenets of **BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF AND TRUTH.**

As an Officer, he should remember first of all, that he is an individual Mason, sharing in that respect, a common lot with his Brethren, and therefore interested in the welfare of each and all; be devoid of undue ostentation and laughter, overbearing, be assessable to all, cultivating the closest friendship and the most unlimited confidence with his associate officers; be eager to take counsel with his Brethren, and ready to give it; to ready to reward good; be devoid of favoritism and wholly impartial.

Such are some of the most important qualifications which a Master should possess, and the errors he should avoid. It may be that most, if not all of us, have failed to reach this standard; but it is attainable; and be it your purpose to reach it, and be a bright and shining example to those who shall come after you.

MY BROTHER, previous to your investiture, it is necessary that you should signify your assent to those ancient Charges and Regulations which point out the duty of a Master of a Lodge.

"You agree to be a good man and true, and strictly to obey the moral law?"

"You agree to be a peaceable citizen, and cheerfully to conform to the laws of the country in which you reside?"

"You promise not to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against government, but patiently to submit to the law and the constituted authorities?"

"You agree to pay proper respect to the civil Magistrates; to work diligently, live creditably, and act honorable by all men?"

"You agree to hold in veneration the original rulers and patrons of Freemasonry, and their regular successors, supreme and subordinate, according to their stations; and to submit to the awards and resolutions of your Brethren when in Lodge convened, in every case consistent with the constitutions of Freemasonry?"

"You agree to be cautious in your behavior, courteous to your Brethren and faithful to your Lodge?"

"You agree to avoid private piques and quarrels, and to guard against intemperance and excess?"

"You promise to respect genuine Brethren, and to discountenance impostors, and all dissenters from the original plan of Masonry?"

"You agree to promote the general good of society, to cultivate the social virtues and to propagate the knowledge of the mystic art?"

"You admit that it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry?"

"You promise to pay homage to the Grand Master for the time being, and to his officers, when duly installed; and strictly to conform to every edict of the Grand Lodge that is not subversive to the principles and groundwork of Masonry?"

"You promise regular attendance on the committees and communications of the Grand Lodge, on receiving proper notice, and to pay attention to all the duties of Masonry on convenient occasions?"

"You admit that no new Lodge shall be formed without permission from the Grand Lodge, and that no countenance be given to any irregular lodge, or to any person clandestinely initiated therein being contrary to the Ancient Charges of Freemasonry?"

"You admit that no person can be regularly made a Mason in, or admitted a member of any regular Lodge, without previous notice and due inquiry into his character?"

"You agree that no visitors shall be received into your Lodge, without due examination, and satisfactory evidence of their having been initiated in a regular Lodge?"

These are the Regulations of Free and Accepted Masons. Do you submit to these Charges, and promise to support these Regulations, as Masters have done in all ages before you?

The Master will answer in an audible voice. I do.

GRAND MASTER: Brother _____, in consequence of your cheerful conformity to the Charges and Regulations of the Ancient Fraternity, you are now to be installed Master of _____Lodge No. ____, in full confidence of your care, skill and capacity to govern the same.

Brother Grand Marshal, you will conduct the Worshipful Master to the foot of the dais. *While moving to the East there will be a strain of music.*

GRAND MASTER: My Brother, with pleasure I now invest you with the jewel of your office - the square. As the square is employed by the operative Mason to fit and adjust the stones of a building, so you, as Master of this Lodge are admonished by the symbolic meaning of the square, to preserve the moral deportment among the members of your Lodge which should always characterize good Masons and to exert your authority to prevent ill feeling or angry discussions arising to impair the harmony of its meetings.

You will also receive the various implements used in your Lodge.

The **HOLY WRITINGS**, that great light in Masonry, will guide you to all truth; it will direct your paths

to the temple of happiness, and point out to you the whole duty of man.

The **COMPASSES** teach us to limit our desires in every station, that rising to eminence by merit, we may live respected, and die regretted.

I also present you the Rule and Line, the **RULE** directs that we should punctually observe our duty, press forward in the path of virtue, and neither inclining to the right nor to the left, in all our actions have eternity in view.

The **LINE** teaches us the criterion of moral rectitude to avoid dissimulation in conversation and action, and to direct our steps to the path which leads to immortality.

The Book of Constitutions you are to search at all time. Cause it to be read in your Lodge, that none may pretend ignorance of the excellent precepts it enjoins.

You now receive in charge the Charter, by the authority of which this Lodge is held. As its lawful custodian, you are carefully to preserve, have it present at all meetings of the Lodge, and duly transmit to your successor in office.

You will also receive in charge the By-Laws of your Lodge which you are to see carefully and punctually executed.

I place in your hands this **GAVEL**, an additional insignia of your rank and authority. Wield it, my brother, with prudence and discretion. I now seat you in the Oriental Chair", and cover you with that distinction, which in this Lodge, it is alone your privilege to wear.

**The installing officer will take the Master by the hand, and place him in the chair, and then place a hat upon his head.*

The Grand Master then calls up the Brethren and says:

"Worshipful Master, behold your Brethren.

Brethren, behold your Worshipful Master, and join with me in giving the **GRAND HONORS**.

After the Grand Honors are given, the Brethren, except the Grand Officers, will form a procession, single file, and under the direction of the Grand Marshal, will pass around the hall, making three circuits. In passing the East, each brother will salute the Master (who remains standing in his place), in the manner peculiar to the several degrees except in public installations.

Some appropriate ode may then be sung.

After the singing of the Ode, the Master will seat the Brethren. The Grand Marshal is directed by the Grand Master to present each of the officers, in the order of their rank, for installation.

In presenting the officers, the Grand Marshal will announce the name of the brother and office to which he has been elected or appointed.

SENIOR WARDEN

GRAND MASTER: You are elected (or appointed) Senior Warden of ___Lodge, and you will now be invested with the jewel of your office and the Book of Constitutions. (*THE GRAND MARSHAL places the jewel*). The level demonstrates that we are descended from the same stock, partake of the same nature, and share the same hope; and though distinctions among men are necessary to preserve subordination, yet no eminence of station should make us forget that we are Brethren; for he who is placed on the lowest spoke of Fortune's wheel may be entitled to our regard; because a time will come and the wisest knows not how soon; when all distinction but that of goodness shall cease, and Death, the grand leveler of human greatness, reduces us to the same state.

Your regular and punctual attendance is essentially necessary in the absence of the Master, you are to govern this Lodge; in his presence, you are to assist him in the government of it. Your fitness for the discharge of such important duties, undoubtedly led to your selection, for the office by your Brethren, and it will be your duty and pleasure so to act as to justify their confidence. Brother _____, **LOOK WELL TO THE WEST.**

Some ode may be sung.

JUNIOR WARDEN

GRAND MASTER: Brother _____, you are elected (or appointed) Junior Warden of __ Lodge, and will be invested with the jewel of your office and the Book of Constitutions. (*THE GRAND MARSHAL places the jewel*). The plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations; to hold the scales of justice in equal poise; to observe the just medium between intemperance and pleasure; and to make our passions and prejudices coincide with the line of our duty. To you is committed the superintendence of the Craft during the hours of refreshment; it is, therefore, indispensably necessary that you should not only be temperate and discreet in the indulgence of your own inclinations, but carefully observe that none of the Craft be suffered by convert the purposes of refreshment into intemperance and excess.

Your regular and punctual attendance is particularly requested and we have no doubt that you will be ever watchful, whether at labor or refreshment, that the high twelve of observation do not find you with your work, and that of the Craft you superintend, unperformed. Brother _____ **LOOK WELL TO THE SOUTH.**

TREASURER

Brother _____, you are elected (or appointed) Treasurer of _ Lodge, and it is with pleasure that I invest you with the jewel of your office and the Book of Constitutions. It is your duty to receive alimonies from the hands of the Secretary; keep just and regular accounts of the same and pay them out by order of the Worshipful Master, with the consent of the Lodge. I trust that your regard for the Fraternity will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office.

SECRETARY

Brother _____, you are elected (or appointed) Secretary of _____, Lodge, and it is with pleasure that I invest you with the jewel of your office and the Book of Constitutions. It is your duty to observe all proceedings of this Lodge and to make fair record of all things proper to be written. You are also the official organ of the Lodge and in that capacity will conduct its various correspondences.

TRUSTEE

Brother _____, you are elected (or appointed) Trustee of _____, Lodge, and it is with pleasure that I invest you with the jewel of your office and the listing of all property of this Lodge. It is your duty to have exclusive custody, control and management of all real estate and tangible property of his Lodge, advising the Lodge of task required. Your care and diligence will provide a worthy trust for the duties you are to discharge.

DEACONS

Brethren _____ and _____, you are appointed Senior and Junior Deacons of _____Lodge, and I now invest you with the jewel of your hands these rods, which you will bear in the performance of official duty, as symbols of your deputed authority. It is your province to attend on the Master and Wardens, and to act as their proxies in the active duties of the Lodge, such as in the reception of candidates into the different degrees of Masonry; the introduction and accommodation of visitors and in the immediate practice of our rites. The Square and Compasses as jewels of your office, I entrust to your care not doubting your diligence and attention. You will repair to your respective places in the Lodge.

STEWARDS

Brethren _____ and _____, you are elected (or appointed) Senior and Junior Stewards of _____Lodge, and are now invested with the jewels of your office. You are to assist the Deacons and other officers in performing their respective duties and when the Lodge is at refreshment, it will be your province to extend to visiting Brethren such attention as circumstances may suggest. Your regular and early attendance at our meeting will afford the best proof of zeal and attachment to the Lodge.

CHAPLAIN

Rev. Brother _____, you have been elected (or appointed) Chaplain of _____Lodge. That Holy Book which is the chart and textbook of your sacred calling is also the Great Light of Masonry, and forever shed its benignant rays upon every lawful assemblage of Free and Accepted Masons. From it we may learn our duty to our God, our neighbors, and ourselves. Teach us from its life- giving precepts, and you will have faithfully fulfilled your sacred and important trust. It is fitting that an emblem of the Sacred Volume should be the jewel of your office, which I now invest you.

TILER

Brother _____, you are elected (or appointed) Tyler of _____Lodge and I invest you with the implement

of your office. As the sword is placed in the hand of the Tyler to enable him effectually to guard against the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers and suffer none to pass or repass but such as are duly qualified, so it should admonish us to set a guard over our actions; thereby preventing every unqualified and unworthy thought, word and deed and preserving consciousness void of offense toward God and toward Man. Your early and punctual attendance will afford the best proof of your zeal for the institution.

An appropriate Ode may now be sung, after which the installing officer will deliver the following:

WORSHIPFUL MASTER (*who rises*): The Grand Lodge having committed to your care the superintendence and government of the Brethren who compose this Lodge you cannot be insensible of the obligations which devolve on you as their head; nor of your responsibility for the faithful discharge of the important duties annexed to your appointment (or election). The honor, reputation and usefulness of your Lodge will materially depend upon the skill and assiduity with which you manage its concerns. As Master of this Lodge it will be your special duty to attend to the administration of its ceremonies and preserve the ancient landmarks of the order now committed to your care and permit no innovations in the principles or rights of the order.

As the sun which rises in the East regularly diffuses light and luster, spread and communicate light and instructions to the Brethren of your Lodge. Forcibly impress upon them the dignity and high importance of Masonry, and seriously admonish them never to disgrace it. Charge them to practice out of the Lodge those duties which they have been taught in it and by amiable, discreet, and virtuous conduct, to convince mankind of the goodness of the institution; so that when a person is said to be a member of it, the world may know that he is one to whom distress may prefer its suit; whose hand is guided by justice and whose heart is expanded by benevolence. In short, by a diligent observance of the By-Laws of your Lodge, the Constitutions of Masonry and above all, the Holy Scriptures, which are given as a rule and guide to your faith, you will be enabled to acquit yourself with honor and reputation.

BROTHERS SENIOR AND JUNIOR WARDENS (*who rise*): You are too well acquainted with the principles of Masonry to warrant any distrust that you will be found wanting in the discharge of your respective duties. Suffice it to say, that what you have seen praiseworthy in others you should in your selves amend. You should be examples of good order and regularity, for it is only by a due regard to the laws in your own conduct, that you can expect obedience to them from others. You are assiduously to assist the Master in the discharge of his trust, diffusing light and imparting knowledge to all whom he shall place under your care. In the absence of the Master, you will succeed to higher duties, your acquirements must therefore be such as that the Craft may never suffer for want of proper instructions. From the spirit which you have hitherto evinced, I entertain no doubt that your future conduct will be such as to merit the applause of your Brethren and the testimony of a good conscience.

BRETHREN OF THIS (NEW) LODGE (*who rise*): Such is the nature of our Constitution, that as some must of necessity rule and teach, so others must, of course, learn to submit and obey. Humility in both is an essential duty. The officers who are elected and appointed to govern your Lodge are sufficiently conversant with the rules of propriety and the laws of the institution to avoid exceeding the powers with which they are entrusted and you are of too generous disposition to envy their preferment. I therefore trust that you

have but one aim - to please each other and unite in the grand design of being happy and communicating happiness.

Finally, my Brethren, as this association has been formed and perfected in so much unanimity and concord in which we greatly rejoice, so may it long continue. May you long enjoy every satisfaction and delight which distinguish your conduct as men and Masons. With your peaceful walls may your children's children celebrate with joy and gratitude the annual recurrence of this auspicious solemnity, and may the tenets of our profession be transmitted through your Lodge, pure and unimpaired from generation to generation.

The Grand Marshal, by command of the Grand Master will make from the East, West, South the following:

PROCLAMATION

I am directed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master to proclaim, and do hereby proclaim that the Worshipful Master, Wardens and other Officers elected and appointed to govern _Lodge, have been regularly installed into their respective stations for the ensuing Masonic year.

The Grand Marshal continues, saying:

This proclamation is made from the East, from the West and from the South; once, twice, thrice. All interested will take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

The Worshipful Master will seat the Brethren, when an appropriate **ORATION** may be delivered. Upon its conclusion (should the installation be public, the following services will be omitted until the Brethren return to the Lodge),

CLOSING ODE

May be sung, after which the Worshipful Master will call up the Brethren, and the Grand Chaplain will pronounce the following or some other appropriate

BENEDICTION

Almighty and Everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, send down upon Thy servants here assembled the healthful spirit of Thy Grace, that they may truly please Thee in all their doings. Grant, O Lord, power of mind and great understanding unto those whom we have this day clothed with authority to preside over and direct the affairs of this Lodge; and so replenish them with the truth of this doctrine, and adorn them with humility of life, that both by word and good example, they may faithfully serve Thee, to the glory of Thy Holy Name and to the advancement for all good purposes of our beloved institution. Amen.

RESPONSE: So mote it be.

The Grand Master will than instruct the Grand Marshal to reform the Grand Lodge in procession, which

is done in the same order as upon entering the hall. The Worshipful Master instructs the brethren to join in the **GRAND HONORS:** after which, the Occasional Grand Officers will move from the hall, accompanied by instrumental music and return to its apartment, where the **(GRAND) LODGE WILL BE CLOSED.**

BURIAL CEREMONY

Services at the Grave or Church

1. Whenever civic societies or the military may unite with Masons in the burial of a Mason, the body of the deceased must be in charge of the Lodge having jurisdiction. The Masonic services should, in all respects, be conducted as if none but Masons are in attendance, and should begin after all other services have been concluded.
2. The pallbearers should be Masons, selected by the Master with the concurrence of the family. If the deceased was a member of a Chapter, Commandery, or Consistory, a portion of the pallbearers should be taken from those bodies severally,
3. The proper clothing for a Masonic funeral is a black high hat, black or dark clothes, black neckties, white gloves, and a plain, square white linen or lambskin apron, with a band of black crepe around the left arm above the elbow and a sprig of evergreen on the left breast. The Master's gavel, the Warden's columns, the Deacon's and Stewards' rods, and the Tyler's sword, The Bible, the Book of Constitution and the Marshal's baton, should be trimmed with black crepe neatly tied with white ribbon. The Officers of the Lodge should and the Past Masters and Grand Officers may wear their official jewels covered with black crepe.
4. After the clergyman shall have performed the religious exercise of the church, the Masonic services should begin.
5. A Lodge in procession is to be strictly under the discipline of the Lodge Room, therefore, no brother can enter the procession or leave it without express permission from the Master, conveyed through the Marshal.
6. The Brethren will assemble around the casket, if at the church, or around the grave at the cemetery.
7. All will uncover when the chaplain will rehearse the following or some other appropriate prayer:

PRAYER

Unto Thee, God, the Father of all spirits, do we come in this hour of bereavement and sorrow, Unto Thee do we send up the cry of our stricken hearts, Thou who dost mark the sparrow's fall, and number even the very hairs of our heads, look with infinite compassion on our weakness, and in this hour of need, give the strength which Thou alone canst impart. Standing by the open portal of this house appointed for all the living we pray for light to illuminate the dark path which our brother had trod; for

light to drive away all the shadows of mortality and reveal to our anxious souls those serene heights of beauty and joy, whither, we trust, our brother has ascended. As we lay his body in the tomb, may we realize how weak and impotent every human arm of strength, and trust in thy might is alone for deliverance from the dominion of death.

Grant, we beseech Thee, Thy understanding grace to these stricken and tearful mourners and bereaved friends; that we may find rest and comfort in Thee; that, relying upon thine infinite love, we may wait in patient hope for death to be swallowed up in victory. Amen.

RESPONSE: So mote it be.

8. All will re-cover when the Master will rehearse the following:

EXHORTATION

Brethren, the solemn notes that betoken the dissolution of this earthly tabernacle have again alarmed our outer door, and another spirit has been summoned to the land where our fathers have gone before us. Again, we are called to assemble among the habitations of the dead, to behold the narrow house appointed for all the living. Here, around us in that peace which the world cannot give or take away, lie the unnumbered dead. The gentle breeze fans their verdant covering; they heed it not. The sunshine and storm pass over them, and they are not disturbed; stones and lettered monuments symbolize the affections of surviving friends, yet no sound proceeds from them, save that silent but thrilling admonition. Seek ye the narrow path and the straight gate that leads unto eternal life.

We are again called upon to consider the uncertainty of human life, the immutable certainty death, and the vanity of earthly ambition. Decrepitude and decay are written upon every living thing. The cradle and coffin stand in juxtaposition to each other, and it is a melancholy truth that so, soon as we begin to live, that moment also we begin to die. How often the mementos of mortality cross our path; how often, the funeral bells toll in our ears, and the mournful processions go about the streets, yet how seldom do we seriously consider our approaching fate. We go from design to design, add hope, and layout plans for the employment of many years, until we are suddenly alarmed at the approach of the messenger of Death, at a moment when we least expect him and which we probably conclude to be the meridian of our existence.

What, then, are all the externals of human dignity, the power of wealth, or the charm of beauty - when nature has paid her just debts?

Fix your eyes on the last scene, and view life striped of its ornaments and exposed in its natural meanness, and you must be persuaded of the utter emptiness of all earthly things save those which go to the growth and perfection of individual character. In the grave all fallacies are detected, all ranks are leveled, all distinctions are done away; here the scepter of the Prince, and the staff of the beggar is laid side by side.

Happy indeed is it for us - and blessed the instrumentalities that have made it possible. While we here drop the sympathetic tear over the grave of our Brother, we can, in the sincerity of our hearts, cast around his foibles, whatever they may have been the broad mantle of charity, nor withhold from his

memory the commendations that his virtues claim at our hands. Perfection on earth has never yet been attained; the wisest as well as the best of men have gone astray. Suffer then the apologies of human nature to plead for him who can no longer plead for himself.

Let this event, by Brethren, by which we are reminded at once of our mortality and our imperfections excite our serious

reflections and strengthen our resolutions of amendment. Let us live in the daily consciousness that to each one of us the time will come - and the wise know not how soon - when all the transient pleasures of the world will cease to delight, and the reflections of a life spent in exercise of piety and virtue yield the only comfort and consolation. Let us resolve to maintain with sincerity the high character of our profession - our faith so unfaltering that we shall be enabled ever to do the right, as God gives us to see the right; our hopes as bright as the glorious mysteries that shall be revealed thereafter; our charity as large as the wants and weaknesses of our fellow creatures.

Fitting ourselves for life will also best fit us for eternity; and having here faithfully discharged the great duties which we owe to God, our neighbor, and ourselves, the great change will not find us unprepared, but come when it may, we can go forward joyfully and without fear into the presence of that All Wise and Beneficent Judge to whom the secrets of all hearts are known.

This part is to be rendered at the church or grave, as the case may be, the Master making the necessary changes.

The Marshal will now step forward and remove the apron from the coffin and hand it to the Master. The Brethren will uncover while the pallbearers will slowly lower the remains into the grave. During which there may be a chant by the choir or a strain of instrumental music, after which the Brethren will recover and the Master, holding the apron unfolded, continues.

THE LAMBSKIN

This white apron, was the first gift of Masonry to our departed Brother; it is an emblem of innocence, and the badge of a Mason. This emblem I now deposit in the grave (coffin) of our deceased Brother (*drop it into the grave/coffin*). By this act we are reminded of the universal dominion of death; the arm of friendship cannot interchase our release; nor will the innocence of youth nor the charms of beauty propitiate his purpose.

The officers and Brethren holding the evergreen in their hand The Master continues:

This evergreen is an emblem of an enduring faith in the immortality of the soul. By it we are reminded that we have an immortal part within us that shall survive the grave and which shall never, no never, die. By it we are admonished that, though idle our Brother, whose remains we have deposited in the bosom of our mother earth, we too shall soon be clothed in the habiliments of Death, and be deposited in the silent tomb; yet, through our belief in the mercy of God, we may confidently hope that our soul will bloom in eternal spring. This, too, I deposit in the grave/coffin (*it drops*).

The Master will resume his place. when the officers and Brethren will face to the left and commence moving slowly around the gravel/coffin. As each one passes the head of the

gravel/coffin, he will deposit the evergreen in silence, during which the choir should sing prayers, hymns or some other appropriate music, or a dirge may be played When this is concluded, the Brethren will resume their places.

GRAND HONORS

Brethren, prepare to give Grand Honors. They will then be given as follows: The Marshal in a subdued tone will say:

UNCOVER

Each Brother will uncover and step forward, depositing his hat on the ground at his feet, then cross the arms on the breast, the left uppermost, the open palms of the hands resting on the shoulders. This done, the Brethren will stand erect, and the Master will say:

The Brethren will then raise their hands above their heads, looking upward, when the Master will say:

"We commend his spirit to God, who gave it."

The Brethren will then lower their hands and extend them downwards toward the gravel/coffin, palms of the hands uppermost, when the Master will say:

"And consign his body to the earth."

From time immemorial it has been the custom among the Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, at the request of a Brother or of his family, to accompany his remains to the place of interment, and there to deposit them with the usual formalities of the Craft. In conformity to this usage and at the desire of our deceased Brother, whose memory we revere, and whose loss we now deplore, we have assembled in the character of Masons, to offer up to his memory, before the world, the last tribute of our affection.

The Great Creator having been pleased out of His Infinite mercy to remove from the cares and troubles of this transitory existence to a state of endless duration, thus striking another link from the fraternal chain that binds us together, may we who survive him, be more strongly cemented in the ties of union and friendship; that during the short space allotted to us here we may wisely and usefully employ our time; and in the reciprocal intercourse of kind and friendly acts mutually promote the welfare and happiness of each other. Unto the grave we have consigned the body of our deceased brother. We can cheerfully leave his spirit in the hands of God, who doeth all thing well.

The Master will face and draw near to the immediate relatives and friends and continue:

To the immediate relatives and friends who are most heart stricken at the loss we have all sustained, we have but little worldly consolation to offer; we can sincerely, deeply and most affectionately sympathize with them in their bereavement; but we can say that He who tempers the wind to the shorn lambs, looks down with the infinite compassion upon the widow and the fatherless, in the hour of their desolation; and that their Heavenly Father will fold the arms of his love and protection around those who put their trust in him.

The Master, extending his hand toward the grave/coffin continues:

Soft and safe be this, the earthly bed of our Brother; bright and glorious be his rising from it. Fragrant be the acacia sprig which shall here' flourish. May the earliest buds of a Spring morning unfold their beauties over his resting place, and in the bright newness of life expand in immortal beauty in realms beyond the skies. Until then, dear friend, and Brother, until then, farewell.

Appropriate

ODE

May follow, after which the services will conclude with the following, or some other suitable prayer.

PRAYER

Almighty God, we again implore Thy blessings, as we turn from these solemn services to the no less solemn tasks of life. We have consigned the body of our Brother to the grave, and with unfaltering trust we commend his spirit to Thy care. If we feel that there is one less tie binding us to earth, may we also feel that there is another and a deathless tie binding us to Heaven. And, there shall be no night there, O blessed assurance; the last farewell spoken; the last sigh heaved; the last cry of anguish swallowed up in that anthem of immortal joy. In our grief we cling to Thy promise that Thou wilt at last wipe all tears from all faces.

Gathering here such fresh experience of Thy love, catching here such glimpses of the exceeding glory that awaits us, may we feel that it is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting. May this be the time for unbounded charity. If our departed brother has his frailties and imperfections - and who that is mortal has them not? - may we leave them to the merciful silence of the grave; but may we keep the memory of his virtues green and fragrant forever. Bless those who are widowed and orphaned by this and bereavement and make this brotherhood faithful to their solemn vows to comfort, aid, and protect those thus left as their sacred charge.

And now, O Lord, we pray for Thy hand to lead us in all the paths our feet must tread; and when the journey of life is ended, may light from our immortal home illuminate the dark valley and shadow of death, and voices of the loved welcome us to the "house" not made with hands, eternal and in the heavens. Amen.

RESPONSE BY THE BRETHREN: So mote it be.

MASTER: The will of God is accomplished.

RESPONSE: So mote it be.

MASTER: From dust we came, and unto dust we must return.

RESPONSE: May we all be recompensed at the resurrection of the just. Amen.

The procession will re-form in the same order as it set out, and will return to the Lodge Room. The Master will order the Secretary to deposit the obituary roll in the archives, when the Lodge shall be closed.

FUNERAL SERVICE OVER ASHES OF A CREMATED BROTHER

Place Urn containing ashes upon a draped table, floral Square and Compasses on one end, Brother's Apron upon the other end. Lodge Officer's form a V shape facing the audience, Master at its Apex, Wardens at his right and left, Bible Bearer at one end of formation, Chaplain at the other end.

MASTER: From time immemorial, it has been a custom of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons, on proper request, to perform the last rites over the remains of the departed Brother.

In conformity with this ancient usage, and in accord with our loving duty to our brother, we are assembled here as Masons to offer tribute to our affection and to testify before the world our faith in the Almighty Father and beneficent goodness to us, His Children.

With becoming reverence, then, let us supplicate the Devine Grace to insure the flavor of Eternal Being whose goodness and power know no bounds; that on the arrival of the momentous hour when the fading taper of human life shall faintly glimmer in the socket of existence, our faith may draw aside the cable curtain, and our hope may sustain and cheer the departing spirit.

PRAYER

CHAPLAIN: Almighty and Eternal God in Whom we live and move and have our being, we beseech Thee to be present with us in this hour and during all the days of our earthly life, lead us by the hand of love; point out to us the pathway of duty. Pour out Thy continual blessing upon the relatives and friends of our departed brother. Lead those to know that he is waiting to greet them in a world where light and bliss are eternal. Grant us Thy divine assurance, Oh Most merciful God, to redeem our misspent time, and, in the important duties which Thou has assigned us in the erection of our spiritual temple, give us wisdom to direct us, strength to support us, and beauty of holiness to adorn our labors and render them acceptable in Thy sight, so that, when our labors here on earth are ended, we may be with Thee amidst the radiant splendor of eternal truth. Amen!

Response: So Mote it be

MASTER: The earthy remains of our brother have been committed to the final resting place; but his spirit has winged its flight to that blissful Lodge which will remain open during the endless ages of eternity. In that Heavenly Sanctuary, the Mystic light, unmingled with darkness, will rein unbroken and perpetual; and the, amid the sunbeam-smiles of Immutable Love under the benignant bend of the All-Seeing Eye, by the infinite grace of the Almighty Father, we shall meet again.

LAMBSKIN APRON

MASTER: (Holding up apron, unfolded): The Lambskin or white leather apron, is an emblem of Innocence, and the badge of a Mason. It's pure and spotless surface is an ever present reminder of that purity of life so essentially necessary to gaining admission into the Celestial Lodge above. This emblem I now place upon the ashes of our

brother, a symbol of his labor in our Craft, and as a token of our **brotherhood** with him and our kindred son-ship with the Father. (Drop apron, by three distinct pause, upon the urn.) Thy day to toil on earth, my brother, is over. Thou has enter upon a greater field of labor and love.

THE SPRING OF ACACIA

MASTER: (Holding up sprig): This Evergreen, which once marked the temporary resting place of one illustrious in Masonic legend, is an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul. By it we are reminded that we have an imperishable immortal spirit, which survives the death, and which will never, never, never die. By it we are admonished that we, too, like our Brother, whose ashes now lie before us, shall soon be clothed in the habiliments of death, yet through the loving kindness of the Supreme Grand Master, we may confidently hope that our souls will hereafter flourish in eternal spring.

FUNERAL GRAND HONORS

His spirit hath ascended on high. We commit his ashes to the final resting place, and cherish his memory forever.

AT PLACE OF FINAL COMMITMENT

MASTER: Reverently we commit the ashes of our brother to his final resting place. Though our brother has passed beyond our mortal view, yet we can trustingly leave him in the hands of a beneficent Being, who doeth all things well, who is glorious in His holiness, wondrous in His power, and boundless in His goodness and love. May we, my brother, whom you have left behind, go forth with a firm resolution to cultivate the spirit of truth and Brother Love; those virtues which, when subjected to the chastening fires of time, alone remain, unconsumed, in all their strength and beauty! With firm and reliance in the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe, we know that we shall meet once in realms beyond the skies. Until then, dear friend and brother, until then, farewell!!!

BENEDICTION

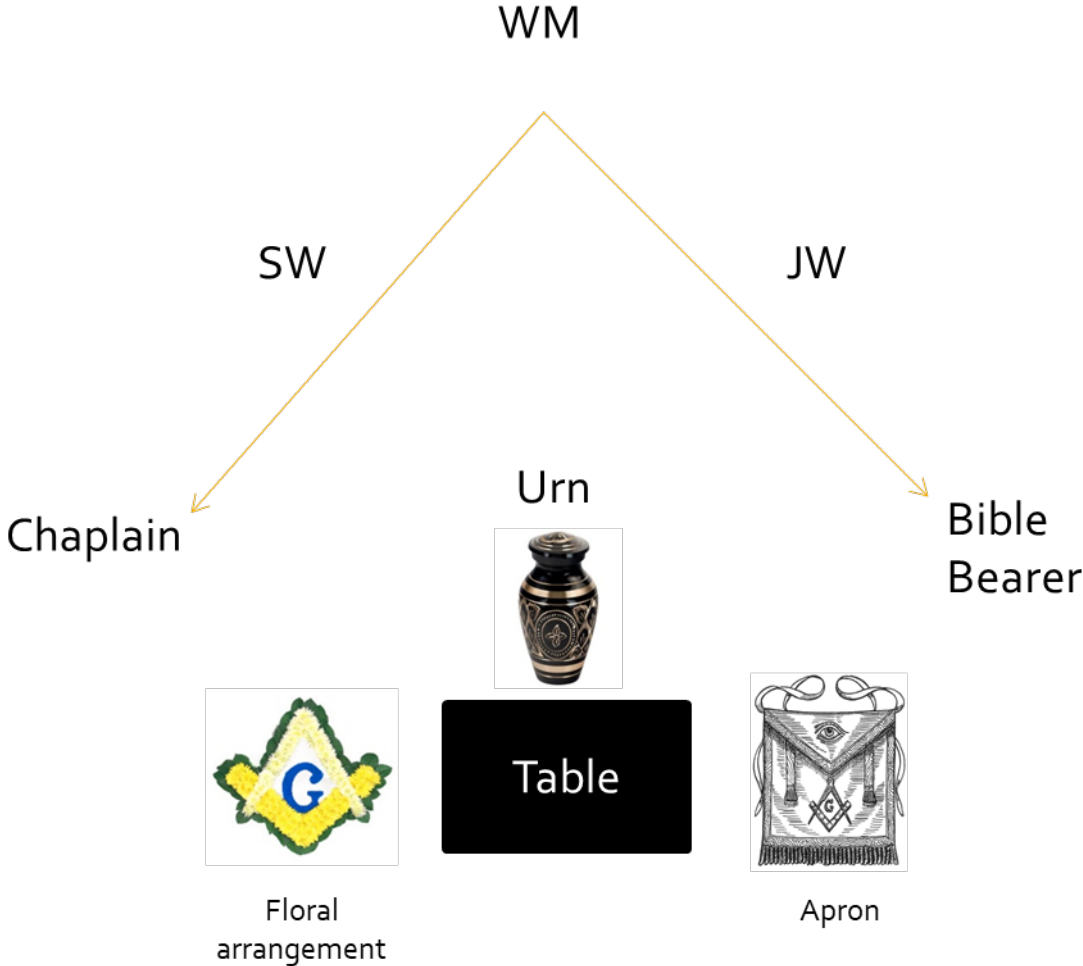
CHAPLAIN: The Lord bless us, and keep us: The Lord makes His face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us; The Lord lift upon us the light of His countenance, and give us peace. Amen

RESPONSE: So Mote it Be

CREMATION FORMATION

Place Urn containing ashes upon a draped table, floral Square and Compasses on one end, Brother's Apron upon the other end. Lodge Officer's form a V shape facing the audience, Master at its Apex, Wardens at his right and left, Bible Bearer at one end of formation, Chaplain at the other end.

The following diagram shows the position of the brothers in the V-shape facing audience and the emblems placed on the table.



Keep in mind rectangle above is representing the small square table that would be situated inside the apex in front of the Worshipful Master and between the Wardens.

**MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE
F. & A.M., OF THE JURISDICTION OF INDIANA**

LAYING OF CONERSTONE CEREMONY AND PROCESSIONAL LINE

GRAND TYLER	(With drawn sword)
GRAND STEWARD	(Carrying rod)
GRAND CHAPLAIN	(Carrying Bible, Square and Compasses on a cushion)
GRAND STEWARD	(Carrying rod)
GRAND LECTURER	(Carrying scroll containing list of articles to be placed under the
GRAND SECRETARY	Cornerstone)
GRAND CHAPLAIN	(In charge of the box to be deposited under the cornerstone)
GRAND TREASURER	
PAST GRAND OFFICERS	May use Steward here (<i>in the order of their rank, two abreast</i>) May
	use Steward here
PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT	(Carrying Square, Level and Plumb)
GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN	GRAND SENIOR WARDEN
(Carrying vessel of oil)	(Carrying vessel of wine)
DEPUTY GRAND MASTER	
(Carrying vessel of corn)	
MASTER OF OLDEST LODGE	
(Carrying Book of Constitution)	
GRAND JUNIOR DEACON	
GRAND MASTER	
GRAND SENIOR DEACON	
GRAND STANDARD BEARER	
GRAND SENTINEL	
(Carrying drawn sword)	

The procession thus formed will proceed to join in the general procession, and march to the place where the ceremony is to be performed.

GRANDMASTER: The teaching of Freemasonry inculcates that in all our works, great or small, begun or finished, we should seek the aid of Almighty God. It is our first duty, therefore, to invoke the

blessings of the Great Architect of the Universe upon the work in which we are about to engage. I therefore request the utmost silence, and call upon all to unite with our Grand Chaplain in an appeal to the Throne of Grace.

The choir may then sing an ode.

GRAND MASTER: R. W. Grand Treasurer, it has long been the custom, on occasions like the present, to deposit within a cavity in the stone, placed in the northwest corner of the edifice, certain memorials of the period at which it was erected; so that in the lapse of ages, if the fury of the elements or the slow but certain ravages of time should lay bare its foundation, an enduring record may be found by succeeding generations to bear testimony to the energy, industry and culture of our time. Has such a deposit been prepared?

GRAND TREASURER: It has, Most Worshipful Grand Master, and the various articles of which it is composed are safely enclosed within the box now before you.

GRAND MASTER: R. W. Grand Secretary, you will read for the information of the brethren and others here assembled a record of the contents of the box.

The Grand Secretary reads a list of the articles contained in the box.

GRAND MASTER: R. W. Grand Treasurer, you will now deposit the box in the cavity beneath the cornerstone and may the Great Architect of the Universe, in His wisdom, grant that ages on ages shall pass away ere it again be seen of men.

The Grand Treasurer, assisted by the Grand Secretary will place the box in the cavity prepared. During this ceremony there may be instrumental or vocal music. The Grand Treasurer reports:

GRAND TREASURER: Most Worshipful Grand Master, your orders have been duly executed.

The principal architect delivers the working tools to the Grand Master, who retains the trowel, and presents the square, level and plumb to the Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, respectively, saying:

GRAND MASTER: Right Worshipful Brethren, you will each receive the implement of your office. With your assistance and that of the Craft, I will now proceed to lay the cornerstone of this edifice according to the custom of our fraternity. Brother Grand Marshal, you will direct the craftsmen to furnish the cement and prepare to lower the stone.

Grand Master will then spread a portion of the cement. The stone is then lowered slowly one-third the distance, during which there may be appropriate music. When the stone is stopped, the Grand Honors are given again; the stone is lowered for the third time with music. When it is in place, the Grand Honors are given for the third time. (See information in regard to Grand Honors).

GRAND MASTER: R. W. Deputy Grand Master, what is the proper implement of your office?

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: The Square

GRAND MASTER: What are its moral and Masonic uses?

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: To square our actions by the rule of virtue and to prove our work.

GRAND MASTER: Apply the implement of your office to that portion of the stone which should bear its best and make report.

The square is applied to the four upper corners.

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: Most Worshipful Grand Master. I find the stone to be square. The craftsmen have done their duty.

GRAND MASTER: R. W. Grand Senior Warden, what is the proper implement of your office?

GRAND SENIOR WARDEN: The Level

GRAND MASTER: What are its moral and Masonic uses?

GRAND SENIOR WARDEN: Morally, it teaches equality, and by it we prove our work.

GRAND MASTER: Apply the implement of your office to that portion of the stone that needs to be proved by it and make report.

The Level is applied to the top surface.

GRAND SENIOR WARDEN: Most Worshipful Grand Master, I find the stone is level. The craftsmen have done their duty.

GRAND MASTER: R. W. Junior Warden, what is the proper implement of your office?

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN: The Plumb.

GRAND MASTER: What are its moral and Masonic uses?

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN: Morally it teaches rectitude of conduct, and by it we prove our work.

GRAND MASTER: Apply the implement of your office to that portion of the stone which it tests and make report.

The Plumb is applied to the sides of the stone.

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN: Most Worshipful Grand Master, I find the stone to be plumb. The craftsmen have done their duty.

GRAND MASTER: (Striking the stone three times with his gavel) says: This cornerstone has been tested by the proper implement of Masonry. I find that the craftsmen have skillfully and faithfully done their duty, and I do declare the stone to be well formed and trusty, truly laid, and correctly proved according to the rules of our ancient craft.

May the building be conducted and completed amid the blessings of plenty, health and peace. Amen.

RESPONSE BY THE CRAFT: So mote it be.

GRAND MASTER: Brother Grand Marshal, you will present the elements of consecration to the

proper officers.

The Grand Marshal presents a vessel of corn to the Deputy Grand Master, a vessel of wine to the Grand Senior Warden and a vessel of oil to the Grand Junior Warden.

The Deputy Grand Master advances with the vessel of corn, scattering it in the stone, and says:

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: I scatter this corn as an emblem of plenty. May the blessings of bounteous heaven be showered upon us and upon all patriotic and important undertakings, and inspire the hearts of the people with virtue, wisdom, and gratitude. Amen.

RESPONSE BY THE CRAFT: So mote it be.

The Grand Senior Warden advances with the vessel of wine, pouring it on the stone, and says:

GRAND SENIOR WARDEN: I pour this wine as an emblem of joy and gladness, may the great Ruler of the Universe bless and prosper our national, state and city governments and preserve the union of the state in harmony and brotherly love, enduring through all time. Amen.

RESPONSE BY THE CRAFT: So mote it be.

The Grand Junior Warden advances with the vessel of oil, pouring it on the stone, saying:

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN: I pour this oil as an emblem of peace. May its blessings abide with us continually, and may the Grand Master of Heaven and Earth shelter and protect the widow and orphan and vouch safe to them, and to the bereaved, the afflicted and sorrowing everywhere the enjoyment of every good and perfect gift. Amen.

RESPONSE BY THE CRAFT: So mote it be.

The Grand Master, extending his hands pronounces the following invocation:

GRAND MASTER: May corn, wine and oil and all the necessities of life abound among men throughout the world. May the blessing of Almighty God be upon this undertaking. May He protect the workmen from every accident. May the structure here to be erected be planned with wisdom, supported by strength, and adorned in beauty, and may it be preserved to the latest ages, a monument to the energy and liberality of its founders. Amen.

RESPONSE BY THE CRAFT: So mote it be,

If convenient, it would be appropriate at this point for the Grand Stewards to decorate the stone with flowers, during which the choir will chant.

The Grand Master, having received the square, level and plumb, addresses the principal architect, saying:

GRAND MASTER: Worthy Sir (or brother) having thus, as Grand Master of Masons laid the cornerstone of this structure, I now return to you these implements of operative Masonry (presents square, level and plumb) having full confidence in your skill and capacity to perform the important

duties confided to you to the satisfaction of those who have entrusted you with their fulfillment.

The Grand Master will then make report of his doings, as follows:

GRAND MASTER: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with the request of the proper authorities, the cornerstone of the ___ to be erected on this site, has been laid successfully, with the ancient ceremonies of the Craft. Brother Grand Marshal, you will therefore make the proclamation.

GRAND MARSHAL: In the name of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the Jurisdiction of Indiana, I now proclaim that the cornerstone of the Structure to be erected here has this day been found true and trusty, and has been laid according to the old customs by the Grand Master of Masons.

All present will now join in singing an ODE.

*The Grand Chaplain, at the conclusion of the ode, will pronounce the **BENEDICTION***

Indianapolis, Indiana August 17, 1956

RESOLUTIONS

**THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER
THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND
LODGE OF INDIANA
IN ITS CENTENNIAL GRAND LODGE SESSION:**

WHEREAS, The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana, Free and Accepted Masons, desires to create the Centennial Benevolent Foundation of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge under Articles of Agreement providing for the administration of said Foundation, by a Board of Trustees, consisting of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and the three Trustees of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge and five Past Masters of subordinate Lodges of said Grand Lodge, and to provide for the administration of said Foundation.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, that the following named persons constitute the original Board of Trustees of the Centennial Benevolent Foundation of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge: Cornelius R. Richardson, Grand Master, Thomas G. Welch, Grand Secretary, Paul Stewart, Grand Treasurer, and Ralph Pettiford, Von Casey and Frank A. Carter, Grand Trustees, and Will H. Porter, Edgar I. Davis, Harry S. Hastie, Andrew W. Ramsey and Joseph S. Casey, Past Masters; and that they be hereby authorized and empowered to enter into and execute Articles of Agreement which shall specify the duties, powers and limitations of said Board of Trustees; and that Charles H. Wills be designated as the Attorney and legal advisor for said Foundation.

THAT, Said persons be further empowered as Trustees of said Foundation so designated in said Articles of Agreement the Indiana National Bank of Indianapolis as Corporate Trustee, and to specify the duties, powers, and limitations of said Corporate Trustee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Articles of Agreement, together with By-Laws, attached hereto, by reference made a part hereof, be and are hereby adopted to govern the procedure of said Board of Trustees in the administration of said Foundation.

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF MARION SS:

CORNELIUS R. RICHARDSON AND THOMAS G WELCH, being first duly sworn upon their oaths according to law, depose and say:

THAT, They are respectively, the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary of Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana, F. & A. M.; that upon motion of Charles H. Wills and seconded by Andrew W. Ramsey, members of said Grand Lodge, the above Resolutions were unanimously adopted.

WITNESS Our Hands and Seal of said Grand Lodge this 17th day of August 1956. Cornelius R. Richardson, Grand Master

Thomas G. Welch, Grand Secretary

Subscribed and sworn to before me a Notary Public in and for said County and State this 17th day of August 1956.

Martha Watson

Notary Public

My commission Expires June 15, 1957

**TRUST AGREEMENT CREATING
THE CENTENNIAL BENEVOLENT
FOUNDATION OF THE PRINCE HALL
GRAND LODGE**

THIS AGREEMENT, made and executed this 17th day of August, 1956 by and between the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana, Free and Accepted Masons, a corporation with its principal place of business in Indianapolis, Indiana, herein called the "Grantor", and the Indiana National Bank of Indianapolis, as Trustee, said bank possessing trust powers, together with and successor trustee, herein called "Corporate Trustee" and Cornelius R. Richardson of Richmond, Indiana, Thomas G. Welch, Muncie, Indiana, Von Casey of Marion, Indiana, Frank A. Carter of Richmond, Indiana, Will H. Porter of Indianapolis, Indiana, Andrew W. Ramsey of Indianapolis, Indiana, and Joseph F. Casey of Marion, Indiana, together with their respective successors herein called "Individual Trustees," the Corporate Trustee and the Individual Trustees being herein collectively called the "Trustees," WITNESSETH, That:

WHEREAS, The Grantor desires to create a Foundation to which it may transfer and conveyor turn over any property, money or assets to be used by the Foundation for proper and worthy charitable, religious, scientific, and educational activities other than those regularly carried on by the Grantor and to which members of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana and other Masonic boards and other individuals or groups may also make direct contributions to be used for such purposes,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and for the purpose of creating such Foundation and providing for its administration and operation, it is agreed between Grantor and the Trustees as follows:

ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS

The following word and phrases shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

- 1.01. "Grantor" shall mean Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana, Free and Accepted Masons, and any corporation which is a successor to Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana, Free and Accepted Masons.
- 1.02. "Corporate Trustee" shall mean the Indiana National Bank of Indianapolis as such trustee and any successor thereto as provided by Paragraph 4.03 of Article IV hereof.
- 1.03. "Board of Individual Trustees" or "Individual Trustees" shall mean an individual or the individuals who from time to time act as trustees hereunder.
- 1.04. "Trustees" shall collectively mean the Corporate Trustee and the Board of Individual Trustees.
- 1.05. "Property" shall mean real and personal property, tangible or intangible, of every kind and character, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing shall include money, bonds, debentures, or other evidences of indebtedness, shares of corporate stock, common trust funds, investment trust shares, or any other form of property commonly called a security, royalties,

leases, or other interests in real estate, annuities and insurance policies.

- 1.06. "Trust Fund" shall mean all of the property at any time held in trust hereunder.
- 1.07. "Gifts" shall include bequests, legacies, and devises.
- 1.08. "Donor" shall mean a donor or a testator.

ARTICLE II - NAME

The Trust hereby created shall be known and designated as "The Centennial Benevolent Foundation of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana, Free and Accepted Masons," but if usage of such name shall not be permitted, the Trustees may select such other designation as they deem proper.

ARTICLE III PURPOSE OF FOUNDATION

- 3.01. The Foundation is created and shall be administered and operated exclusively for the benefit of, and the Trust Fund, including both corpus and income, shall be distributed in aid of (a) the establishment, operation, and maintenance, directly or indirectly by the Foundation, of religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational activities which may be assigned to it by the Grantor, and (b) to give financial stability and otherwise encourage, aid and assist in the furtherance of the objects and aims of said Grantor, to propagate Masonic information and otherwise advance the cause of Masonry, and to assist subordinate Lodges of the Grantor by loans and advancements to buy, acquire, or construct buildings for lodge occupancy. Without intending in any way to limit the generality of the foregoing, it is understood that one of the institutions which is intended to be a beneficiary of the Foundation is the Masonic and Eastern Star Home located at Weaver, Indiana.
- 3.02. In no event and under no circumstances shall the Trust Fund or any part thereof or any income thereof be distributed to or for the benefit of any person, firm or corporation (excluding Grantor) making a gift to the Foundation or his or its successors, assigns, heirs or personal representatives.
- 3.03. No part of the activities of the Foundation shall consist of the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation.
- 3.04. Subject to the limitations set forth in the preceding paragraphs of this Article III, the Board of Individual Trustees shall have full discretion with respect to the disbursement of the corpus and income of the Trust Fund, although they may consult with such persons as they deem advisable, but their judgment shall be absolute and not subject to question by anyone.
- 3.05. The trustees may accept gifts from Grantor, or from other person, firm, or corporation, which when accepted shall become a part of the Trust Fund and be used for any of the purposes above set forth, but the Trustees may in their absolute discretion decline to accept any gift which may

be limited to such purposes as would, in the opinion of the Board of Individual Trustees, be inconsistent with the purposes of the Foundation or which may be so conditioned as to acceptance as to be impossible of administration by the foundation.

- 3.06. The limitations made by any donor upon any gift shall be observed in perpetuity except and unless it shall be determined by the Board of Individual Trustees (1) that changed conditions or other reasons illegal, unnecessary, or impracticable, or (2) that the purposes of the gift have been fulfilled or become impossible of fulfillment, in which event such gift shall be administered for such religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes as, in the judgment of the Board of Individual Trustees, will best carry out the intention of the donor making such gift, otherwise such gift shall be used for the general purpose of the Foundation.

ARTICLE IV THE TRUSTEES

- 4.01. The trustees shall consist of Corporate Trustee and a Board of Individual Trustees. The original Corporate Trustee shall be the Indiana National Bank of Indianapolis as such Corporate Trustee. The original Board of Individual Trustees shall be Cornelius R. Richardson, Harry S. Hastie, B. T. Shaw, Ralph Pettiford, Vo Casey, Frank A. Carter, Will H. Porter, Edgar J. Davis, Thomas G. Welch, Andrew W. Ramsey and Joseph F. Casey, who shall serve for a term of one year from the rise of the Grand Lodge Session and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.
- 4.02. Such Individual Trustees above named are the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and the three Trustees of the Grantor and five shall have rendered the application for the gift for the purposes provided Past Masters selected by proper resolutions of Grantor, and all successor Individual Trustees of the Foundation from time to time shall be the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, and the three Trustees of Grantor and five Past Masters selected by proper resolutions of Grantor at its Grand Lodge sessions.
- 4.03. The Corporate Trustee may be changed at any time by proper resolutions of the Grantor and a successor Trustee may be selected by proper resolutions of the Grantor. Any Successor Corporate Trustee shall be a bank or trust company organized under the laws of the State of Indiana or of the United States having a capital surplus and undivided profits of at least One Million Dollars and possessing trust powers. If the Indiana National Bank of Indianapolis or any successor Corporate Trustee should be consolidated with or merged into any other banking institution or if any other banking institution having trust powers shall purchase all or substantially all of the assets of the Corporate Trustee or of any successor Corporate Trustee and succeed to a substantial portion of its trust business, then any such successor banking institution shall automatically and without order of any court become the successor Corporate Trustee under this Trust Agreement.
- 4.04. Any Corporate Trustee shall have the right and privilege of resigning as such Corporate Trustee by giving written notice thereof by registered mail to the Board of Individual Trustees of its intention direct, except that the income shall be distributed as regularly as the Board of

Individual Trustees may find practicable.

- 4.05. In the event the Grantor shall cease to exist and there shall be no successor to Grantor, the power of removal and appointment granted by this Article IV shall then be vested in the Probate Court of Marion County, Indiana.

ARTICLE V - RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES POWERS AND DUTIES OF TRUSTEES

In the administration of the Foundation, the Trustees, without being limited by the expression of anyone of the following, shall possess the following rights, powers, and privileges and be subject to the following duties and obligations:

- 5.01. The Corporate Trustee shall hold, manage, sell, invest and reinvest the assets of aid trust and shall distribute the net income therefrom and so much of the principal thereof as may, from time to time, be directed in writing by the Chairman and the Secretary of the Board of Individual Trustees, provided such direction is in accordance with proper resolution and the provisions and uses and purposes herein set forth. Said Corporate Trustee shall rely upon such written direction and resolution and upon payment as therein required shall be relieved and released from any liability in connection with such disbursement.
- 5.02. The distribution of the Trust Fund shall be in the absolute discretion of the Board of Individual Trustees; and nothing herein contained shall be considered to require the Board of Individual Trustees at any time to make such distributions more expeditiously or in any other manner that the judgment of the Board of Individual Trustees shall lease, mortgage, pledge or otherwise dispose of any part of the Trust Fund and invest and reinvest the proceeds of any funds or monies coming into its possession and constituting a part of the Trust Fund in such property as in the sole discretion of the Corporate Trustee is advisable.
- 5.03. In the investment and reinvestment of the Trust Fund, or any part thereof, the Corporate Trustee may invest in its sole and unlimited discretion in property of any kind, as described in Article I, Paragraph 1.05 hereof, and said Corporate Trustee shall not be limited or bound by any statute, rule, regulation of Court decision directing or regulating the investment of trust funds by Trustees. The Corporate Trustee is hereby expressly relieved from any obligation to comply with any statute relating to accounting by Trustees. In making investments, the Corporate Trustee shall be required only to use that degree of care which a prudent man would use under like circumstances.
- 5.04. All of the Trust Fund shall be kept in the possession of the Corporate Trustee.
- 5.05. The Trustees may employ agents, attorneys, accountants, and investment counsel, and may pay their reasonable fees and shall be protected in relying upon the acts or advice of any such person selected by the Trustees in the exercise of reasonable care.
- 5.06. The Board of Individual Trustees shall have full power to adjust, compromise, arbitrate, and settle all claims or demands of or against the Trust Fund and to institute, defend, or settle any

litigation with respect thereto.

- 5.07. No one dealing with the Trustees in any matter concerning the trust or trust property shall be required to investigate or determine the authority of the trustees or the validity or advisability of any transaction or to see to the proper exercise of the Trustees' power or to follow the disposition of property delivered to the Trustees.
- 5.08. The Corporate Trustee shall have full power and authority to sell, convey, transfer, assign, so to do. The resignation of such Corporate Trustee shall not become effective until ninety (90) days from the date of such notice. The Board of individual Trustees shall, upon receipt of such resignation notice, select a successor Corporate Trustee.
- 5.09. The Board of Individual Trustees may borrow money for the benefit of the Trust Fund and secure new or existing obligations of the Trust Fund by ledge, mortgage, or deed of trust on the property of the Trust Fund or any part thereof.
- 5.10. With or without disclosing the fiduciary relation and with or without power of attorney for transfer attached, the Corporate Trustee may hold securities or other property (a) in the name of the Foundation; (b) in the name of the Bearer; (c) in the name of the Corporate Trustee alone; or (d) in the name of some other person, partnership, or corporate or nominee.
- 5.11. The Corporate Trustee may vote any securities belonging to the Trust Fund, however registered, through any officer of the Corporate Trustee, agent, or proxy, and may grant discretionary proxies with or without power of substitution. The Corporate Trustee may participate in pooling agreements and voting trusts.
- 5.12. The Corporate Trustee may exercise all rights, options, and privileges of conversion and subscription, or may sell the same.
- 5.13. The Corporate Trustee may participate in any plan involving organization, finances, property, management and/or operations of any sole or joint enterprise, partnership, or corporation in which the Trust Fund is interested. Under this power they may participate in the incorporation, dissolution, reincorporation, reorganization into a partnership or proprietorship, consolidation or merger, readjustment of financial structure, liquidation by whatever means, and any other adjustment of any corporation or other entity. The Corporate Trustee may cooperate with or oppose any protective committee, deposit trust property with and delegate discretionary power to such committee, and share in the payment of expenses and assessments with respect to such committee and the trust property. The Corporate Trustee may accept and hold any securities and property resulting therefrom, of whatever type or value.
- 5.14. The Corporate Trustee may waive, modify, or reduce, either with or without consideration and prior or subsequent to maturity, any terms or conditions of any bonds, mortgages, stocks, or other securities, leases or contracts, or any part thereof, including the rate of interest and the principal amount due or to become due and may extend and re- extend the time for the payment thereof. The Corporate Trustee may accept deeds of real property in satisfactions of bonds and mortgages, or otherwise.

- 5.15. The Corporate Trustee shall render an annual accounting to the Grantor, showing the receipts and disbursements and the corpus of the Trust Fund.
- 5.16. No judicial approval or order of any court officer or tribunal shall be necessary in the making of any decision or the doing of any act by the Trustees.
- 5.17. The Board of Individual Trustees at any time and from time to time may adopt, modify and change such rules and regulations, including By-Laws, as they deem necessary or advisable for the efficient or convenient administration of the Foundation. The Board of Individual Trustees may act at a regular or special meeting.
- 5.18. Any action taken by a majority of the Board of Individual Trustees shall have the same force and effect for any and every purpose as if taken by all of the Individual Trustees. It shall be conclusively presumed that any action has been duly taken by the Board of Individual Trustees if such action be recited or set forth in a writing signed by a majority of the Individual Trustees duly acting hereunder or in a resolution certified by the Chairman and attested by the Secretary of the Board of Individual Trustees to have duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Individual Trustees regularly convened and held.
- 5.19. Corporate Trustees was changed to Society Bank.

ARTICLE VI - POWER TO INCORPORATE

In the event that any time during the continuance of this trust and prior to the distribution of the entire Trust Fund, the Board of Individual Trustees then acting hereunder shall determine that the purpose of the Foundation can be more conveniently or efficiently administered by a corporation to be organized under the laws of the State of Indiana or of any other state, under the name of the Foundation or under any other name which they shall deem appropriate, and with such powers as in their judgment shall be necessary or advisable to accomplish the purposes set forth in this agreement, they shall so recommend to the Grantor at its next annual Grand Lodge session which may by proper resolution authorized said Board of Individual Trustees to incorporate said Foundation and to execute such Articles of Incorporation. Said articles of incorporation, charter, constitution or by-laws of such corporation shall contain such provisions as the board of Individual Trustees shall deem necessary, advisable, or proper, and may cause to be conveyed, assigned, transferred and delivered to such corporation the entire Trust Fund, upon the assumption by such corporation of the obligation to administer and distribute the Trust Fund for the purposes set forth in this agreement and substantially in accordance with its provisions. Upon the Organization of such corporation and such conveyance, assignment, transfer and delivery to it of the Trust Fund, said Corporation shall have and may freely and fully exercise, respecting the Trust Fund and the administration and distribution thereof which is hereby granted to or vested in the Trustees. Proper provisions shall be made so that such corporation shall continue to exist until the final distribution within the United States of the entire Fund and the income therefrom by the board of directors of such corporation in the exercise of the discretion vested in it. No part of the net earnings of such corporation shall inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual and no part of its activities shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation.

ARTICLE VII - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 7.01. All expenses incident to the administration of the Foundation, of whatever character, shall be paid out of either corpus or income of the Trust Fund, as the Trustees shall determine, and the Trustees shall be reimbursed of the foundation.
- 7.02. The Corporate Trustee shall be entitled to receive reasonable compensation for its services and reimbursement for its out-of-pocket expenses. The Individual Trustees shall receive a per diem of Twenty- Five (\$25.00) Dollars for attendance at meetings and shall be reimbursed for their out-of-pocket expenses.
- 7.03. This trust shall be irrevocable and shall continue until the final distribution of the entire Trust Fund.
- 7.04. The Grantor and the Board of individual Trustees from time to time acting hereunder, by instruments supplemental hereto, may modify, or supplement such of the provisions hereof as shall be necessary or advisable in their judgment to effect a consistently with the laws of the state of its incorporation, every power, authority and discretion remove convenient or efficient administration of the Foundation, but neither the Grantor nor the Board of Individual Trustees, separately, or jointly, shall have any right, power, or authority by modification or supplement of the provisions hereof or otherwise, to divert any part of the Trust Fund or the income therefrom to any purpose other than those expressed in this agreement.
- 7.05. This agreement shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Indiana.
- 7.06. The Board of individual Trustees shall determine which, if any, of its members shall be bonded and to determine the amount thereof, secure the same and pay the cost thereof as an item of expense of administration.

ARTICLE VIII - ACCEPTANCE BY TRUSTEES

On order to signify their willingness to act as trustees hereunder, the Individual Trustees and the Corporate Trustees have executed this agreement.

IN WITNESS WHERE OF, Grantor has caused its corporate name to be hereunto subscribed by its officers, properly authorized so to do, the Corporate Trustee has caused its corporate name to be hereunto subscribed by its Trust Officer, and the Individual Trustees have hereunto set their hands and deals, all as of the day and year first above written.

MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF INDIANA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

By: Cornelius R. Richardson
Grand Master

Attest: Thomas G. Welch
Grand Secretary

THE INDIANA NATIONAL BANK OF INDIANAPOLIS

By Trust Officer

TRUSTEES

Cornelius Richardson (Seal)
Thomas G. Welch (Seal)
Paul A. Stuart (Seal)
Von Casey (Seal)
Frank A. Carter (Seal)
Ralph Pettiford (Seal)
Will H. Porter (Seal)
Edgar J. Davis (Seal)
Harry S. Hastie (Seal)
Andrew W. Ramsey (Seal)
Joseph J. Casey (Seal)
Charles H. Willa
Attorney for Grantor
South Bend, Indiana
Robert Lee Brokenburr
Will H. Porter
Patrick E. Chavis, Jr.
Indianapolis, Indiana of Counsel

5. Amendments to these By-Laws, excepting the Articles of Agreement, may be made by majority vote of the full membership of said Board of Trustees.

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF MARION

SS:

CORNELIUS R. RICHARDSON and THOMAS G WELCH, being first duly sworn upon their oaths according to law, depose and say:

THAT, They are, respectively, the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana, F. &A. M.; that upon motion of Charles H. Wills and seconded by Andrew W. Ramsey, members of said Grand Lodge, the above Resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Subscribed and sworn to before me a Notary Public in and for said County and State this 17th day of

August, 1956.

Martha Watson
Notary Public

My commission Expires June 15, 1957.

Indianapolis, Indiana August 17, 1956

RESOLUTIONS

THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF INDIANA IN ITS CENTENNIAL GRAND LODGE SESSION:

WHEREAS, The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana, Free and Accepted Masons. by appropriate action, has created the Centennial Benevolent Foundation of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge under Articles of Agreement providing for the administration of said Foundation by a Board of Trustees consisting of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, and the three Trustees of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge, and five Past Masters of subordinate Lodges of said Grand Lodge, and

WHEREAS, Said Articles of Agreement specify the duties, powers and limitations of said Board of Trustees,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, That the following By-Laws, together with said Articles of Agreement, by reference made a part hereof, be and are hereby adopted to govern the procedure of said Board of individual Trustees in the administration of said Foundation:

1. The officers of said Board shall be a Chairman, Vice- Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the funds or gifts made to the Foundation and shall promptly deliver the same to the Corporate Trustees Designated in said Articles of Agreement, and he shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements of said Board.
2. Meetings of the Board of Individual Trustees shall be held quarterly at Indianapolis, Indiana, at such office and time as determined by the said Board. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman upon proper notice stating purpose of call. Five shall constitute a quorum.
3. The Board of Individual Trustees shall designate a Corporate Trustee with whom all money, funds, securities and other property, both real and personal, shall be deposited. Said Corporate Trustee shall manage, care for, administer, invest and reinvest such property aforesaid for the benefit of the Foundation under the direction of the Board of Individual Trustees upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by written Indenture of Trust between said Board of Individual Trustees and said Corporate Trustee.
4. Disbursements shall be made by voucher which shall be signed by the Secretary and countersigned by the Chairman, which said voucher shall serve as the written direction to the Corporate Trustee for disbursements.

5. An audit of the receipts and disbursements and undisbursed funds shall be made annually by a disinterested, certified Public Account and submitted concurrently with the audit of the accounts of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge at the annual communication of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

SAINTS JOHN

Among American Freemasons there are two festivals in the Masonic calendar. The Feast of St. John, the Baptist, is celebrated on June 24th and the Feast of Saint John, the Evangelist, on December 27th.

The two dates fall at the time of the summer and winter when the Sun attains its greatest north or south declination when it apparently stands still for a short time before turning in its course. These are known as the summer and winter solstices.

Why is it that Masonry has chosen these two men as patrons? Why are Masonic lodges dedicated to them? Why do Masons hold celebrations in the honor each year? Were the Saints John Freemasons?

Before answering these questions, let us review a bit of ancient history. Before the days of Christianity the early Greeks and Romans dedicated their temples and sacred things to some god. To the ancients the sun was the source of power. They observed the course of the sun through the year and knew that at one period the sun brought them warmth, new vegetation, bountiful crops and with it all, a new source of energy and hope. Then the sun, after a fruitful season, left them and they felt the cold, the grains in the fields failed to flourish, and all nature seemed to sleep. The ancients knew that, after due time, the friendly sun in its cycle would come back to them bringing again light, warmth, food, and home.

It is any wonder that these people worshiped the sun as a god? Even today people, the world over, revere the sun and welcome its warmth, and even travel to follow it during the cold and dark winter months.

It is significant to note that the two festival days of the Saints John fall at these two seasons; first when the sun is nearest, and second, when the sun has reached its northern most summit and again turns toward the south.

People in the early ancient days had their organizations and guilds even as we do today and dedicated them to a pagan god for protection.

The worshipping of the sun or other deities had so permeated mankind that when Christianity was introduced to the world the church found it was impossible to stop the people from such pagan celebrations. It was natural to feel the need of adopting some patron for protection. The church therefore consecrated its churches to God and wisely substituted the names of its saints as patrons. Other societies and organizations followed the same practice.

St. John the Baptist

Why did the Freemasons choose St. John, the Baptist, as Patron? One would suppose that they would name some outstanding person, but St. John, the Baptist, was a humble man, a plain man who held, above all, his obligations to God and, with almost unbelievable steadfastness, met martyrdom. He continually preached repentance - virtue and humiliation.

Yes, the early Freemasons chose well in selecting such a man as St. John, the Baptist, as a patron of Freemasonry!

St. John, the Evangelist

For a long period only St. John, the Baptist, was the patron saint of Freemasonry. It was not until after the 16th century that St. John, the Evangelist, was also adopted as a patron. The "Old Charges" of Freemasonry speak of St. John, the Evangelist, as a "Saint of the Craft". He was constantly admonishing the cultivation of brotherly love. Of all the gospels, the Gospel of St. John is the most Masonic for the central theme is LIGHT. It portrays Jesus as "The Light of the World".