

**CONSTITUTION, STATUTES,
DISCIPLINARY RULES,
STANDING RESOLUTIONS,
CEREMONIES, FORMS
AND APPROVED DECISIONS**

OF THE

**Grand Encampment
of Knights Templar**

of the

United States of America

2022 EDITION

Including Approved Decisions of the
Grand Masters and all decisions 1910 through 2021
Revised December 14, 2022

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

PREAMBLE

We, the Knights Templar of the United States, in order to secure unity and better government and to increase the prosperity and influence of Templary, which is declared to comprise the Orders of Christian Knighthood known as Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

NAME

Section 1. This Body shall be designated and known as the “Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.”

Whatever may have been the recognized or accepted practice in years gone by, there is now no warrant for the use of the words, “and Appendant Orders” in the title of a Commandery or in conjunction with any Templar body. (1925, p. 92 & 411 No. 34, Newby)

MEMBERSHIP

Section 2. Its members are and shall be:

- (a) All Past Grand Commanders having membership in a Commandery the authority of the Grand Encampment;
- (b) The Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, and the Grand Captain General of each of the Grand Commanderies;
- (c) The Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of each of the Subordinate Commanderies;
- (d) The Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment;
- (e) All Knights Templar from other sovereign Grand Jurisdictions who, at any Triennial Conclave, have been elected honorary members. Such election, however, shall not confer the right to vote.
- (f) If not otherwise a member of the Grand Encampment, any Knight Templar having membership in a Commandery under the authority of the Grand Encampment who has served as Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment for a for a period of time necessary to obtain permanent rank. Such persons will have status as honorary members of Grand Encampment. (2015)(2011, p unassigned)

A Grand Commandery, as such, is not a member of the Grand Encampment, and it cannot propose amendments. (1919, p 65 & 311, No. 33 Smith)
No vote accrues to the office of the Grand Captain General, he having died. (1937, p. 340, No. 25, Agnew)
One does not need to be elected as Grand Commander to become a permanent member of the Grand Encampment or be elected as Commander to become a permanent member of a Grand Commandery. One who succeeds to the office of Grand Commander under Sections 49 and 50 of the Constitution and who serves the remainder of the term of office would become a Past Grand Commander and a permanent member of the Grand Encampment. The same process applies to a Grand Commander. (1949, p 75 & 213, No. 4, Rice)
A Deputy Grand Commander who is elected Grand Commander, and thereafter resigns, or removes permanently from his jurisdiction before completing his term of office, would not acquire the rank of Past Grand Commander nor become a member of the Grand Encampment. (1949, p 77 & 214, No. 5, Rice)
Section 2 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment describes who are members thereof, and does not include Past Commanders of any Subordinate Commandery. They are not, therefore, member of the Grand Encampment and cannot vote therein. (1961, p. 52, No. 28b, Wieber)
The Constitution of the Grand Encampment describes who are members thereof, and does not include Past Deputy Grand Commanders. They are not therefore, members of the Grand Encampment and cannot vote therein. (1967, p. 154, No. 13, Brucker)
A Grand Commander who was removed from office for misconduct was granted Past Grand Rank by the Grand Master in an "attempt to treat Sir Knight XXX fairly". (2009, p. 72 & 77, No. 4, Koon)

JURISDICTION AND POWER

Section 3. It has supreme legislative, judicial and executive power and jurisdiction over the Orders of Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar within the United States of America and geographical regions over which the United States exercises jurisdiction. It has sole and exclusive power and authority to formulate and promulgate the Rituals covering the Rites, ceremonies and secret work pertaining to the several Orders, to be used within its Jurisdiction. It has the exclusive right to control and regulate the "Insignia of Rank", "Shoulder Straps" and "Jewels of Office."

Among its powers, prerogatives and duties, not, however, to be construed as any limitation thereof, are the following:

- (a) It may adopt such Statutes, Rules, and Regulations, not contrary to or inconsistent with this Constitution, as it may consider necessary for the good of the Order.

(b) - It may create Commanderies and Grand Commanderies under the terms specified in the constitution or statutes. It may also consolidate Subordinate Commanderies under its jurisdiction. (2012)

(c)(1) It may create and charter one or more Holding Commanderies for the purpose of retaining Sir Knights who were members of a Subordinate Commandery which demised, under such terms and conditions it deems advisable. Membership in such a Holding Commandery shall only be obtained by affiliation. The Grand Master shall appoint the officers of a Holding Commandery, except that the offices of Recorder and Treasurer shall be held by the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer respectively, and the elected Grand Encampment officers shall be *ex officio* members of the Holding Commandery exempt from payment of dues or assessments. All other members of the Holding Commandery shall be subject to the payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Grand Encampment and the Commandery shall be subject to discipline as otherwise provided by law. A Holding Commandery shall not be required to have a suitable Asylum, to meet quarterly, or to create new Sir Knights as normally required by Section 176. The Commander of a Holding Commandery does not obtain the rank of Past Commander by virtue of such service. (2021, p unassigned)

(c)(2) It may create and charter special-purpose Commanderies, such as research Commanderies, for such purposes and under such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate. Membership in such a special-purpose Commandery shall only be by affiliation and may not be a Sir Knight's sole membership. All members of a special-purpose Commandery shall be subject to the payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Grand Encampment and the Commandery and shall be subject in all other respects to Templar law. A special-purpose Commandery shall not be required to have a suitable Asylum, shall not be required to meet quarterly, and shall not be required to create new Sir Knights. A Sir Knight serving as Commander of a special-purpose Commandery does not obtain the rank of Past Commander by virtue of such service. (2021, p unassigned)

(d) It shall review the reports of its officers and the proceedings of Grand and Subordinate Commanderies and settle all controversies between Grand Commanderies.

(e) It shall examine the accounts of all such Officers, Committees and Trustees as may have charge of or handle any of its funds or property.

(f) It may create or establish charitable projects under the designation of "Knights Templar," and this power shall be ample and exclusive. No other Templar Body owing allegiance to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar shall form or establish any charitable organization, association or corporation using in the name or title thereof, the designation "Knights Templar" or any combination of such words, without the written approval of the Grand Master or of the Grand Encampment.

Any Templar Body owing allegiance to the Grand Encampment which may hereafter form or

organize any such charitable organization or corporation, although not using the name or title herein prohibited, shall nevertheless provide in its Articles of Organization that the principal officers of the Templar Body forming any such charitable organization shall be members of the Board of Control of such organization so formed, and shall constitute a majority of the members of such Board of Control. (1955, p. 241)(1958, p. 305-309)

The decisions of the Grand Encampment are final, and no appeal lies there from.

In the case of Honorary titles the Constitution and not the ritual governs. (1913, p 54-55, No. 17, Melish)
The Laws of a Grand Commandery must not be in conflict with the Laws of Grand Encampment. (1913, p 63-65, No. 24, Melish)
As to the question of wording in the Lord's Prayer only the Grand Encampment has the power to alter the ritual and the wording used in the ritual is therefore the proper wording. (1916, p 38, No. 8, Mac Arthur)
A Grand Commandery may prescribe a ceremony for its own opening so long as it does not conflict with the laws of the Grand Encampment. (1916, p45, No. 17, Mac Arthur)
A Grand Commander may not pass an amendment to its constitution that is in conflict with the laws of the Grand Encampment. (1919, p 71 & 323, No. 43, Smith)
When the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Encampment are changed so as to affect the language of the Ritual, such action automatically changes the Ritual to conform thereto. (1922, p 21 & 267, No. 1, Orr)
While the question of tactics is within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commanderies, the ritual shall be followed. (1922, p 27 & 280, No. 15, Orr)
The Grand Encampment may alter or abolish Commandery titles. One who has such a title retains the same as long as the law prescribes. (1925, p. 52 & 387, No. 2, Newby)
It is confirmed that resolutions repealing prior law apply only to laws passed previous to 1910. (1928, P. 58 & 310, No. 7, Vallery)
When the ritual prescribes a procedure, that procedure must be complied followed. When it does not, each Grand Jurisdiction may adopt its own procedure. (1937, p 27 & 325, No. 10, Agnew)
When the Grand Encampment amends or revises its laws, the Statutes and Regulations of a Grand Commandery in conflict therewith should be promptly made to conform, regardless of any local requirement that amendments shall lie over for a year before action may be taken. (1937, p. 31 & 330, No. 14 Agnew)
Explanatory information in the ritual ceremonies are part of the ritual and therefore are controlling and shall be followed. (1937, p 35 & 335, No. 20, Agnew)
The full form opening is part of the Ritual. The Ritual is all secret work. It is not to be exemplified in the presence of anyone who is not a Knight Templar in good standing. No Grand Commandery is authorized to permit any of the ritualistic work to be exemplified except in the secrecy of the asylum. (1937, p 42 & 346, No. 3, Norris)
Rituals are under the sole supervision and control of the Grand Encampment and may be published and issued by it alone. It is unlawful for any Commandery or member thereof to issue

any others or print, publish or use any other.

The rituals cannot be altered or abridged except by the Grand Encampment. Drill regulations are within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery. (1940, p 64 & 281, No. 4, Norris)

The words used in the Lord's Prayer are "Forgive us our debts" not "Forgive us our trespasses". (1940, p 69 & 290, No. 32, Norris)

In various revisions of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment many of the original provisions have been brought forward verbatim and re-enacted by the revisions made. Provisions found in the Constitution and Statutes of 1910 and 1934 were carried forward without change into the 1934 revision. Such carrying forward without change constituted merely a re-enactment of the old provisions, and in all such cases rulings which have been made in reference to those re-enacted provisions would be applicable today. Where changes in the provisions have been made, the old ruling would not be applicable.

Decisions approved by the Grand Encampment prior to 1934 as to re-enacted provisions brought forward from previous Constitutions and Statutes would be applicable now unless they have been overruled by a later session.

Decisions, opinions and rulings made by the Grand Master are binding until overruled by the Grand Encampment. If approved by the Grand Encampment they become a part of the law of the Grand Encampment. (1940, p 69 & 279, No. 35, Norris)

Editor note – This ruling only pertains to decisions in or since 1910. In that year in order to clarify Grand Encampment law and bring all existing law together in one source all prior law was repealed to be replaced by the new Constitution and Statutes as well as decisions that were approved at that Conclave.

In the event of conflict between the Constitution and Ritual relative to the use of titles, the provisions of the Constitution control. (1949, p 219, No. 12, Rice)

There is no authority for a Grand Commandery to adopt an abbreviated form for the prescribed Full Form Opening.

Ritual directions that the short form be used only "in an extreme case" is required.

Tactics are under the control of the Grand Commandery but where tactics are prescribed by the ritual they must be observed.

No part of the ritual can be published by the Grand Commandery but tactics may refer to ritual page and line number.

(1952 p 66 & 159, No. 7, Gaylord)

It is not possible for the Order of the Red Cross or the Order of the Temple to be conferred in short form, absent an official ritual of that type and the Grand Master is without power to grant such Dispensation. (1955, p. 76 & 196, No. 3, Gordon)

An enquiry was made regarding the wearing of embroidered stars on the left sleeve of the uniform to designate Zone officers, assistant zone officers and aides. This is not permissible for three reasons. 1) They are not Templar insignia approved by the Grand Encampment, 2) They are not being worn on the left breast as provided in section 257 and 3) They could not be regarded as meritorious jewels or insignia, since they would be worn by administrative officers as a mark of current service only and not for services performed heretofore and now concluded. There is no authority in Templar law for the wearing of any sort of insignia on uniforms by administrative officers during incumbency of the offices. (1955, p. 81 & 199, No. 8, Gordon)

Portions of the ritual identified as optional such as the baldric lecture may be omitted. (1955, p. 92 & 264, No. 18-3, Gordon)

A Masonic law that holding a presiding office, even briefly, makes one a past presiding officer is not valid for the Order of Knights Templar. Grand Encampment law is independent of other Masonic law and governs the order. In all strictly Templar affairs, this adopted code of procedure must be observed and accorded full compliance, where there is no essential violation of fundamental Masonic principles. (1955, p. 101 & 269, No. 24-2, Gordon)

A Grand Commandery need not submit its Manual of Tactics and Drill to the Grand Master or the Grand Encampment for approval before adoption, publication and use. The Manual must conform to the ceremonies and floor movements indicated in the Ritual. (1955, p. 105 & 275, No. 27-2, Gordon)

Laws of a Grand Commandery should be changed to conform to changes in the laws of the Grand Encampment. (1958, p. 252 & 293, No. 33, DeLamater)

A Commandery may not form an Eye Foundation without the permission of the Grand Encampment. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., which is one of the functions provided for by the laws of the Grand Encampment, should occupy the field exclusively and no other entities subordinate to the Grand Encampment could enter the field. (1961, p. 40, No. 5, Wieber)

A Subordinate Commandery may not change its name except by action of the Grand Encampment. (1961, p. 45, No. 13 c, Wieber)

The Grand Encampment has sole and exclusive right to change, modify or amend the Ritual, and no other authority has any power to do so. A Grand Commandery may not add the words "Council of Royal and Select Masters" to the vow. (1961, p. 46, No. 15, Wieber)

If a Commandery is opened in the Order of the Temple and the Commander is present, or in his absence the next duly qualified officer is present, then the work of conferring the order of the temple under the supervision of such presiding officer could be conferred by any Sir Knight whom the Commander would select, provided that any duly-elected officer replaced in the cast would consent to such arrangement.

The Grand Encampment does not recognize any other organization except a duly-constituted Commandery as qualified to confer the Order of Knighthood. Consequently, no organization under the auspices of the Shrine or any other body which sees fit to call itself "The Crusaders" has the legal right as such organization, without the sponsorship of a duly-constituted Commandery of Knights Templar, nor can any such organization in its own name be

empowered to do so by either the Grand Commander or the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment.

Another thing to remember is that when such organization qualifies to confer the Orders of Knighthood, the members participating in the ritualistic work must be dressed as Knights Templar, wearing uniforms legalized by the Grand Commandery of that jurisdiction and the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. (1961, p. 47, No. 16, Wiebe)

All parts of the Ritual are secret and no portion thereof can be exhibited or revealed to the public. To do so would be a serious offense against Templary. (1961, p. 50, No. 22 Wieber)

CONCLAVES

Section 4. The Conclaves of the Grand Encampment are:

- (a) Stated; which shall be held triennially at such times and places as it may order, provided that the Grand Master may change the time or place or both.
- (b) Special; which may be called by the Grand Master at his discretion and on the written request of at least Nine Grand Commanderies, the Grand Master shall call such Conclave. No business shall be transacted at such Conclave save that specified by the Grand Master in his summons or set out in the request.

QUORUM

Section 5. Nine members entitled to vote in the Grand Encampment, including an Officer authorized to convene the same, shall constitute a quorum, provided that three or more Grand Commanderies are represented.

CONDUCT OF CONCLAVES

Section 6. All questions shall be determined by a majority vote unless otherwise provided. The presiding Officer shall have no vote save in case of a tie.

Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

Section 7. Any member may appeal from a decision of the presiding Officer.

Section 8. At all *Conclaves* each voting member shall be entitled to one vote. (1949, p 587)

No vote accrues to the office of the Grand Captain General, he having died. (1937, p. 340, No. 25, Agnew)

PROXIES

Section 9. The members named in paragraphs (b) and (c) of Section 2 may be represented by proxies belonging to the same Bodies. A proxy does not by virtue of such appointment become a member of the Grand Encampment. He shall, before acting, produce acceptable evidence of his written appointment. Each member present in person or by proxy shall have only one vote. (1967, p. 115-116)

No vote accrues to the office of the Grand Captain General, he having died. (1937, p. 340, No. 25, Agnew)

REVENUE AND FINANCES

Section 10. It may levy and collect fees for Dispensations and Charters issued to Grand and Subordinate Commanderies; may levy a fee for each Knight Templar created by Subordinate Commanderies; may levy annual per capita dues upon Grand and Subordinate Commanderies; and may also levy assessments upon Grand and Subordinate Commanderies based upon the membership therein.

Grand Encampment assessments are levied for each member of a Grand or Subordinate Commandery and there are no exceptions. The question pertained to remissions based upon age. (1934, p 169 & 420, No. 5 Weidner)

In regard to the question of whether Grand Encampment per capita is to be paid on ACTUAL membership or only on paying members, there are no exceptions provided. The amount due must be remitted annually to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment on the actual number of members borne on the rolls of the Commandery. (1934, p 170 & 420, No. 6 Weidner)
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Following the suppression of Freemasonry in Cuba - A member of Havana Commandery is entitled to remain in good standing if he pays his annual dues to the Grand Encampment, directly or through a volunteer for this purpose. Such a member is entitled to receive a membership card from the Grand Recorder under the seal of the Grand Encampment, certifying that his is a member in good standing for the period for which his annual dues are paid. Any Officer or Past Commander, volunteering to assist in this work, should keep in touch with the Grand Recorder and should forthwith remit any dues collected together with the name and address of such member. In the meantime, a member of Havana Commandery in good standing may petition a Commandery at the place of his new residence to become affiliated with such other Commandery, but he is not required to do so in order to retain his membership in good standing. (1967, p. 150, No. 3, Brucker)
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Section 11. All funds of the Grand Encampment shall be deposited in the name of' the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America in such depositories as may be designated by the Grand Master, the Grand Treasurer and the Chairman of the Committee on Finance.

Section 12. Funds of the Grand Encampment shall be disbursed only by checks, signed by the Grand Master or in his absence or disability by the Deputy Grand Master, and attested by the Grand Recorder.

In the event of the absence or temporary disability of the Grand Recorder, checks signed by the Grand Master may be attested by the Chairman of the Committee on Finance. Provided further, that in the event only of an emergency or the inability of the Grand Master to sign, then in that further event only, the Funds of the Grand Encampment shall be disbursed only by checks signed by any two of the following: Deputy Grand Master, Grand Recorder, Chairman of the Committee on Finance. No check shall be issued unless the Grand Encampment shall have made an appropriation to cover it save that in cases of emergency or necessity checks approved in writing by the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Chairman of the Committee on Finance may be issued on the General Fund to an amount not exceeding in the aggregate in any one year Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000). (1964, page 2587258)(1979, p. 124-127 & 223-224)(1988 page 80-84)

PERMANENT FUND

Section 13. The fund consisting of Thirty Thousand Dollars, originally set aside as a Permanent Fund of the Grand Encampment, and such sums as have been heretofore or may be hereafter added thereto shall be held and invested by a Board of Trustees consisting of five members: the Grand Master and Grand Treasurer, ex-officio, and three other members of the Grand Encampment, one to be elected at each Triennial Conclave, and to serve for nine years.

Vacancies on the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund of the Grand Encampment may be filled by appointment by the Grand Master effective until the next Triennial Conclave. (1928, p. 314, Vallery)

Editor note: This was not a decision presented for approval but was reported upon by the jurisprudence committee and approved by the Conclave assembled.

Section 14. Every loan made by the Board shall be secured by real estate worth at least double the amount of the loan, or by bonds of the United States or bonds of any State of the United States of America, and all or any part of said funds may be invested in accordance with the statutes of the State of Illinois regulating investments by trustees. The Board of Trustees is hereby authorized to enter into contracts on behalf of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America with any qualified bank or trust company for the custody and servicing of the investments of the Permanent Fund, and for investment service in connection therewith. In the making of such investments and the entering into such contracts, the action of a majority in number of the members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute action of the Board of Trustees. (1958, p. 310-311) (1970, p. 186-192)

Section 14½. The Trustees of the Permanent Fund shall determine annually as of July 1, the net income from the investment of the Permanent Fund during the preceding year, and beginning with the adoption of this section for the year ending June 30, 1964, and annually thereafter, shall promptly pay over such amount to the Grand Recorder for deposit to the General Fund of the Grand Encampment. (1964, p. 368-369)

Section 15. Neither the Board of Trustees nor any member thereof shall receive any pecuniary compensation or remuneration for services in the investment or management of the Permanent Fund.

Section 16. The Board shall render to the Grand Encampment at each Triennial Conclave, and oftener if required by it or the Grand Master, a true and correct account in detail of all of its receipts and disbursements, together with a descriptive inventory covering all of its investments and funds and shall submit its books for examination by the Committee on Finance.

Section 17. The Board of Trustees shall select, from among their number or otherwise, a Treasurer of the Permanent Fund who shall give bond in such form and in such amount as maybe required of him by the Board of Trustees. When given and approved, it shall be deposited with and kept safely by the Grand Master.

Vacancies on the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund of the Grand Encampment may be filled by appointment by the Grand Master effective until the next Triennial Conclave. (1928, p. 314, Vallery)

Editor note: This was not a decision presented for approval but was reported upon by the jurisprudence committee and approved by the Conclave assembled.

THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Section 18. The Educational Foundation of the Grand Encampment, created at the Conclave in 1922 by transferring One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) from the Permanent Fund of the Grand Encampment as an endowment and augmented by the assessment of One Dollar (\$1.00) on each member of the Order, part of which was to be endowment and part to be used by the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies for loans to deserving students, the whole fund arising from the assessments equal to Nine Dollars (\$9.00) for each member having been returned to the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies for administration and use by them, constitutes a fund for the purposes for which it was created and no others, and must be continued under the supervision of the Educational Foundation Committee of the Grand Encampment, *provided*, that no transfer of these funds from one jurisdiction to another may be made without the consent of the Grand or Subordinate Commandery upon which the request is made, and *provided further*, that the interest, income, and principal of the fund, whether in the hands of the Educational Foundation Committee of the Grand Encampment or under the

management of bodies of Grand or Subordinate Commanderies may be used for student grants or scholarships, or grants to educational institutions to provide student grants or scholarships, under such rules as the Educational Foundation Committee of the Grand Encampment may prescribe. (1937, p 350) (1940, p 271) (2021, p unassigned)

The resolutions for the Educational Foundation require nine annual assessments on the membership of \$1.00 per capita, each annual assessment to be based on membership of that particular year. Voluntary contributions or accretions of any kind will not release the Grand Commandery from the necessity of making annual assessments of the \$1.00 per capita on the membership. (1934, pp 211 & 215 No. 7 Agnew)

The amount of \$9 per member is intended to be a minimum amount. No part of the educational funds may be refunded or diverted to other uses. (1934, p 217, No. 10, Agnew)

A Grand Commandery having made a tenth annual assessment of \$1, the funds belong to the Grand Encampment Educational Foundation and cannot be returned or withdrawn except that the Grand Encampment may allow reimbursement of appropriate expenditures out of a Grand Commandery's general fund. (1940, p 67 & 350, No. 25 Norris)

In the case of drafting a will naming the Educational Foundation as beneficiary the donor may specify the "The Educational Foundation of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America". It may specify that the funds be administered by the Division of the State but it is not necessary since that is where the funds will go. (1946, p 84 & 242, No. 13, Orr)

A Subordinate Division of the Educational Foundation must recognize the Grand Encampment Committee on the Educational Foundation as being in complete charge of all such funds and the supervising of all such work, and require the Subordinate Division to submit its reports and in all other ways recognize its status as a Subordinate Division of the Educational Foundation of the Grand Encampment. (1952 p 81 & 238, No. 19, Gaylord)

Grand Encampment has no policy of bonding officers of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation. Although it is the owner of the funds in the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, since the States have been made custodian of the funds raised by them, the Grand Encampment looks only to the several Grand Commanderies for protection insofar as those funds are concerned. Consequently, whatever procedure is followed by the Grand Commandery in bonding its officers is a matter of their own choice. (1961, p. 51, No. 26, Wieber)

Neither the Grand Commander nor the Grand Commandery has any authority to compel the Educational Foundation Committee of that division to set up grants or scholarships.

The Grand Commander or a Grand Commandery has no authority or power to fix the operating budget of the Educational Foundation Committee in any division. (1964, p. 80 & 255, No. 3, Moore)

Grand Commandery Officers cannot be "ex-officio members" of the Educational Foundation Committee. The Rules, Regulations and Standard Practices for the governing of the Knight Templar Educational Foundation provides for the sole method for the appointment of such committee members. (1967, p. 152, No. 9, Brucker)

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

Section 18½. A Foundation is created for the establishment and maintenance of a project to be known as Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., for the research, surgical treatment and hospitalization of those who suffer from diseases of or injury to, the eye, which, if untreated, might result in blindness and for the correction of strabismus in children. That admission for treatment of such individuals must be without regard to race, color, creed, age, sex or national origin. That the treatment of patients for this purpose must be free and limited to those individuals unable to pay. That all matters in connection with the launching of this project, including the establishment and maintenance of hospitalization, research and treatment, of these individuals must be in existing facilities, and must be handled by the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., a non-profit corporation, to be formed for this purpose, by a Board of Trustees consisting of the following officers and members of the Grand Encampment: Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder and all Past Grand Masters and six members of the Grand Encampment elected at large, with two members elected at each Triennial Conclave to serve for a term of nine years. All appropriate corporate duties, responsibilities and provisions must be included in the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., by action of the Board of Trustees. Trustees must maintain membership in a Constituent or Subordinate Commandery under the authority of the Grand Encampment and are subject to removal in accordance with the articles of incorporation and the bylaws of the corporation. (1958, p. 390-391)(1964, p. 381-382)(1964, p. 446-448) (2021, p unassigned)

For the purposes of this project, and in accordance with Section 10 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, an annual assessment of One Dollar (\$1.00) per Knight Templar each year, except-

- (a) Knights Templar who have purchased Life Sponsorship Certificates; and
- (b) Knights Templar who are Patrons or Associate Patrons of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

is levied upon each Grand and Subordinate Commandery based on the membership therein. (2021, p unassigned) (2021, p unassigned)

Exemption to the annual assessment for a Knight Templar holding Life Sponsorship does not apply in more than one Commandery. If a Life Sponsor becomes a dual member, he assumes assessment responsibility in the second Commandery. A Life Sponsor demitting from one Commandery and affiliating with another Commandery carries his exemption status with him and the Commandery with which he affiliates then credits his exemption on its roll. The Commandery from which he demits then removes his exemption status from its reports. (1973, p. 187-188)

Upon the payment of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) in a lump sum to the Knights Templar Eye

Foundation, Inc., it shall issue to the Knight Templar making such payment a certificate as a life sponsor of Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.; and thereafter, the Grand or Subordinate Commandery of which any Knight Templar may be a member is exempt from the annual assessment because of his membership in his Commandery.

The Grand Treasurer of the Grand Encampment shall within thirty (30) days after receipt pay over all monies received by him for this purpose to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., and accept its receipt therefore. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. may solicit and receive gifts, contributions and bequests from any source for the purpose of augmenting the funds available for this purpose. Full and complete reports of all of the affairs and activities of this project must be rendered annually, as of July 1, each year, to the Grand Encampment by the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., so that each Knight Templar in all of the Grand, Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies may have an account of the service that is rendered mankind in the name of Templar Charity. (1955, pages 242-262)(1964, p. 446-448) (1973, p. 404-405) (1988 pages 81-84) (2021, p unassigned)

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation assessment applies to Grand Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies based upon their membership. A Grand Commander may not levy an assessment upon members or Constituent Commanderies. Only the Grand Commandery may do so.

The Grand Encampment makes no exceptions for classes of members. The assessment upon the Grand Commandery applies based upon the entire membership. If it is not paid by the member it must be paid either by the Grand Commandery or the Constituent Commandery out of its own treasury. The application of the assessment by the Grand Commandery to the life members of a Constituent Commandery is a question of the law of the Grand Commandery. The same is true of remission of dues of indigent members. (1958, p. 235 & 271, No. 11, DeLamater)

NOTE Section 18 ½ has been amended to exempt the following from paying the assessment:

- a. Members who have purchased Life-Sponsorship Certificates; and
- b. Members who are Patrons or Associates Patrons of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

A Commandery may not form an Eye Foundation without the permission of the Grand Encampment. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., which is one of the functions provided for by the laws of the Grand Encampment, should occupy the field exclusively and no other entities subordinate to the Grand Encampment could enter the field. (1961, p. 40, No. 5, Wieber)

Section 18 1/2 of the Constitution providing for the assessment, includes life members. It is the duty of the Commandery to collect this assessment from life members, or pay the assessment itself. (1961, p. 45, No. 12, Weber)

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit Maryland Corporation with the full

power under its charter to conduct the business, incur indebtedness and borrow money on either short or long-term basis, and to issue its promissory note therefore, pending receipt of the "assessment money" from the several Grand Commanderies on June 30. (1967, p. 151, No. 6, Brucker)

Where a member hold dual membership in two Constituent Commanderies, he must pay the Eye Foundation assessment in each Constituent Commandery. (1967, p. 154, No. 14 part 1, Brucker)

If a member is a life sponsor he is exempt from the payment of assessment wherever he may hold his membership. (1967, p. 154, No. 14 part 2, Brucker)

OFFICERS

Section 19. The Officers of the Grand Encampment shall be:

A Grand Master,

A Deputy Grand Master,

A Grand Generalissimo,

A Grand Captain General,

A Department Commander for each department into which Grand

Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies may be grouped,

A Grand Senior Warden,

A Grand Junior Warden,

A Grand Prelate,

A Grand Treasurer,

A Grand Recorder,

A Grand Standard Bearer,

A Grand Sword Bearer,

A Grand Warder,

A Grand Captain of the Guard,

The first four of whom and the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder shall be elected and installed. The Department Commanders and a Grand Prelate shall be appointed by the Grand Master and shall be installed. The remaining officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master and shall not be installed. (1964, p. 6 & 334 - 338)

Section 20. All elective Officers shall hold office for the Triennial Period and until their successors are duly elected and installed. The Grand Prelate and the Department Commanders shall hold office for the Triennial Period, or during the pleasure of the Grand Master. The Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder and Grand Captain of the Guard shall hold office only for the duration of the conclave at which each was appointed, after which each of said officers shall become vacant and remain so until the next conclave of the Grand Encampment. (1964, p. 6 & 334 - 338)

Section 21. No Knight Templar shall be eligible to any office in the Grand Encampment except that of Grand Prelate unless he shall be a member thereof.

VOW OF OFFICE

Section 22. Each officer of the Grand Encampment, before entering upon exercise of the duties of his office, shall take the following vow, viz:

“I, (A.B.), do promise and vow that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, and that. I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which I have been chosen, to the best of my ability.”

GRAND MASTER

Section 23. The Grand Master generally shall have power and authority to do and perform all such acts as he may deem for the interests of Templary and which are not contrary to the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment. Among his prerogatives and duties, but not to be construed as a limitation of the general grant herein contained, are the following:

- (a) To maintain a watchful supervision over all Commanderies, Grand, Constituent and Subordinate; to see that all the Constitutional enactments, the Statutes, Edicts, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Encampment are duly and promptly obeyed; that the Work, Rituals and discipline of Templary are uniform; that the Insignia of Rank are those prescribed by the Grand Encampment; that a Uniform is prescribed by all Grand Commanderies for its members, and that the Uniform of members of Subordinate Commanderies is that prescribed by the Grand Encampment. (1940, p 257-315)
- (b) To fill all vacancies which may occur in the membership of the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund, and in any office of the Grand Encampment other than that of Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General, save as provided in Section 26. All such appointees shall serve during the pleasure of the Grand Master and until their successors shall have been elected or appointed and duly installed, save that an appointee on either Board shall in no event serve longer than until the next Triennial Conclave, when a Trustee shall be elected for the unexpired term. (2011, p unassigned)
- (c) To appoint all committees authorized by the Constitution or the Statutes or created by action of the Grand Encampment and to change the membership thereof at his pleasure.
- (d) To remove any officer of a Grand or Subordinate Commandery when in his opinion such officer has been guilty of unknighly conduct.
- (e) To visit and preside over any Grand, Constituent or Subordinate Commandery.
- (f) To cause to be executed and securely kept all Official Bonds required by the Grand Encampment.
- (g) To issue Dispensations to establish Commanderies of the Indispensable Number in territory in which there is no Grand Commandery.

- (h) He may create Commanderies and Grand Commanderies under the terms specified in the constitution or statutes. (2012)
- (i) To confer, on any qualified candidate, in person or by delegated authority, the Orders of our organization. He may abbreviate the ceremonies in any manner deemed appropriate by him except that communicating the secret ritualistic work is required. (Amended 2003 pages 85-86) (2012)
- (j) To grant Dispensations to Subordinate Commanderies:
To permit them to receive petitions and to ballot thereon at the same Stated Conclave, or at Special Conclaves, after such notice as he may deem proper.(1970, p. 195-196)(2012)
- (k) To grant Dispensations to Subordinate Commanderies outside of the United States with problems of inflationary spiral in their national money, by his consent and allowance in writing to charge conferral fees for less than forty dollars (\$40.00) for as long as such inflation prevails. (1988 pages 216-217)
- (l) To grant a Dispensation during any recess of the Grand Encampment for the formation of a Grand Commandery in any country, state or geographical region where no Grand Commandery exists, and to recall any such Dispensation, and until the Grand Encampment issues a Charter for such Grand Commandery, to suspend or remove any officer thereof.
- m) To grant a Dispensation during any recess of the Grand Encampment to add any country, state or geographical region where no supreme governing body exercising Knight Templar Jurisdiction exists to the established area of any existing Grand Commandery. (2018, p. 89-91 & 285-289)
- (n) To commission any member of the Grand Encampment to constitute a Grand Commandery which has received a Charter for its formation, or any Past Commander to constitute a Subordinate Commandery duly Chartered; to issue his proxy to any such member authorizing him to visit, inspect and preside over any Grand Commandery or Constituent Commandery, or to any Past Commander to visit, inspect and preside over any Subordinate Commandery. Such appointee shall be received as and for the Grand Master. (Amended 1964 pages 346-348)

The Grand Master cannot authorize a Commandery U.D. to change its meeting night, that being fixed by rule of the Commandery. (1910, p 250, No. 19, Rugg)
The Grand Master has no authority to inaugurate the raising of funds for the Universities of America. (1916, pp 33-34 &278-279, No. 5, Mac Arthur)
Although the Grand Master is to maintain a watchful supervision over all Commanderies, Grand, Constituent and Subordinate, it is not his responsibility to review and approve changes to the constitutions and other laws so enacted in those bodies. Such laws however must conform to Grand Encampment law. (1916, p 41-43, No. 13, Mac Arthur)
1) A request for a decision from the Grand Master from a subordinate Commandery should be made through the Commander. (1925, p. 64 & 397, No. 13, Newby)
The Grand Encampment or a Grand Commandery may enter upon a program of raising funds for a charitable project or memorial but a Grand Master or Grand Commander may not. (1925, p.78 & 405, No. 22, Newby)
The Grand Master has no authority to rule as to the floor plans in reference to Asylum tactics.

Asylum tactics are optional. (1928, p 51 & 307 No. 1 & 2, Vallery)
Vacancies on the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund of the Grand Encampment may be filled by appointment by the Grand Master effective until the next Triennial Conclave. (1928, p. 314, Vallery)
Editor note: This was not a decision presented for approval but was reported upon by the jurisprudence committee and approved by the Conclave assembled.
The Grand Master's personal representative has no authority to grant dispensations and his appointment as such expires with the term of the Grand Master. (1940, p 6 & 341, No. 6, Norris)
The Grand Master has no authority to grant a Grand Commander more authority than the constitution and statutes of the Grand Encampment provide. (1946, p 69 & 242, No. 7, Orr)
The Grand Master has no authority to change the uniform of a Subordinate Commandery. (1946, p 86 & 242, No. 14, Orr)
There is no provision for an appeal from a decision of the Grand Master to be included in the official Notice of the Triennial Conclave. There is no appeal, as such, since the constitution requires every decision to be reviewed and submitted for approval at the next triennial. (1952 p 62 & 154, No. 2, Gaylord)
The Grand Master may correct an obvious clerical error in the legislation adopted. Correction of clerical error must be by unanimous consent of the Grand Encampment. (1952 p 64 & 156, No. 4, Gaylord)
It is not possible for the Order of the Red Cross or the Order of the Temple to be conferred in short form, absent an official ritual of that type and the Grand Master is without power to grant such Dispensation. (1955, p. 76 & 196, No. 3, Gordon)
An enquiry was made regarding the wearing of embroidered stars on the left sleeve of the uniform to designate Zone officers, assistant zone officers and aides. This is not permissible for three reasons. 1) They are not Templar insignia approved by the Grand Encampment, 2) They are not being worn on the left breast as provided in section 257 and 3) They could not be regarded as meritorious jewels or insignia, since they would be worn by administrative officers as a mark of current service only and not for services performed heretofore and now concluded. There is no authority in Templar law for the wearing of any sort of insignia on uniforms by administrative officers during incumbency of the offices. (1955, p. 81 & 199, No. 8, Gordon)
The Grand Master has no authority to grant a Dispensation to change a date of a stated conclave which has been definitely fixed by the By-Laws of the Commandery. (1955, p. 107 & 276, No. 28, Gordon)
The Grand Master shall see that the uniform of members in subordinate Commanderies is that prescribed by the Grand Encampment. Therefore there is no option in Subordinate Commanderies but rather they must own and possess their own Templar uniforms.
There is no exception for members of the armed forces. (1955, p. 110 & 277, No. 30, Gordon)
The Grand Master under Section 49 of the Constitution may determine whether a Grand Commander has permanently removed from the Jurisdiction, and whether such removal precludes him from the performance of the duties of his office. If he finds both of these facts in

the affirmative, then the Grand Master should declare the office vacant. (1958, p. 231 & 268, No. 6, DeLamater)

An officer, who shows an utter lack of interest, doesn't attend, and is an example of gross negligence may be removed from his office by the Commander following a formal "decision" by the Commander finding unknighly conduct by reason of nonfeasance, misfeasance, and/or malfeasance in the performance of the duties of the office of the offending officer. There is no appeal to the Commandery from such a "decision", but such action by the Commander shall not affect the standing in the Order of such officer or his membership in the Commandery. Such removal may also be ordered by the Grand Commander, for the same reason and within the same limitations.

The authority to remove an officer for non-performance of official duties rises from the broad authority of the Grand Commander and the Commander, under the vertical axis of power and authority established by Templar laws, to govern his respective level of Templar jurisdiction. Such authority, when related to the duty of seeing that Templar laws are observed and in the absence of arbitrary conduct by the presiding officer, is practically unlimited.

In the exercise of such authority, the Commander must always be concerned for the good of the Order, and such final step as removal of an officer should be taken as a last resort. It should be only rarely that an officer will not either respond to the needs of the office he has sworn to perform to the best of his ability or consent to resign voluntarily. Even then, the Commander should give written notice to the offending officer to appear at a time and place and justify his conduct, and a third member should be present at such hearing; also the Grand Commander should be informed.

While the Grand Commander of the jurisdiction and the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment have similar authority with regard to all officers within their areas of command, it seems best that problems be solved where they exist and not allowed to fester while waiting for action by some higher authority. The Commander has the tools to handle matters at the local level. And he should not expect or invite outside intervention to solve his own problems. (1970, p. 142 & 536, No. 4, Crofts)

The Grand Master after inquiry and investigation determined that a Sir Knight's failure to have a dues card or Demit was through no fault of his own. The Grand Master issued a letter to be used in lieu of a demit, or its equivalent. (1970, p. 142 & 542, No. 8, Crofts)

Video tape, DVD or any other form of video presentation of the Orders of Templary as depicted in the rituals of the Grand Encampment are not to be used in the conferral of said orders. They were produced for instructional purposes only. The conferral of any Order must be done by Sir Knights, in a Commandery Asylum. (2006, p. 69 & 151, No. 3, Fischer)

All Templar funds are to be maintained separately from funds of other organizations if practical and under no circumstances comingled with other such funds without adequate accounting and legal recourse to protect Templar funds. Commanders, Grand Commanders, The Grand Master, Commanderies and Grand Commanderies may require procedures including separate accounts. (2018, p. 83 & 268 No. 3, Vaught)

Section 24. The Grand Master shall submit a copy of each decision, within sixty days of rendition, to the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence and make a full report of all his official acts at the next Triennial Conclave.

THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Section 25. The Deputy Grand Master, in the event of the absence of the Grand Master or his temporary incapacity, shall act as Grand Master. In the event of the death, permanent removal from the United States or permanent disability of the Grand Master, he shall succeed to the office of Grand Master and be installed therein. At all other times he shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the Grand Encampment or the Grand Master. (1916, p 409)

THE GRAND GENERALISSIMO AND GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL

Section 26. In the event of the advancement, death, permanent removal from the United States or permanent disability of the officer next higher in rank, the Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General shall succeed to the office and be installed therein. In case of a similar vacancy in the office of Grand Captain General, the Grand Master shall appoint and install a successor. They shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the Grand Encampment or the Grand Master or such as are appropriate to their respective stations.

Section 26 applies only to the Grand Encampment. If the Deputy Grand Commander dies the Grand Generalissimo succeeds to the next office and should be installed. The Captain General is likewise advanced and the Grand Master may appoint a Grand Captain General. (1940, p 24 & 278, No. 24, Norris)
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WHEN PAST GRAND MASTER ASSUMES DUTIES OF GRAND MASTER

Section 27. In the event of the absence, death or disability of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General, the Junior Past Grand Master, according to service if not incapacitated, and if incapacitated the next ranking Past Grand Master, shall assume the office and discharge the duties of Grand Master. (1964, p. 367-368)

THE GRAND TREASURER

Section 28. It is the duty of the Grand Treasurer:

(a) To invest, with the approval of the Grand Master, from time to time, any or all funds not required for current expenses, in accordance with the Statutes of the State of Illinois

regulating investments by trustees. Furthermore, with the approval of the Grand Master, he may enter into contracts on behalf of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America with any bank or trust company covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation for the custody and servicing of such investments, and for investment service in connection therewith. (1958, p. 311-312)(1970, p. 186-192)(1988 pages 81-84)

- (b) To review monthly statements from the Grand Recorder and to comment on them when appropriate. (1988 pages 81-84)
- (c) To render to the Grand Master annually, an inventory covering all funds and property of the Grand Encampment under his control; to submit this information for inspection by the Committee on Finance on such day immediately preceding the Triennial Conclave as the Grand Master may designate. (1988 pages 81-84)
- (d) To give bond in such form and amount and with such Corporate Surety as shall from time to time be required of him by the Grand Master. If the Grand Master is satisfied with such bond, he shall approve it, take charge of and safely keep it. If the Grand Treasurer shall fail or refuse to give such bond, he shall forfeit his office, and the Grand Master shall appoint his successor.

Grand Encampment has no policy of bonding officers of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation. Although it is the owner of the funds in the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, since the States have been made custodian of the funds raised by them, the Grand Encampment looks only to the several Grand Commanderies for protection insofar as those funds are concerned. Consequently, whatever procedure is followed by the Grand Commandery in bonding its officers is a matter of their own choice. (1961, p. 51, No. 26, Wieber)

THE GRAND RECORDER

Section 29. It is the duty of the Grand Recorder:

- (a) To record the transactions of the Grand Encampment and to cause the same to be printed under the direction of the Committee on Printing.
- (b) To receive, duly file and safely keep all papers and documents of the Grand Encampment.
- (c) To prepare and attest all Charters, Dispensations and other Instruments emanating from the Grand Encampment.
- (d) To have charge of the Seal of the Grand Encampment, which he shall affix to all papers requiring it.
- (e) To give notice of Triennial Conclaves. Such notice shall be issued two months in advance of the time fixed for any Conclave, and shall set out all proposed amendments to the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals. He shall also give at least five days' Notice of Special Conclaves, which Notice shall contain a statement of the business to be

transacted. He shall also issue Summons when required to do so by the Grand Encampment or the Grand Master.

- (f) To collect all revenues of the Grand Encampment and deposit all receipts in a timely manner in financial institutions that are members of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. (1970, p. 186-192)(1970, p. 192-193) (1988 pages 81-84)
- (g) To furnish the Grand Treasurer with monthly statements of all receipts and disbursements together with copies of all checks issued and copies of reconciled bank statements. (1988 pages 81-84)
- (h) To give Bond in such form and amount and with such Corporate Surety as shall from time to time be required of him by the Grand Master, who shall take charge of and safely keep the same. In the event of the failure or refusal of the Grand Recorder promptly to furnish such bond, he shall forfeit his office, and the Grand Master shall appoint a successor. At the direction of the Grand Master or of the Committee on Finance, he shall furnish forthwith a statement of the financial affairs of his office, and on his failure to do so; the Grand Master may declare the office vacant and appoint a successor. (1988 pages 81-84)
- (i) To perform such other duties as shall be required of him by the Grand Encampment or the Grand Master. (1988 pages 81-84)

Grand Encampment has no policy of bonding officers of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation. Although it is the owner of the funds in the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, since the States have been made custodian of the funds raised by them, the Grand Encampment looks only to the several Grand Commanderies for protection insofar as those funds are concerned. Consequently, whatever procedure is followed by the Grand Commandery in bonding its officers is a matter of their own choice. (1961, p. 51, No. 26, Wieber)

The seal of the Grand Encampment shall be affixed to dues of all Commanderies under its jurisdiction. (2015, No. 7, Goodwin)

DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS

Section 29½.The Grand Master shall group the Grand Commanderies, and at his option any or all subordinate Commanderies, into not less than six nor more than fifteen Departments, and shall appoint for each Department a Department Commander, whose duties shall include the status of Proxy of the Grand Master within such Department on all occasions when the Grand Master or other Special Proxy is not present. Such Department Commanders shall be under the immediate direction of the Grand Master, and shall perform such duties as he may direct. (1964, p. 6 & 334 - 338)(2012)

Only one Annual Conclave of a Grand Commandery will be held at one time in a given department. Failing to comply with this decision, the Grand Commandery guilty of infringing on the rights and dates of the other Grand Commandery will have its Conclave dates reset be

the Grand Master. (2015, No. 3, Goodwin)

THE REMAINING OFFICERS

Section 30. The duties of the other Officers of the Grand Encampment are such as are appropriate to their respective stations, and such as may be assigned to them by the Grand Master or by the Grand Encampment.

TITLES

Section 31. The honorary title of the Grand Master is "Most Eminent", and the official title is "Grand Master."

The honorary title of each of the other officers is "Right Eminent."

The honorary title shall be used in addressing or referring to an officer, and when so used shall immediately precede the official title, e.g.: "Most Eminent Grand Master, Right Eminent Grand Treasurer," etc. The official title only shall be used by an officer when necessary to designate his rank or official station.

In the case of Honorary titles the Constitution and not the ritual governs. (1913, p 54-55, No. 17, Melish)

The Grand Encampment may alter or abolish Commandery titles. One who has such a title retains the same as long as the law prescribes. (1925, p. 52 & 387, No. 2, Newby)

PRECEDENCE OF RANK

Section 32. The precedence of rank shall be as follows:

- The Grand Master,
- The Deputy Grand Master,
- The Grand Generalissimo,
- The Grand Captain General,
- The Past Grand Masters according to seniority of service,
- The Past Deputy Grand Masters,
- The Past Grand Generalissimos,
- The Past Grand Captains General,
- The Grand Treasurer,
- The Grand Recorder,
- The Past Grand Treasurers
- The Past Grand Recorders
- The Grand Prelate,

The Department Commanders to take precedence among themselves in ceremonies and formations as the Grand Master on such occasions shall direct,

The Grand Senior Warden,
The Grand Junior Warden,
The Grand Standard Bearer,
The Grand Sword Bearer,
The Grand Warder,
The Grand Captain of the Guard.

(1958, p. 312-313) (1979, p. 130-131 & 291-293)

GRAND COMMANDERIES

HOW FORMED

Section 33. Whenever there shall be three or more Chartered Commanderies formed and holden under this Grand Encampment in any country, state or geographical region in which there is no Grand Commandery, a Grand Commandery may be formed by virtue of a Warrant issued by the Grand Master, who shall report his action to the Grand Encampment, and if approved, a Charter shall issue.

JURISDICTION TERRITORIAL

Section 34. The Territorial Jurisdiction of a Grand Commandery is the country, state or geographical region in which it exists, except that the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island is recognized as holding jurisdiction over both of those states.

The merger of two Grand Commanderies does not occur because of the merger of two territories. The Grand Encampment only has the power to assign the territorial jurisdictional limits of the Grand Commanderies. The Grand Master does not have the authority to create a union. (1910, p 103 & 242 No. 4, Rugg)

When a Grand Commandery is formed and assigned a territory, such as the state of Wyoming, it assumes authority over the subordinate Commanderies therein and may issue them charters from the Grand Commandery. (1958, p. 234 & 270, No. 9, Delamater)

MEMBERSHIP

Section 35. The members of a Grand Commandery are and shall be:

- (a) The Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General of each of its Constituent Commanderies.
- (b) Each Past Commander of its Constituent Commanderies.
- (c) All Past Commanders from other Jurisdictions who have become members of Constituent

Commanderies of such Grand Commandery and have been elected to membership by the Grand Commandery.

In all the above listed cases, such persons shall only be members while they remain members, currently affiliated, of a Constituent Commandery in the Grand Commandery. Residence inside or outside the jurisdiction has no effect on membership.

In addition, the members include all Knights Templar who have been elected as honorary members. To become or remain an honorary member one must not be a member of a Constituent Commandery under the Grand Commandery but is a member of a Commandery or Priory under the governance of the Grand Encampment or a Great Priory in amity with the Grand Encampment. Honorary members do not have the right to vote or hold office.

A Grand Commandery has no power to change, enlarge or restrict membership as defined by the laws of the Grand Encampment. (2012)

Any member of a Grand Commandery otherwise eligible under Grand Encampment law may be elected or appointed to an office in a Grand Commandery. Grand Commandery law may not provide other limitations. (1916, p 29-30 &275, No. 1, Mac Arthur)
When Grand Commanderies are consolidated a former Grand Recorder of the discontinued Grand Commandery is not a member of the successor Grand Commandery by reason of Being a former Grand Recorder. Therefore he is ineligible for most offices in the Grand Commandery. (1916, p 114 &388, No. 8, Smith)
A Past Commander of a Commandery of a Grand Jurisdiction moving to another Grand Jurisdiction and affiliating with a Constituent Commandery located therein retains his rank as a Past Commander regardless of whether he becomes a member of the Grand Commandery of not. (1919,pg 288 – 289, No. 1, Smith)
The Eminent Commander of a Commandery merged with another Commandery is entitled to the rank of a Past Commander though he did not complete a full term of service. (1937, p 37 &337, No. 21, Agnew)
Where two Commanderies are consolidated the Commander that is retired by reason of Consolidation of his Commandery with another is entitled to the rank of Past Commander. (1943, p 27 & 367, No. 2, Pollard)
The Grand Commander has no authority to grant a Dispensation to a Constituent Commandery authorizing it to elect a Sir Knight to the honor of Past Commander that has not served in the office. To become a Past Commander the Sir Knight must serve through the end of the term. The resignation of the Commander followed by the election and installation of a successor who then resigns to be replaced by the original commander does not give the intermediate Commander past rank. (1946, p 87 & 242, No. 15, Orr)
Legislation shortening the terms of Commanders of Constituent Commanderies in order to change the fiscal year did not deprive such Commanders of their status nor prevent them from becoming permanent members of the Grand Commandery. Sections 235 and 236 of the statutes, requiring service for a “full term” as a condition precedent to becoming permanent

members of the Grand Commandery are satisfied if the Commanders served for “the full period provided by the Grand Commandery even though such period was shorter than twelve months. (1952 p 86 & 241, No. 21, Gaylord)

A Sir Knight who briefly held the office of Commander before resigning and allowing the previously elected Commander to resume his office did not become a Past Commander, did not become a permanent member of the Grand Commandery, and was not eligible for election to the office of Grand Recorder. (1955, p. 100 & 269, No. 24-1, Gordon)

A Commander of a Constituent Commandery can, during his term of office as such, be elected to serve as the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery but he can only hold the office as long as he remains a member of the Grand Commandery. If he resigns as Commander of his Commandery before he legally becomes a Past Commander (he served to the end of his term of office) he would be ineligible to continue in office as Grand Recorder of a Grand Commandery, and a vacancy would occur. If he completes his full term of office, he would remain a member of the Grand Commandery and would be eligible for the office of Grand Recorder. (1955, p. 112 & 278, No. 32-3, Gordon)

A Commander of a Constituent Commandery can, during his term of office as such, be elected to serve as the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery but he can only hold the office as long as he remains a member of the Grand Commandery. If he resigns as Commander of his Commandery before he legally becomes a Past Commander (he served to the end of his term of office) he would be ineligible to continue in office as Grand Recorder of a Grand Commandery, and a vacancy would occur. If he completes his full term of office, he would remain a member of the Grand Commandery and would be remain eligible for the office of Grand Recorder. (1961, p. 41, No. 6, Wieber)

A Grand Commander who was removed from office for misconduct was granted Past Grand Rank by the Grand Master in an "attempt to treat Sir Knight XXX fairly". (2009, p. 72& 77, No. 4, Koon)

CONCLAVES

Section 36. The Conclaves of a Grand Commandery shall be:

- (a) Stated; which shall be held at least once each year.
- (b) Special; which may be called by the Grand Commander, and he shall call such conclave upon the written request of a majority of the Commanderies.
No business shall be transacted at such conclaves save that specified by the Grand Commander or set out in the request.
- (c) Virtual – In the event of extraordinary circumstances, a Grand Commandery may conduct a Grand Conclave by electronic means. A virtual meeting shall be held by means of teleconference or webcast, provided that the necessary facilities are widely available to the members of the Grand Commandery and the Grand Conclave shall be conducted in full compliance with the requirements of sections 37 through 39 of the Constitution. No Ritual shall be performed, and no Orders shall be conferred during any such virtual Conclave.

To hold a virtual Conclave, it shall be necessary to obtain a dispensation or order so to do from the Grand Master to authorize the holding of such Conclaves upon such other direction as

he may require. (2021, p unassigned)

There is no requirement for a charter to be physically present for a Grand Commandery Conclave to be held. (1916, p 50 & 294, No. 22, Mac Arthur)
A Conclave at which a new Commandery is constituted is a Special Conclave of the Grand Commandery, not a Special Conclave of the new Commandery. (1919, p 49 & 295 No. 14 Smith)
A quorum being present, a Grand Commander may, without ceremony declare the Grand Commandery open. He may adopt and use any form of ceremony (not inconsistent with the laws and purposes of the order) incident to the opening of the conclave. He may select some Commandery to perform the ceremonies of opening. The legal opening is by the Grand Commander or other presiding officer calling the meeting to order and declaring it open. It is permissible to provide entertainment for families and guests. (1925, p 88 & 410, No. 30, Newby)
The statute on right of objection to a visitor only applies to Commanderies. In the case of objection to a visitor to a Grand Commandery it would have to be determined by a vote of the Grand Commandery. (1925, p. 105 & 416, No. 42, Newby)
There is no precise ritualistic procedure to be used in convening the Grand Commandery. (1955, p. 75 & 196, No. 2, Gordon)
It would be improper and illegal to proceed on a matter of such importance as incorporating the Grand Commandery as a non-profit organization, based solely on the decision of the line officers, but it should be submitted to a special Conclave or to an Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery. (1955. p. 104 & 275, No. 26, Gordon)
Only one Annual Conclave of a Grand Commandery will be held at one time in a given department. Failing to comply with this decision, the Grand Commandery guilty of infringing on the rights and dates of the other Grand Commandery will have its Conclave dates reset be the Grand Master. (2015, No. 3, Goodwin)
Each Grand Commandery must meet at least annually and hold n election of officers at that time. (2015, No. 4, Goodwin)

QUORUM

Section 37. A quorum of a Grand Commandery consists of nine members entitled to vote therein, including an officer authorized to convene the same, provided three or more Commanderies are represented.

A quorum consists of nine Knights of the Order entitled to vote therein. (1919, p 296, No. 17, Smith)

CONDUCT OF CONCLAVES AND VOTING THEREIN

Section 38. Each member of the Grand Commandery present in person or by proxy, if

proxies are lawful, shall be entitled to one vote, except that the presiding officer shall vote only in case of a tie, when he shall decide the issue.

Unless otherwise provided by Grand Encampment Law, all questions submitted shall be decided by a majority vote of those present.

A member can have but one vote in his own right. (1913, pp 45 and 47, No. 9, Melish)
Proxy voting in a Grand Commandery must be provided for by law. Otherwise it does not exist. (1934, p 206, No. 3, Agnew)
The statutes and regulations of a Grand Commandery cannot be revised by a majority vote at a Grand Conclave if the statutes and regulations require a resolution to lie over until the next annual (1934, p 207, No. 4, Agnew)
A Past Grand Commander is entitled to only one vote in the Grand Commandery. He may not vote as a Past Grand Commander and again in another capacity such as that of a Past Commander. (1958, p. 246 & 290, No. 24, DeLamater)

Section 39. During a conclave an appeal lies to the Grand Commandery from a decision of the Grand Commander save on points of order. At all other times the decisions of the Grand Commander shall have full force and effect, but they must be reviewed by the Grand Commandery at its next annual conclave. If such decisions involve the construction of the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment or of the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Commandery an appeal lies to the Grand Commandery.

Inquiry regarding the construction of legislation of a Grand Commandery should be to the Grand Commander. After the Grand Commander has ruled a member may appeal to the Grand Master. (1910, p 105 & 245, No. 9, Rugg)
Appeals from Commanderies under Grand Jurisdiction go to the Grand Commandery and those under the Grand Encampment to that body. (1919, P. 49 & 293 No. 11 Smith)
A controversy in a Grand Commandery relative to the creation of a new Commandery cannot be appealed to the Grand Master where the member appealing attempted to bypass other levels of authority and make a direct appeal to the Grand Master. (1925, P. 96 & 414 No. 37, Newby)
Inquiry regarding construction of legislation by a Grand Commandery or by Grand Encampment should initially be referred to the respective Grand Commander for reply, and resort should be had to the Grand Master only when decision by the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery is considered unsatisfactory. Attention is directed to Grand Encampment legislation covering correspondence (see Sections 210 through 213 of the Statutes). It will save time for all parties concerned, if inquires which properly call for reply by the Grand Commander are forwarded to him, and not to the Grand Master, and similarly, if requests for rulings on the part of the Grand Encampment are forwarded directly to the Grand Master, and not to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment. (1952 p 63 & 155, No. 3 Gaylord)

Section 40. Each Grand Commandery shall determine whether or not proxy representation shall be permitted, and if it shall be allowed, the Grand Commandery shall prescribe the rules governing the same.

A member can have but one vote in his own right. (1913, pp 45 and 47, No. 9, Melish)
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Proxy voting in a Grand Commandery must be provided for by law. Otherwise it does not exist. (1934, p 206, No. 3, Agnew)
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POWERS AND DUTIES

Section 41. Each Grand Commandery has the following powers and prerogatives, but the enumeration shall not be construed as a limitation thereof:

- (a) It shall review at its Annual conclave all reports of its officers and may review the proceedings of its Constituent Commanderies.
- (b) It may adopt such Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations as are not inconsistent with the Constitution, Statutes, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Encampment and as it may deem necessary for the good of the Order.
- (c) It may create Commanderies under the terms specified in the constitution or statutes and set the fee for new Commanderies which shall not be less than \$100 paid in advance. It may also consolidate Constituent Commanderies under its jurisdiction. (1964, p. 343-345)(2012)
- (d) It may prescribe Regulations for the government of its Constituent Commanderies. (1964, p. 343-345)(1967, p. 119-120)(2012)
- (e) It may require its several Constituent Commanderies to pay such portion as it may deem proper of the sums received by them for conferring the Orders, and in addition such sum annually from each member of such Commanderies as it may deem necessary for the support of the Grand Commandery.
- (f) It shall examine the accounts of its Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, supervise the state and condition of its finances and adopt such measures in relation thereto as it may deem necessary to increase, secure and preserve the same and to insure the utmost punctuality on the part of every accounting officer in the safe-keeping and delivery of the funds and property of the Grand Commandery.
- (g) It may settle all controversies that may arise among its Constituent Commanderies. (2012)
- (h) It shall, on or before July 1st of each year pay to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment such an amount as may be prescribed by the Grand Encampment as dues for each member of its Constituent Commanderies, as shown by the returns of such Grand Commandery as of December 31st on the prescribed forms. A penalty of \$500 will be assessed on all late, inaccurate or incomplete Annual Returns. (Amended 2009)(Amended 2015)
- (i) It may require each member of its Constituent Commanderies to be provided with a Templar Uniform, and to that end it may prescribe such Uniform and change the same from time to time. Such uniform prescribed by a Grand Commandery may be one adaptable to the climate, except that it must be a distinctly Templar uniform

Notwithstanding the above, any uniform adopted must conform to Grand Encampment laws. These laws include but are not limited to insignia of rank and the jewel of office.

When a Grand Commandery adopts a new type of uniform, Sir Knights who possess old style uniforms may retain them and not be required to purchase the new style; a Grand Commandery may sanction the continued use of a former type uniform, but it adopts only one as the dress uniform of the Grand Commandery.

(1940, p 257-315)(1952, p 572-581) (1955, p 463-470) (1979, p. 132-134)(1988 Pages 198-199)(2003 Pages 91-94)(2012)

(j) It may provide for dual membership within its jurisdiction or in connection with other Grand Commanderies whose laws so provide. (1964, p. 18 & 449-451)

An address delivered and passed upon as an official paper at a Grand Conclave becomes part of the transactions of the Grand Body, and it must stand as thus presented without change or abridgement. (1910, p 110 & 251, No. 22, Rugg)
If necessary for its support, a Grand Commandery may levy an assessment in accordance with its laws but a Grand Commander may not. (1913, p 52-53 No. 15, Melish)
Where a uniform is required by the Grand Commandery it is also possible to require that it be worn to attend meetings. A member in such a circumstance that sells his uniform may be subject to such a requirement but his membership is not affected. (1916, p 38, No. 9, MacArthur)
Although the Grand Master is to maintain a watchful supervision over all Commanderies, Grand, Constituent and Subordinate, it is not his responsibility to review and approve changes to the constitutions and other laws so enacted in those bodies. Such laws however must conform to Grand Encampment law. (1916, p 41-43, No. 13, Mac Arthur)
A Commandery U.D. of the Grand Encampment must use the uniform prescribed by the Grand Encampment. A Grand Commandery has some authority to prescribe the uniform in its own Jurisdiction. (1916, p. 286, No. 15, Mac Arthur, G.M.)
There is nothing in the Constitution or Statutes of the Grand Encampment which prohibits a Grand Commandery enacting legislation forbidding Knights Templar from engaging in the business of dealing in wine, beer, or other alcoholic beverages, and providing the penalty of suspension for a violation of the regulation, but the enactment of such a statute would not be retroactive so as to apply to any Sir Knight created a Templar and who was engaged in such business when there was no such statute in effect. (1919, pp 289-290, No. 3 Smith)
The question of waiving the requirement for a candidate to purchase a uniform before receiving the Order of the Temple is entirely in the hands of the Grand and Constituent Commanderies and not the Grand Encampment. (1919, p 59 & 302, No. 28, Smith)
A Past Commander who has joined a Commandery in another jurisdiction is required to conform to the uniform regulations of the Grand Commandery under which he now a member. As a Past Commander he is entitled to wear that uniform. (1919, p 70 & 322, No. 42,

questions1 & 2, Smith)
A Grand Commander may not pass an amendment to its constitution that is in conflict with the laws of the Grand Encampment. (1919, p 71 & 323, No. 43, Smith)
The existence of a Lodge of Freemasons or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the town where a Commandery is located is not required. (1919, p. 72 &323, No. 44, Smith)
Only Templar jewels may be worn on a Templar uniform and it is presumed that a Grand Commandery has ruled correctly on individual jewels unless found otherwise. A Drill Corps badge qualifies as a Templar Jewel. The authority of different Grand Commanderies to govern their jurisdictions permits differences to occur. (1925, p 73 & 402, No. 21, Newby)
A Grand Commandery has the authority to change the name of a Commandery under its jurisdiction. It may also continue or refuse to continue a Charter or dispensation. A Grand Commander does not have the authority to change a name although he may arrest a charter or dispensation. (1925, p 81 & 405, No. 24, Newby)
The Grand Encampment has no prohibition on a Commandery giving a public entertainment to raise money. The Grand Commander has no authority to interfere with the same unless the event is in violation of some regulation or principle of propriety. The Grand Commander also cannot ban raising money. The Grand Commandery can pass laws to regulate the affairs of their Commanderies. It is not a public appearance unless the members appear in uniform. (1925, p. 93 & 412, No. 35, Newby)
A controversy in a Grand Commandery relative to the creation of a new Commandery cannot be appealed to the Grand Master where the member appealing attempted to bypass other levels of authority and make a direct appeal to the Grand Master. (1925, P. 96 &414 No. 37, Newby)
Grand Encampment laws govern consolidation of Commanderies and Grand Commanderies may not pass by-laws governing the subject. (1931, p. 82 & 267, No. 9, Sharp)
A cape is not a uniform. (1934, p. 205and 420, No. 1, Agnew)
Only Templar jewels are to worn on the Templar uniform. A first prize medal awarded by Ohio State University is not a Templar Jewel. (1937, p 27 & 325, No. 9, Agnew)
Only Templar jewels are to worn on the Templar uniform. A Grand Commander is in error to request that Sir Knights where Victory or Official Military Service Badges. (1937, p 28 & 327, No. 11, Agnew,)
When the Grand Encampment amends or revises its laws, the Statutes and Regulations of a Grand Commandery in conflict therewith should by promptly made to conform, regardless of any local requirement that amendments shall lie over for a year before action may be taken. (1937, p. 31 &330, No. 14 Agnew)
There is no Templar prohibition against the wearing of official jewels with fatigue uniform. The determination of the question is properly within the prerogatives of each Grand Commandery. This related to official Grand Officer jewels. (1937, p 34 &334 No. 18 Agnew)
No Grand Encampment law requires a fee for affiliation. Grand Commanderies may provide for such a fee and if it does not legislate on the subject a Commandery may do so. (1940, p 63 & 288, No. 3, Norris)
A Commandery U.D. in a Grand Commandery is a Constituent Commandery and the Grand Commandery is liable to pay Grand Encampment per capita tax on its members. Whether the

<p>Commandery U.D. is required to pay such tax to the Grand Commandery depends entirely on the laws of the Grand Commandery. (1940, p 66 & 277, No. 19 Norris)</p>
<p>The power to grant Dispensations given by the Grand Encampment Constitution cannot be limited by Grand Commandery Laws. (1940, p 69 & 290, No. 33 Norris)</p>
<p>The Constitution of the Grand Encampment, Section 48(f) 1, authorizes a Grand Commander to grant Dispensation to Constituent Commanderies: "To hold Special Conclaves for conferring of the Orders at places within their Jurisdiction other than those named in their Charters," and that this authority conferred upon the Grand Commander by the Grand Encampment cannot be taken from him by action of this Grand Commandery. (1949, p 78 & 215 No. 6 Rice)</p>
<p>Laws of Grand Commanderies, which do not conflict with Grand Encampment law, do not require approval of the Grand Master. (1949, p 219, No. 13, Rice)</p>
<p>Where a Commandery receives a deposit from a petitioner for the required purchase of a uniform in accordance with the laws previous to 1949, that deposit creates a trust for that purpose and is not refundable. Such funds may not be refunded or diverted to other uses, such as the general fund of a Commandery. If the depositor dies without the deposit being used to purchase a uniform, then the money may be transferred to a uniform fund. (1952 p 65 & 157, No. 5, Gaylord)</p>
<p>There is no authority for a Grand Commandery to adopt an abbreviated form for the prescribed Full Form Opening.</p> <p>Ritual directions that the short form be used only "in an extreme case" is required.</p> <p>Tactics are under the control of the Grand Commandery but where tactics are prescribed by the ritual they must be observed.</p> <p>No part of the ritual can be published by the Grand Commandery but tactics may refer to ritual page and line number.</p> <p>(1952 p 66 & 159, No. 7, Gaylord)</p>
<p>The Grand Commander has sole authority to appoint all Grand Commander committees and all offices not made elective. An amendment to provide that particular persons or the holder of a particular office shall serve on a committee is in violation of Grand Encampment law. (1955, p. 83 & 235, No. 10, Gordon)</p>
<p>The question was asked if a "Tuxedo type" coat could be adopted as a uniform and if sleeve crosses are required. If the term "tuxedo type" means a formal coat with silk or satin lapels and a single button then the answer is no. A double breasted or sack coat, conforming generally to military style, it would be permitted, but the dress must conform to the traditions and practices of Templary which has always required a military or semi-military attire. Sleeve crosses are required; shoulder straps and jewels of officers must be worn by officers. (1955, p. 92 & 264, No. 18-5, Gordon)</p>
<p>It would be improper and illegal to proceed on a matter of such importance as incorporating the Grand Commandery as a non-profit organization, based solely on the decision of the line officers, but it should be submitted to a special Conclave or to an Annual Conclave of the Grand</p>

Commandery. (1955. p. 104 &275, No. 26, Gordon)
If a Grand Commandery has dispensed with the baldric as part of the uniform it is no longer mandatory that a candidate be invested with the same. The Baldric lecture is optional with the constituent Commandery concerned. (1955, p. 105 &275, No. 27-1, Gordon)
A Grand Commandery need not submit its Manual of Tactics and Drill to the Grand Master or the Grand Encampment for approval before adoption, publication and use. The Manual must conform to the ceremonies and floor movements indicated in the Ritual. (1955, p. 105 &275, No. 27-2, Gordon)
In regard to the restoration or granting of a Charter where a previous Charter had been lifted and property taken by the Grand Commandery a question was asked about returning property obtained from the previous Commandery. The disposition of property which was acquired by the Grand Commandery from a Commandery whose Charter had been arrested is entirely within the discretion of that Grand Commandery.
As to granting a charter with the previous number, numbers assigned to Commanderies indicate seniority and justly so. After a lapse of eight years or more, during which former members have been scattered or affiliated elsewhere, restorations of the old Charter and of the old Commandery Number would not seem to be proper or equitable procedure. (1955, p.114 &280, No. 33, Gordon)
The Statutes of the Grand Encampment contain no provisions as to the right of Constituent Commanderies to own and transfer real estate. The transfer of title to real estate is governed by the statutes of the state in which it is located. (1961, p. 49, No. 19, Wieber)
It is illegal to create an organization not directly subject to the Grand Commandery and which is formed for the purpose of giving "honors". (1967, p. 148, No. 1, Brucker)
A Grand Commandery has the power by appropriate legislation to authorize Constituent Commanderies to terminate so-called "Uniform Funds" if the mandates of Section 62(c) and (d) are lawfully observed, and such legislation may provide for the disposition of such "Uniform Funds" for Templar projects to which the Grand Commandery may permit such funds to be transferred. (1967, p. 150, No. 4, Brucker)
A Grand Commandery cannot authorize nor participate in a plan with the other York Rite Bodies to create an organization to be known as the "York Rite Honors Council" for the purpose of granting honors to members of the York Rite Bodies including Knights Templar. The power to grant and regulate Knights Templar Honors and Awards is exclusively within the province of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar and no other organization, whether it includes other York Rite Bodies or not, can grant or regulate honors and awards to Knights Templar without express legislation by the Grand Encampment permitting the same to be done. (1967, p. 153, No. 10, Brucker)
Statutes and regulations of a Grand Commandery of New York are effective subject to the general provision that those enactments which may be contrary to or not authorized by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A. are of no force and effect. (1970, p. 142-143 and p. 531-532, No. 1, Crofts)
The jewel of the Knights Crusaders, an organization of Past Commanders approved by the Grand Commandery of North Carolina, was a Templar Jewel, and could be worn on the uniform

by authorized members as a meritorious jewel because of the required service. (1988, p. 26 & 227, No. 1, Smith)

Regarding drill bars on the Uniform, if they are not classified as meritorious jewels by the Grand Commandery, then they are not authorized to wear. (1988, p. 27 & 227, No. 5, Smith)

All Templar funds are to be maintained separately from funds of other organizations if practical and under no circumstances comingled with other such funds without adequate accounting and legal recourse to protect Templar funds. Commanders, Grand Commanders, The Grand Master, Commanderies and Grand Commanderies may require procedures including separate accounts. (2018, p. 83 & 268 No. 3, Vaught)

Grand Commandery committee with staggered multi-year appointments is not effective until the close of the conclave at which it is created unless specifically provided otherwise. Multi-year committee appointments are allowed. (2018, p. 83 & 274, No. 6, Vaught)

APPEAL TO THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Section 42. An appeal may be taken to the Grand Encampment from any decision or action of a Grand Commandery, on questions arising as to the construction or effect of the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulation and Rituals of the Grand Encampment.

Inquiry regarding the construction of legislation of a Grand Commandery should be to the Grand Commander. After the Grand Commander has ruled a member may appeal to the Grand Master. (1910, p 105 & 245, No. 9, Rugg)

Appeals from Commanderies under Grand Jurisdiction go to the Grand Commandery and those under the Grand Encampment to that body. (1919, P. 49 & 293 No. 11 Smith)

1) A request for a decision from the Grand Master from a subordinate Commandery should be made through the Commander. (1925, p. 64 & 397, No. 13, Newby)

A controversy in a Grand Commandery relative to the creation of a new Commandery cannot be appealed to the Grand Master where the member appealing attempted to bypass other levels of authority and make a direct appeal to the Grand Master. (1925, P. 96 & 414 No. 37, Newby)

Inquiry regarding construction of legislation by a Grand Commandery or by Grand Encampment should initially be referred to the respective Grand Commander for reply, and resort should be had to the Grand Master only when decision by the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery is considered unsatisfactory. Attention is directed to Grand Encampment legislation covering correspondence (see Sections 210 through 213 of the Statutes). It will save time for all parties concerned, if inquires which properly call for reply by the Grand Commander are forwarded to him, and not to the Grand Master, and similarly, if requests for rulings on the part of the Grand Encampment are forwarded directly to the Grand Master, and not to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment. (1952 p 63 & 155, No. 3 Gaylord)

OFFICERS

Section 43. The Officers of a Grand Commandery shall be:

A Grand Commander,
A Deputy Grand Commander,
A Grand Generalissimo,
A Grand Captain General,
A Grand Senior Warden,
A Grand Junior Warden,
A Grand Prelate,
A Grand Treasurer,
A Grand Recorder,
A Grand Standard Bearer,
A Grand Sword Bearer,
A Grand Warder, and
A Grand Sentinel,

the first four of whom, and the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder, shall be elected, and the remaining ones shall be elected or appointed as each Grand Commandery may determine.

Any Grand Commandery may, by its Laws, provide for the appointment by its Grand Commander of administrative officers for the Performance of such administrative duties as may be prescribed in such Laws. Such administrative officers may be installed, may have rank and may after serving for a period of three years or more retire from office being entitled only to the honors of the office. No Grand Commandery shall have any constitutional officers other than those enumerated in this section.

Any Grand Commandery may, by its Laws, provide that the offices of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder may be consolidated into the one office of Grand Recorder and when so combined the Grand Recorder shall assume and perform all the duties of the Grand Treasurer. (1955, p. 470-474)(1970, p. 402-404 & 437) (1973, p. 229-233)(1979, p. 234-237 & 241-242)

A Grand Commandery may create the position of Inspector General but such office is an administrative and not a constitutional office. (1910, p 15 & 247, No. 15, Rugg)
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The installation of an officer of a Grand Commandery must take place in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of which the officer is a member. (1913, p 39, No. 2, Melish)
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A Grand Commandery may not increase the number of its officers. The number is fixed by statute. A knight may be appointed Inspector General, but acquires no official status thereby. He has the status of a committee and is not an officer. (1922, pp 23 & 272, No. 6, Orr)

A Grand Commandery may not increase the number of its officers. The number is fixed by statute. (1925, p 63 & 396, No. 12, Newby)

If a Past Grand Commander is received as a member of the staff of the Grand Commander he should be placed behind the Captain General. (1934, p 217, No. 9 Agnew)
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Unless the laws of the Grand Commandery prohibit it, a Sir Knight who is not a member within that Grand Commandery may hold the position of Inspector general or similar position. Such appointee however does not acquire an official status such as attached to an officer. He has the status of a committee and is not an officer. (1937, p24 &320, No. 2 Agnew)

The Grand Commandery has the power to create administrative offices to assist the conduct of the work of the Grand Commandery, such as Inspector General in accordance with Section 43, and provided such administrative offices are confined solely to the administrative work of the Grand Commandery.

The Grand Master ruling that a Grand Commandery can add prefixes or suffixes such as Honorary Past, or Emeritus was overruled.(1952 p 67 &160, No. 8, Gaylord)

An inquiry was made regarding the wearing of embroidered stars on the left sleeve of the uniform to designate Zone officers, assistant zone officers and aides. This is not permissible for three reasons. 1) They are not Templar insignia approved by the Grand Encampment, 2) They are not being worn on the left breast as provided in section 257 and 3) They could not be regarded as meritorious jewels or insignia, since they would be worn by administrative officers as a mark of current service only and not for services performed heretofore and now concluded. There is no authority in Templar law for the wearing of any sort of insignia on uniforms by administrative officers during incumbency of the offices. (1955, p. 81 & 199, No. 8, Gordon)

The power of appointment granted a Grand Commander by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment providing for original appointments and the filing of vacancies cannot be curtailed in any manner by action of the Grand Commandery. However, under section 43, the Grand Commandery may provide for the election of Grand Commandery officers.

The question involved requiring the Grand Commander to select officers from certain sections of the state and was not allowed. (1958, p. 241 & 282, No. 16, DeLamater)

An officer elected Grand Warder of Indiana was eligible for the office so long as he maintains his membership in a Constituent Commandery in the jurisdiction and performs the duties of his office although he lives about 10 miles outside the state. The standard of sections 49 and 50 regarding distance that precludes performance of duties applies by analogy. (1958, p. 254 & 300, No. 39, DeLamater)

A Commander of a Constituent Commandery can, during his term of office as such, be elected to serve as the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery but he can only hold the office as long as he remains a member of the Grand Commandery. If he resigns as Commander of his Commandery before he legally becomes a Past Commander (he served to the end of his term of office) he would be ineligible to continue in office as Grand Recorder of a Grand Commandery, and a vacancy would occur. If he completes his full term of office, he would remain a member of the Grand Commandery and would be remain eligible for the office of Grand Recorder. (1961, p. 41, No. 6, Wieber)

Each Grand Commandery must meet at least annually and hold n election of officers at that time. (2015, No. 4, Goodwin)

TERM OF OFFICE

Section 44. Elective Grand Commandery Officers shall hold office until their successors shall have been duly elected and installed. The Grand Prelate, if appointive, shall hold office during the Grand Commandery year or during the pleasure of the Grand Commander. A Grand Commandery may provide that other appointive constitutional officers shall be appointed to serve during the full Grand Commandery year or only during the Annual Conclave. (1970, p. 322-323 & 445)

Each Grand Commandery must meet at least annually and hold an election of officers at that time. (2015, No. 4, Goodwin)

ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE

Section 45. No Knight Templar shall be eligible to any office in a Grand Commandery, except that of Grand Prelate, unless he shall be at the time a member thereof. 1928

A member otherwise qualified may be elected in his absence and installed at a later time. (1916, p 41, No. 11, Mac Arthur)
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Unless the laws of the Grand Commandery prohibit it, a Sir Knight who is not a member within that Grand Commandery may hold the position of Inspector general or similar position. Such appointee however does not acquire an official status such as attached to an officer. He has the status of a committee and is not an officer. (1937, p24 &320, No. 2 Agnew)

Any member of the Grand Commandery residing in the Jurisdiction, in good standing, is eligible to hold office in a Grand Commandery unless prohibited by Grand Encampment requirement. (1937, p 340, No 26, Agnew)
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A Sir Knight who briefly held the office of Commander before resigning and allowing the previously elected Commander to resume his office did not become a Past Commander, did not become a permanent member of the Grand Commandery, and was not eligible for election to the office of Grand Recorder. (1955, p. 100 & 269, No. 24-1, Gordon)

A Commander of a Constituent Commandery can, during his term of office as such, be elected to serve as the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery but he can only hold the office as long as he remains a member of the Grand Commandery. If he resigns as Commander of his Commandery before he legally becomes a Past Commander (he served to the end of his term of office) he would be ineligible to continue in office as Grand Recorder of a Grand Commandery, and a vacancy would occur. If he completes his full term of office, he would remain a member of the Grand Commandery and would be eligible for the office of Grand Recorder. (1955, p. 112 & 278, No. 32-3, Gordon)
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A Sir Knight who was not a member of the Grand Commandery was never eligible for election and installation as Grand Recorder. He was also ineligible to serve as acting Grand Recorder. Later, having been elected Commander of a constituent Commandery he was eligible so long as he was Commander or, after that, a Past Commander. (1958, p. 249 & 292, No. 30, DeLamater)
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An officer elected Grand Warder of Indiana was eligible for the office so long as he maintains his membership in a Constituent Commandery in the jurisdiction and performs the duties of his office although he lives about 10 miles outside the state. The standard of sections 49 and 50 regarding distance that precludes performance of duties applies by analogy. (1958, p. 254 & 300, No. 39, DeLamater)

A Commander of a Constituent Commandery can, during his term of office as such, be elected to serve as the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery but he can only hold the office as long as he remains a member of the Grand Commandery. If he resigns as Commander of his Commandery before he legally becomes a Past Commander (he served to the end of his term of office) he would be ineligible to continue in office as Grand Recorder of a Grand Commandery, and a vacancy would occur. If he completes his full term of office, he would remain a member of the Grand Commandery and would remain eligible for the office of Grand Recorder. (1961, p. 41, No. 6, Wieber)

The holding of two elective offices by one member – in any Grand Constituent or Subordinate Commandery – is clearly contrary to tradition, usage, and intent of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. (1973, p.385 &507, No. 1, Bell)

Eligibility requirements for Commandery and Grand Commandery office are provided in Grand Encampment law. No authority exists to add or remove eligibility requirements. Custom in officer selection is permitted so long as it does not deprive a member of his eligibility rights. (2018, p.83 & 277, No. 8, Vaught)

VOW OF OFFICE

Section 46. Each Officer of a Grand Commandery, before entering upon the exercise of the duties of his office, shall take the following vow, viz:

“I, (A.B.), do promise and vow that I will support and maintain the constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, and the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of this Grand Commandery, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which I have been chosen to the best of my ability.”

The installation of an officer of a Grand Commandery must take place in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of which the officer is a member. (1913, p 39, No. 2, Melish)

If a Grand Recorder dies during his term of office, it is necessary that his successor be installed in the office to fill out the unexpired term, as every officer of a Grand Commandery must take the oath of office and be installed before entering upon the duties of his office. (1955, p. 112 & 278, No. 32-2, Gordon)

GENERAL DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 47. The duties of the Officers of a Grand Commandery shall be such as appertain to

their respective stations, conforming as nearly as may be to those of the corresponding officers of the Grand Encampment. The Grand Commandery may require other service and the Grand Commander may assign to his subordinate Officers duties conformable to Templar law and usage. In addition to these general duties certain specific ones are hereinafter set out for specific Officers.

THE GRAND COMMANDER

Section 48. The Grand Commander shall have the following specific powers and duties but the enumeration shall not be deemed a limitation thereof:

- (a) To maintain a watchful supervision over all the Commanderies in his jurisdiction and to see that the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment, and the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Commandery are duly and promptly observed.
- (b) To appoint all Committees and all Officers not made elective, and to fill all vacancies, such appointees to serve during his pleasure or until their successors have been elected or appointed and installed.
- (c) He may issue dispensations to form Commanderies under the terms specified in the constitution or statutes. (2012)
- (d) During any recess of the Grand Commandery to arrest the Charter or Dispensation of a Commandery, or to place a Commandery under probation under such conditions as he shall determine until the next Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery. Also to suspend from his office any Officer of the Grand or of a Constituent Commandery, but in no case shall such suspension affect the standing in the Order of such Officer or his membership in the Commandery. The Grand Commander shall report his action in full to the next Conclave of the Grand Commandery for its final action. (1967, p. 97)
- (e) To visit and preside in any Commandery within his Jurisdiction and to give such instructions and directions as the good of the Order may require, always adhering to the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment and the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Commandery.
- (f) To grant Dispensations to Constituent Commanderies:
 1. To hold Special Conclaves for the conferring of the Orders at places within their Jurisdictions other than those named in their Charters, and
 2. To permit them to receive petitions and ballot thereon at the same Conclave or at Special Conclaves, after such notice as he may deem proper.
 3. (Intentionally blank)
 4. For the purpose of changing the date, time and location for a Stated Conclave, as otherwise provided in the By-Laws of a Constituent Commandery, to accommodate holidays and special situations that he may deem appropriate upon the written request of the Constituent Commandery, based upon an affirmative vote at a previous Stated Conclave, and provided only that due and timely notice be provided the membership of the change. (1991 pages 67-69)
- (g) To appoint Past Grand Commanders, Officers of the Grand Commandery or Past Commanders of Constituent Commanderies to represent the Grand Commandery within

sister jurisdictions, such appointee to be known as “Grand Representative” and to serve at the pleasure of the Grand Commander or until a successor is appointed. (1937, p 357)

- (h) To conduct official visitations for the purpose of inspection or evaluation of each Constituent Commandery in his jurisdiction, either personally or by his personal representative, and to report the same together with any recommendations he may have at the next conclave of the Grand Commandery. (1967, p. 96-97)

The Grand Standard Bearer may resign and the Grand Commander may appoint his successor. (1910, p 251 No. 21 Rugg)
If necessary for its support, a Grand Commandery may levy an assessment in accordance with its laws but a Grand Commander may not. (1913, p 52-53 No. 15, Melish)
The power to arrest a charter for a cause such as not meeting quarterly is within the power of the Grand Commander but the Laws of the Grand Commandery cannot require him to do so. (1916, p 111 & 387, No 7, Smith)
A petition for a new Commandery requires the signatures of nine petitioners. (1919, p 311, No. 32, Smith)
The existence of a Lodge of Freemasons or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the town where a Commandery is located is not required. (1919, p. 72 & 323, No. 44, Smith)
The Grand Commander has the authority to refuse to constitute a Commandery under its Charter when investigation reveals that the Commandery failed to comply with the statutes of the Grand Encampment while working under Dispensation (1922, p. 283, No. 19 Orr)
The Grand Commander names the first three officers in a Dispensation creating a new Commandery. (1922, p. 30 & 284 No. 20 Orr)
The Grand Commander may remove from office any Commander. He may also prohibit his installation as Commander. (1922, p 32 & 291 No. 24 Orr)
The Grand Commander may remove a Commander from office and may forbid the installation of a duly-elected Commander though no charges are preferred against him. (1922, p 32 & 291 No. 24 Orr)
When a member has been knighted although he does not possess a uniform (where required) the improperly knighted member should not be healed unless he complies with the requirement. A Commandery intentionally knighting people improperly may have its charter arrested. (1925, P. 69 & 400, No. 17, Newby)
A Grand Commandery has the authority to change the name of a Commandery under its jurisdiction. It may also continue or refuse to continue a Charter or dispensation. A Grand Commander does not have the authority to change a name although he may arrest a charter or dispensation. (1925, p 81 & 405, No. 24, Newby)
The Grand Encampment has no prohibition on a Commandery giving a public entertainment to raise money. The Grand Commander has no authority to interfere with the same unless the event is in violation of some regulation or principle of propriety. The Grand Commander also cannot ban raising money. The Grand Commandery can pass laws to regulate the affairs of their Commanderies. It is not a public appearance unless the members appear in uniform. (1925, p. 93 & 412, No. 35, Newby)
A question was asked about the installation of an officer against whom charges had been

preferred. Only the Grand Commander has the authority to interfere with the installation. He has authority to do almost anything he believes proper in the circumstances. In the case of a disputed election the answer is the same. The Grand Commander may order a new election or whatever he thinks best in the matter. (1931, P. 84 & 270, No. 13, Sharp)

A vacancy in the office of Deputy Grand Commander is filled by the Grand Generalissimo who should be installed therein. This creates a vacancy in the office of Grand Generalissimo to which the Grand Captain General succeeds and should be installed. A vacancy is thus created in the office of Grand Captain General and by provision of Section 48(b) of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Commander by appointment. All appointees should be installed. (1937, p. 34 & 333, No. 17, Agnew)

The Grand Commander should be formally received whether he is in uniform or not. (1937, p 34 & 334 No. 18, Agnew)

A Grand Commander may appoint to fill vacancies in any Grand Commandery office where there is no right of succession. (1937, p 39 & 341, No. 1, Norris)

The intent of Section 75 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment is that Recorders and Treasurers of Commanderies shall be bonded, and that such bonding is intended to be mandatory. This provision, however, is not self-executing. It is to be executed under such "regulations" as the Grand Commandery may enact for Constituent Commanderies of their jurisdictions.

In cases where Grand Commanderies have failed to enact such regulations, the Grand Commander, under Sections 48(a) and (e) of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, has authority to require that Recorders and Treasurers be bonded, and under Section 48(d) has authority to enforce his order so requiring. (1937, p 43 & 347 No. 4 Norris)

Rituals are under the sole supervision and control of the Grand Encampment and may be published and issued by it alone. It is unlawful for any Commandery or member thereof to issue any others or print, publish or use any other.

The rituals cannot be altered or abridged except by the Grand Encampment. Drill regulations are within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery. (1940, p 64 & 281, No. 4, Norris)

Where under a Grand Commandery law a committeeman is appointed for a fixed term and that term has not expired, a subsequently elected Grand Commander may not remove such a committeeman except after charges, trial and proof. (1940, p 64 & 340, No. 5, Norris)

In the case of the death of the Grand Senior Warden of a Grand Commandery, the Grand Commander may fill the vacancy by appointment. (1940, p 66 & 289, No. 21, Norris)

Section 26 applies only to the Grand Encampment. If the Deputy Grand Commander dies the Grand Generalissimo succeeds to the next office and should be installed. The Captain General is likewise advanced and the Grand Master may appoint a Grand Captain General. (1940, p 24 & 278, No. 24, Norris)

A Grand Commandery cannot appoint a grand representative near a foreign jurisdiction; that power being vested in the Grand Encampment. The words "sister jurisdictions" are interpreted to mean Templar Jurisdictions existing under the Grand Encampment. (1940, p 67 & 289, No. 26, Norris)

<p>The power to grant Dispensations given by the Grand Encampment Constitution cannot be limited by Grand Commandery Laws. (1940, p 69 & 290, No. 33 Norris)</p>
<p>The Grand Master ruled that upon the death of the Deputy Grand Commander the entire line may be advanced by the Grand Commander. This is approved as to the Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder and Grand Captain of the Guard. The progression of other officers is governed by the constitution and statutes. (1943, p 28 & 369, No. 4, Pollard)</p>
<p>The Grand Master has no authority to grant a Grand Commander more authority than the constitution and statutes of the Grand Encampment provide. (1946, p 69 & 242, No. 7, Orr)</p>
<p>Grand Commanderies holding allegiance to the Grand Encampment may not exchange Representatives with the Great Priories abroad. (1949, p 72 & 211, No. 1, Rice)</p>
<p>The Grand Commander has no authority to grant a blanket Dispensation to all Commanderies in his jurisdiction to receive and ballot on petitions. (1949, p 73 & 211, No. 2, Rice)</p>
<p>A Deputy Grand Commander who is elected Grand Commander, and thereafter resigns, or removes permanently from his jurisdiction before completing his term of office, would not acquire the rank of Past Grand Commander nor become a member of the Grand Encampment. (1949, p 77 & 214, No. 5, Rice)</p>
<p>The Constitution of the Grand Encampment, Section 48(f)1, authorizes a Grand Commander to grant Dispensation to Constituent Commanderies: "To hold Special Conclaves for conferring of the Orders at places within their Jurisdiction other than those named in their Charters," and that this authority conferred upon the Grand Commander by the Grand Encampment cannot be taken from him by action of this Grand Commandery. (1949, p 78 & 215 No. 6 Rice)</p>
<p>The Grand Commander has the power to appoint a Grand Recorder to fill a vacancy caused by the death of an incumbent in that office. (1952 p 87 & 243, No. 24, Gaylord)</p>
<p>The Grand Commander of Maine was justified in granting a Dispensation to a Constituent Commandery to exchange visits with a Preceptory of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, provided similar approval was obtained from the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, and providing that the Conclave of the respective Commandery and Preceptory in which the Order of Knighthood was being conferred must be a Conclave of the Commandery of Preceptory which was being visited, and that it could not be a Conclave of the visiting Commandery or Preceptory, and also provided that the officers of the visiting Commandery or Preceptory should confer the Orders in their capacity of individual visitors and that the officers of the Commandery or Preceptory which was visited should be present throughout the ceremony. Whenever the Orders are thus conferred upon a candidate of a Commandery, the Dispensation should provide that the candidate must be obligated and participate in the secret work according to the ritual of the Grand Encampment. (1952, p 94 & 250, No. 31, Gaylord)</p>
<p>The Grand Commander has sole authority to appoint all Grand Commander committees and all offices not made elective. An amendment to provide that particular persons or the holder of a particular office shall serve on a committee is in violation of Grand Encampment law. (1955, p. 83 & 235, No. 10, Gordon)</p>
<p>The Grand Commander has the power to suggest, advocate or permit participation in any project or objective which is in keeping with the principles and purposes of Templary, and not at variance with existing Templar Law. Support and encouragement for the Order of DeMolay, Boy Scouts and other worthy youth organizations has been recommended by the Committee on</p>

Patriotic Activities. (1955, p. 88 & 237, No. 13, Gordon)
A vacancy in the office of Grand Captain General must be filled by appointment of the Grand Commander. The Grand Senior Warden does not automatically advance to the office. (1955, p. 88 & 237, No. 14, Gordon)
The Grand Representative of a Grand Commandery to or near a sister jurisdiction should be a member of the Grand Commandery of the sister jurisdiction near which representation is to be exercised. (1955, p. 112 & 278, No. 32-1, Gordon)
The Grand Commander is authorized to appoint all committees, such appointees to serve during his pleasure or until their successors have been appointed. Such appointees, however, cannot serve beyond the term of the Grand Commander making the appointment, unless the law under which they hold provides for a longer term. A committee member, however, who has been appointed for a statutory term extending beyond that of the Grand Commander, cannot be removed before the expiration of his term, unless for cause shown. (1958, p. 233 & 268, No. 7, DeLamater)
The power of appointment granted a Grand Commander by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment providing for original appointments and the filing of vacancies cannot be curtailed in any manner by action of the Grand Commandery. However, under section 43, the Grand Commandery may provide for the election of Grand Commandery officers.
The question involved requiring the Grand Commander to select officers from certain sections of the state and was not allowed. (1958, p. 241 & 282, No. 16, DeLamater)
The death of a Grand Standard Bearer creates a vacancy which the Grand Commander is authorized to fill, under Section 48(b). He shall serve during the pleasure of the Grand Commander. He may be regularly installed and serve the remainder of the term if the Grand Commander chooses. However, he may appoint him as Acting Grand Standard Bearer if he chooses, although this is not necessary. He would likewise have the power to call a meeting of the Grand Commandery for the purpose of electing an officer to fill the vacancy. He may also leave the station vacant until the next meeting of the Grand Commandery. (1958, p. 256 & 301, No. 41, DeLamater)
A Grand Commander may appoint to fill vacancies in any Grand Commandery office where there is no right of succession provided the person appointed is a member of the Grand Commandery. He could also advance the entire line and appoint someone at the end of the line. (1961, p. 38, No. 1, Wieber)
Sections 46(f)2 and 80 specifically provide that notice be given of balloting on petitions at the same Conclave and at all Special Conclaves. The form and content of the notice to be given is not prescribed by statute, but these matters are in the discretion of the authority granting the Dispensation. It is better practice for the Dispensation to name the petitioners to be balloted upon, but the notice of the Conclave need not contain their names unless the Dispensation so directs. (1961, p. 42, No. 10, Weber)
Question was asked about the powers of the Grand Commander is a case where the Commander and Recorder of a Constituent Commandery refused to submit copies of dues cards, refused to abide by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Commandery, defies the requests of the Grand Commander and makes statements in writing that in the opinion of the

jurisprudence committee constituted libel. The Grand Commander may arrest the charter of the Commandery or he may suspend from office any officer of the Grand or Constituent Commandery, but he must report his actions at the next Conclave of the Grand Commandery. (1964, p. 85 & 255, No. 9, Moore)

Appointment of a Grand Representative shall be the exclusive province of the Grand Commandery from which he is the Grand Representative and Templar law requires that such Grand Representatives shall be accorded full recognition without limitation as to length of term of his representation. (1967, p. 152, No. 8, Brucker)

Probation as used in Sections 48 and 176 as amended in 1967, is hereby defined in the broad sense intended, to include whatever requirements of prohibitions the Grand Commander may deem necessary to be imposed in order to remedy whatever violation of Templar laws may have been committed by the Commandery, including but not limited to failure to hold a Conclave or to receive a single new member by knightng during the twelve consecutive months.

It seems reasonable to assume that the Commandery under Probation would be under close supervision of the Grand Commander or his personal representative, that the probation being imposed by reason of certain faults would terminate when those faults are corrected and that the purpose and terms of probation will always be of constructive nature.

Finally, it should be understood that the Grand Commandery in Conclave having the right to revoke a Charter, has also the right to prescribe probationary terms before taking such final action. (1970, p. 142 & 533, No. 3, Crofts)

An officer, who shows an utter lack of interest, doesn't attend, and is an example of gross negligence may be removed from his office by the Commander following a formal "decision" by the Commander finding unknighly conduct by reason of nonfeasance, misfeasance, and/or malfeasance in the performance of the duties of the office of the offending officer. There is no appeal to the Commandery from such a "decision", but such action by the Commander shall not affect the standing in the Order of such officer or his membership in the Commandery. Such removal may also be ordered by the Grand Commander, for the same reason and within the same limitations.

The authority to remove an officer for non-performance of official duties rises from the broad authority of the Grand Commander and the Commander, under the vertical axis of power and authority established by Templar laws, to govern his respective level of Templar jurisdiction. Such authority, when related to the duty of seeing that Templar laws are observed and in the absence of arbitrary conduct by the presiding officer, is practically unlimited.

In the exercise of such authority, the Commander must always be concerned for the good of the Order, and such final step as removal of an officer should be taken as a last resort. It should be only rarely that an officer will not either respond to the needs of the office he has sworn to perform to the best of his ability or consent to resign voluntarily. Even then, the Commander should give written notice to the offending officer to appear at a time and place and justify his conduct, and a third member should be present at such hearing; also the Grand Commander

should be informed.

While the Grand Commander of the jurisdiction and the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment have similar authority with regard to all officers within their areas of command, it seems best that problems be solved where they exist and not allowed to fester while waiting for action by some higher authority. The Commander has the tools to handle matters at the local level. And he should not expect or invite outside intervention to solve his own problems. (1970, p.142 &535, No. 4, Crofts)

A vacancy in the office of Grand Captain General must be filled by appointment by the Grand Commander. There is not an automatic advancement of line officers in the Grand Commandery line. (1979, p. 31 & 246, No. 4, Avery)

Grand Commanders of each jurisdiction may set the dates for the wearing of summer uniforms in their jurisdictions. (2003, p. 29 & 95, No. 3, Jones)

All Templar funds are to be maintained separately from funds of other organizations if practical and under no circumstances comingled with other such funds without adequate accounting and legal recourse to protect Templar funds. Commanders, Grand Commanders, The Grand Master, Commanderies and Grand Commanderies may require procedures including separate accounts. (2018, p. 83 & 268, No. 3, Vaught)

THE DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER

Section 49. The Deputy Grand Commander in the event of the absence of the Grand Commander or his inability to perform the duties of his office shall act as Grand Commander. In the event of the death, permanent removal from the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery precluding the performance of the duties of his office, or the permanent disability of the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander shall succeed to the office and be regularly installed. At all other times he shall perform such duties as may be assigned him by the Grand: Commandery or the Grand Commander. (1940, p 338)

The installation of an officer of a Grand Commandery must take place in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of which the officer is a member. (1913, p 39, No. 2, Melish)

A vacancy in the office of Deputy Grand Commander is filled by the Grand Generalissimo who should be installed therein. This creates a vacancy in the office of Grand Generalissimo to which the Grand Captain General succeeds and should be installed. A vacancy is thus created in the office of Grand Captain General and by provision of Section 48(b) of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Commander by appointment. All appointees should be installed. (1937, p. 34 & 333, No. 17, Agnew)

Section 26 applies only to the Grand Encampment. If the Deputy Grand Commander dies the Grand Generalissimo succeeds to the next office and should be installed. The Captain General is likewise advanced and the Grand Master may appoint a Grand Captain General. (1940, p 24 & 278, No. 24, Norris)

One does not need to be elected as Grand Commander to become a permanent member of the Grand Encampment or be elected as Commander to become a permanent member of a Grand

<p>Commandery. One who succeeds to the office of Grand Commander under Sections 49 and 50 of the Constitution and who serves the remainder of the term of office would become a Past Grand Commander and a permanent member of the Grand Encampment. The same process applies to a Commander. (1949, p 75 &213, No. 4, Rice)</p>
<p>A Deputy Grand Commander who is elected Grand Commander, and thereafter resigns, or removes permanently from his jurisdiction before completing his term of office, would not acquire the rank of Past Grand Commander nor become a member of the Grand Encampment. (1949, p 77 &214, No. 5, Rice)</p>
<p>Under the circumstances of death in succession to the office of Grand Commander during the same term, both Sir Knights who served in that capacity merit the title of Past Grand Commander, and are to be recorded as such. (1955, p. 82 &200, No. 9, Gordon)</p>
<p>The Grand Master under Section 49 of the Constitution may determine whether a Grand Commander has permanently removed from the Jurisdiction, and whether such removal precludes him from the performance of the duties of his office. If he finds both of these facts in the affirmative, then the Grand Master should declare the office vacant. (1958, p. 231 & 268, No. 6, DeLamater)</p>
<p>An officer elected Grand Warder of Indiana was eligible for the office so long as he maintains his membership in a Constituent Commandery in the jurisdiction and performs the duties of his office although he lives about 10 miles outside the state. The standard of sections 49 and 50 regarding distance that precludes performance of duties applies by analogy. (1958, p. 254 & 300, No. 39, DeLamater)</p>
<p>In the event of expulsion of the Grand Commander, as determined permanent by the Grand Master , the Deputy Grand Commander shall succeed to the office and be installed. (1915, No. 1, Goodwin.</p>
<p>In the event of resignation of the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander shall succeed to the office and be installed. (2015. No. 12, Goodwin)</p>

THE GRAND GENERALISSIMO AND GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL

Section 50. In case of the temporary absence or disability of their respective superiors, the Grand Generalissimo and the Grand Captain General shall perform the duties of their respective superiors.

In case of the advancement, death, permanent removal from the Jurisdiction precluding the performance of the duties of office, or the permanent disability of their respective superiors, the Grand Generalissimo and the Grand Captain General shall severally succeed to the office of such superiors and be installed therein. (1940, p 338)

<p>The installation of an officer of a Grand Commandery must take place in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of which the officer is a member. (1913, p 39, No. 2, Melish)</p>
<p>A vacancy in the office of Deputy Grand Commander is filled by the Grand Generalissimo who should be installed therein. This creates a vacancy in the office of Grand Generalissimo to which the Grand Captain General succeeds and should be installed. A vacancy is thus created in the</p>

office of Grand Captain General and by provision of Section 48(b) of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Commander by appointment. All appointees should be installed. (1937, p. 34 & 333, No. 17, Agnew)

A Grand Generalissimo of a Grand Commandery, having declined advancement and not having been re-elected as Grand Generalissimo, becomes a Past Grand Generalissimo and retains that rank. His shoulder straps are prescribed in section 243(c) of the Grand Encampment Statutes. (1940, p 70 & 291, No. 37, Norris)

Section 26 applies only to the Grand Encampment. If the Deputy Grand Commander dies the Grand Generalissimo succeeds to the next office and should be installed. The Captain General is likewise advanced and the Grand Master may appoint a Grand Captain General. (1940, p 24 & 278, No. 24, Norris)

The Grand Master ruled that upon the death of the Deputy Grand Commander the entire line may be advanced by the Grand Commander. This is approved as to the Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder and Grand Captain of the Guard. The progression of other officers is governed by the constitution and statutes. (1943, p 28 & 369, No. 4, Pollard)

One does not need to be elected as Grand Commander to become a permanent member of the Grand Encampment or be elected as Commander to become a permanent member of a Grand Commandery. One who succeeds to the office of Grand Commander under Sections 49 and 50 of the Constitution and who serves the remainder of the term of office would become a Past Grand Commander and a permanent member of the Grand Encampment. The same process applies to a Grand Commander. (1949, p 75 & 213, No. 4, Rice)

Under the circumstances of death in succession to the office of Grand Commander during the same term, both Sir Knights who served in that capacity merit the title of Past Grand Commander, and are to be recorded as such. (1955, p. 82 & 200, No. 9, Gordon)

A vacancy in the office of Grand Captain General must be filled by appointment of the Grand Commander. The Grand Senior Warden does not automatically advance to the office. (1955, p. 88 & 237, No. 14, Gordon)

A Grand Captain General who permanently removes from the jurisdiction, and is so situated as to be precluded from the performance of the duties of his office, is ineligible to continue in office. If however, despite his removal, he faithfully attends Conclaves and performs the duties of his office for the full period of his term, he is entitled to the rank of Past Grand Captain General. (1955, p. 89 & 238, No. 15, Gordon)

An officer elected Grand Warder of Indiana was eligible for the office so long as he maintains his membership in a Constituent Commandery in the jurisdiction and performs the duties of his office although he lives about 10 miles outside the state. The standard of sections 49 and 50 regarding distance that precludes performance of duties applies by analogy. (1958, p. 254 & 300, No. 39, DeLamater)

A Grand Commander may appoint to fill vacancies in any Grand Commandery office where there is no right of succession provided the person appointed is a member of the Grand Commandery. He could also advance the entire line and appoint someone at the end of the line. (1961, p. 38, No. 1, Wieber)

A vacancy in the office of Grand Captain General must be filled by appointment by the Grand Commander. There is not an automatic advancement of line officers in the Grand Commandery

line. (1979, p. 31 & 246, No. 4, Avery)

THE GRAND TREASURER

Section 51. The Grand Treasurer shall perform such duties as are prescribed by the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment and the Constitution, Laws, Rules, and Regulations of the Grand Commandery.

THE GRAND RECORDER

Section 52. It is the duty of the Grand Recorder:

- (a) To communicate annually to the Grand Master, the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, and to the Grand Recorders of each of the other Grand Commanderies, the Roll of Officers of the Grand Commandery and such other matters as may give information on the condition of the order in the Jurisdiction or may conduce to the general good of the Order.
- (b) To forward to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, on or before the First Day of July of each year, the Annual Returns and Dues of the Grand Commandery on the prescribed forms. A penalty of \$500 will be assessed on all late, inaccurate or incomplete Annual Returns.
- (c) To forward to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment within thirty (30) days of the annual conclave, the Roll of Officers, Past Grand Commanders, and Committee Chairman on the prescribed forms.
- (d) To transmit annually to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment one copy of all the proceedings and of the Laws adopted by the Grand Commandery: this copy may be submitted electronically or in commonly used, digital format. (Amended 2021, p Unassigned)
- (e) To have charge of the Seal of the Grand Commandery, and attest all papers requiring the same.
- (f) To send promptly to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment Notice of Death of members of the Grand Encampment which may occur within his Jurisdiction, giving the date of birth and of death, together with the character of his official and other service.
- (g) To perform such other duties as shall be prescribed by the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Commandery. (2015)

An address delivered and passed upon as an official paper at a Grand Conclave becomes part of the transactions of the Grand Body, and it must stand as thus presented without change or abridgement. (1910, p 110 & 251, No. 22, Rugg)

The Master Ritual entrusted to the Grand Recorder of each Grand Commandery is confined to his personal custody at all times. Those who desire to consult the Master Ritual must do so in the Grand Recorder's presence, and must not be allowed to "borrow" or remove the same at any time. (1952 p 76 & 230, No. 12, Gaylord)

The Grand Commander has the power to appoint a Grand Recorder to fill a vacancy caused by the death of an incumbent in that office. (1952 p 87 & 243, No. 24, Gaylord)

The Master Ritual must be retained in the possession and personal custody of the Grand Recorder at all times. (1979, p. 31 & 246, No. 3, Avery)

Each Commandery Recorder and Grand Commander Grand Recorder are responsible for entering information regarding petitioners, those advancing in the Orders, and finally those who have been knighted. This applies to all information in the system to include, but not limited to address changes, status changes, deaths etc. The acceptable time frame to input changes is within 15 days of the occurrence. (2015, No. 11, Goodwin)

Editor note - this refers to the Grand Encampment data information system.

WHEN A PAST GRAND COMMANDER ASSUMES THE DUTIES OF GRAND COMMANDER

Section 53. In the event of the absence, death or disability of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Generalissimo and Grand Captain General, the Junior Past Grand Commander according to service if not incapacitated, and if incapacitated the next ranking Past Grand Commander, shall assume the office and discharge the duties of the Grand Commander. (1964, p. 367-368)

TITLES

Section 54. The honorary title of the Grand Commander is "Right Eminent," and his official title is "Grand Commander." The honorary title of the Deputy Grand Commander is "Very Eminent," and his official title is "Deputy Grand Commander." The honorary title of the remaining officers of a Grand Commandery is "Eminent."

The honorary title shall be used when an Officer is addressed and shall immediately precede the official title, thus: "Right Eminent Grand Commander, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Eminent Grand Senior Warden." When referring to an officer, the honorary title shall immediately follow the name, thus: "Sir Knight John Doe, Right Eminent Grand Commander; Sir Knight James Brown, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander; Sir Knight Peter Roe, Eminent Grand Senior Warden." The official title shall be used by an Officer only when necessary to designate his rank or official station, thus: "I am Sir Knight John Jones, Grand Commander."

In the case of Honorary titles the Constitution and not the ritual governs. (1913, p 54-55, No. 17, Melish)

The Grand Encampment may alter or abolish Commandery titles. One who has such a title retains the same as long as the law prescribes. (1925, p. 52 & 387, No. 2, Newby)

PRECEDENCE OF RANK

Section 55. The precedence of rank shall be as follows:

The Grand Commander.
 The Deputy Grand Commander,
 The Grand Generalissimo,
 The Grand Captain General,
 The Past Grand Commanders according to seniority of service,
 The Grand Senior Warden,
 The Grand Junior Warden,
 The Grand Prelate,
 The Grand Treasurer,
 The Grand Recorder,
 The Grand Standard Bearer,
 The Grand Sword Bearer,
 The Grand Warder,
 The Grand Sentinel
 The Past Department Commanders
 The Administrative Officers
 (1979, p. 130-131 & 291-293)(1979, p. 234-237 & 241-242)

<p>A Grand Commandery may not increase the number of its officers. The number is fixed by statute. A knight may be appointed Inspector General, but acquires no official status thereby. He has the status of a committee and is not an officer. (1922, pp 23 & 272, No. 6, Orr)</p>
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<p>A Grand Commandery may not increase the number of its officers. The number is fixed by statute. (1925, p 63 & 396, No. 12, Newby)</p>
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<p>Unless the laws of the Grand Commandery prohibit it, a Sir Knight who is not a member within that Grand Commandery may hold the position of Inspector general or similar position. Such appointee however does not acquire an official status such as attached to an officer. He has the status of a committee and is not an officer. (1937, p24 & 320, No. 2 Agnew)</p>

<p>The Grand Commandery has the power to create administrative offices to assist the conduct of the work of the Grand Commandery, such as Inspector General in accordance with Section 43, and provided such administrative offices are confined solely to the administrative work of the Grand Commandery.</p>

<p>The Grand Master ruling that a Grand Commandery can add prefixes or suffixes such as Honorary Past, or Emeritus was overruled.(1952 p 67 & 160, No. 8, Gaylord)</p>
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<p>A Past Grand Commander should be accorded the same courtesy and honors due him as are shown the Grand Commander, irregardless of whether he is in uniform or not. (See Agnew decision number 18, 1937) (1955, p, 95 & 267, No. 20, Gordon)</p>

CONSOLIDATION OF GRAND COMMANDERIES

Section 56. Consolidation of Grand Commanderies may be effected in the following manner:

- (a) When two or more states or geographical regions, in each of which a Grand Commandery has been Chartered, are consolidated, the Grand Commanderies therein may, and at the mandate of the Grand Encampment, shall, consolidate under such name and title as the Grand Commanderies may by vote select.
- (b) The proposition for consolidation shall be presented at a Stated Conclave of each Grand Commandery, but action thereon shall not be taken until a subsequent Conclave. If the proposition is then approved by each Grand Commandery by a two-thirds affirmative vote of those present, the consolidation shall be effected.
- (c) The Officers of the consolidated body, unless otherwise agreed upon or directed by the Grand Encampment, shall be the Knights holding office in the older or oldest Grand Commandery. The Constituent Commanderies shall be renumbered.
- (d) Past Officers of the consolidating Grand Commanderies shall be entitled to the rank in the new Grand Commandery which they held at the time of consolidation and to precedence according to time of holding office.
- (e) The title to all the property and assets of the consolidating Grand Commanderies shall vest in the new body.

When Grand Commanderies are consolidated a former Grand Recorder of the discontinued Grand Commandery is not a member of the successor Grand Commandery by reason of Being a former Grand Recorder. Therefore he is ineligible for most offices in the Grand Commandery. (1916, p 114 & 388, No. 8, Smith)

Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

COMMANDERIES

DEFINITIONS AND POWERS

Section 57. A Knight Templar is a Mason upon whom the Orders of Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar have been conferred by any organization recognized by the Grand Encampment as having authority to confer the same.

Section 58. A Commandery consists of at least three Knights Templar, hailing from three separate Commanderies, and acting under a lawful Warrant, or of nine or more Knights Templar acting under a lawful Dispensation or Charter.

Section 59. A Commandery has the exclusive right to receive Petitions from those within its Territorial Jurisdiction possessing the necessary qualifications, to elect petitioners by unanimous vote only, and to confer the Orders upon them.

1) A Commandery U.D. if granted a Charter, can confer no orders until it is constituted. (1925, p. 53 & 388 No. 3, Newby / 2) 1925, p 13 & 397, No. 13, Newby)

If a petitioner has not received the orders within twelve months after being elected to

<p>membership in a Commandery, that Commandery loses jurisdiction over the petitioner and he may petition another Commandery without reference to the prior petition. (1925, p. 54 & 389, No. 4, Newby)</p>
<p>Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)</p>
<p>No Grand Encampment law requires a fee for affiliation. Grand Commanderies may provide for such a fee and if it does not legislate on the subject a Commandery may do so. (1940, p 63 & 288, No. 3, Norris)</p>
<p>A Subordinate Commandery cannot make Council degrees a prerequisite to membership in a Commandery as no such privilege was granted to Subordinate Commanderies by the Grand Encampment. (1961, p. 41, No. 7 Weber)</p>
<p>If a Commandery is opened in the Order of the Temple and the Commander is present, or in his absence the next duly qualified officer is present, then the work of conferring the order of the temple under the supervision of such presiding officer could be conferred by any Sir Knight whom the Commander would select, provided that any duly-elected officer replaced in the cast would consent to such arrangement.</p> <p>The Grand Encampment does not recognize any other organization except a duly-constituted Commandery as qualified to confer the Order of Knighthood. Consequently, no organization under the auspices of the Shrine or any other body which sees fit to call itself "The Crusaders" has the legal right as such organization, without the sponsorship of a duly-constituted Commandery of Knights Templar, nor can any such organization in its own name be empowered to do so by either the Grand Commander or the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment.</p> <p>Another thing to remember is that when such organization qualifies to confer the Orders of Knighthood, the members participating in the ritualistic work must be dressed as Knights Templar, wearing uniforms legalized by the Grand Commandery of that jurisdiction and the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. (1961, p. 47, No. 16, Wieber)</p>

Section 60. Before a Commandery can be formed or opened, there are the following prerequisites:

- (a)
 1. At least three Knights Templar hailing from at least three separate Commanderies, or
 2. At least nine Knights Templar residing in the proposed Territorial Jurisdiction.
- (b) A lawful Warrant, which is:
 1. A Dispensation from the Grand Master, or a Dispensation or Charter from the Grand Encampment in a country, state or geographical region where there is no Grand Commandery, or
 2. A Dispensation from the Grand Commandery, or a Dispensation or Charter from the Grand Commandery if the proposed location is in a country, state or geographical region where there is a Grand Commandery.

A petition for a new Commandery requires the signatures of nine petitioners. (1919, p 311, No. 32, Smith)

The existence of a Lodge of Freemasons or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the town where a Commandery is located is not required. (1919, p. 72 & 323, No. 44, Smith)

The Holy Bible must be displayed in all Conclaves of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Commanderies, and all Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies. (2015, No. 15, Goodwin)

Section 61. Commanderies under the Immediate Jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment are styled "Subordinate."

Commanderies under the Jurisdiction of any Grand Commandery are styled "Constituent."

Section 62.

- (a) The Order of Knights Templar is declared to be a Uniformed Order.
- (b) The purchase of a uniform by a candidate shall be optional, unless the Grand Commandery holding Jurisdiction shall, under the provisions of Section 41 (i), require each member of its Constituent Commanderies to be provided with a Templar uniform.
- (c) Each and every officer of any Constituent or Subordinate Commandery shall be required to possess a dress uniform prior to his installation, and retain possession during his incumbency in office." (1976, p. 182-184 & 336-337)
- (d) Each Constituent or Subordinate Commandery shall maintain a unit or units, equipped with full Templar uniforms as prescribed in Chapter XIX of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment, or that prescribed by the several Grand Commanderies, to be worn at full form openings and the conferring of the Order of the Temple. Such unit or units shall at all times be composed of at least six active members who shall be available for Asylum escort, triangle guard duty, Commandery drill team and such additional requirements as the Commandery may from time to time determine. (1967, p. 118-119)
- (e) In lieu of the regulation Templar uniform, a Constituent Commandery may provide and use Ceremonial Robes conforming to and consistent with the historical traditions and practices of Templary. These Ceremonial Robes are to be used only in the Asylum for the conferring of the Order of the Temple and/or for the opening and closing of a Commandery of Knights Templar and their design and material shall be approved by the Grand Commandery under which it is Chartered. (1940, p 257-315)

A subordinate Commandery must use a uniform as prescribed by the Grand Encampment and has no power to add to or alter such uniform. (1910, p 12 & 246, No. 12, Rugg)

A Commandery U.D. of the Grand Encampment must use the uniform prescribed by the Grand Encampment. A Grand Commandery has some authority to prescribe the uniform in its own Jurisdiction. (1916, p. 286, No. 15, Mac Arthur, G.M)

A Commandery may not set a fee equal to the minimum and require an additional fee for a uniform followed by the purchase by the Commandery for the candidate of a uniform for more than the uniform fee. The minimum fee cannot be circumvented. (1919, p 49 & 295, No. 12,

Smith)
At a time when uniforms were required, the Grand Master ruled that in the absence of a Grand Commandery law, that a Commandery might be able to pass a by-law requiring a member to be in uniform to attend meetings but could not pass one giving the Commander authority to exclude or allow a member to do so. (1931, p. 78 & 261, No. 4, Sharp)
Where a Commandery receives a deposit from a petitioner for the required purchase of a uniform in accordance with the laws previous to 1949, that deposit creates a trust for that purpose and is not refundable. Such funds may not be refunded or diverted to other uses, such as the general fund of a Commandery. If the depositor dies without the deposit being used to purchase a uniform, then the money may be transferred to a uniform fund. (1952 p 65 & 157, No. 5, Gaylord)
The question was asked if a "Tuxedo type" coat could be adopted as a uniform and if sleeve crosses are required. If the term "tuxedo type" means a formal coat with silk or satin lapels and a single button then the answer is no. A double breasted or sack coat, conforming generally to military style, it would be permitted, but the dress must conform to the traditions and practices of Templary which has always required a military or semi-military attire. Sleeve crosses are required; shoulder straps and jewels of officers must be worn by officers. (1955, p. 92 & 264, No. 18-5, Gordon)
The Grand Master shall see that the uniform of members in subordinate Commanderies is that prescribed by the Grand Encampment. Therefore there is no option in Subordinate Commanderies but rather they must own and possess their own Templar uniforms.
There is no exception for members of the armed forces. (1955, p. 110 & 277, No. 30, Gordon)
Due to changes to the laws of the Grand Encampment in 1949, the Grand Encampment does not require a candidate in a Subordinate Commandery to purchase a uniform. (1958, p. 249 & 291, No. 29, DeLamater)
A Grand Commandery has the power by appropriate legislation to authorize Constituent Commanderies to terminate so-called "Uniform Funds" if the mandates of Section 62(c) and (d) are lawfully observed, and such legislation may provide for the disposition of such "Uniform Funds" for Templar projects to which the Grand Commandery may permit such funds to be transferred. (1967, p. 150, No. 4, Brucker, 1988 digest - 387) The committee noted that this is in conflict with Gaylord decision 5 in 1952.
A Commandery may, if not prohibited by the Grand Commandery law of its Grand Jurisdiction, contribute to the purchase of or purchase a uniform for its Commander or Past Commanders; the uniform so purchased may be the property of the Commandery, the Commander, or the Past Commander as legally determined by the Commandery. (1979, p. 31 & 246, No. 2, Avery)

ALLEGIANCE

Section 63. Upon the formation of a Grand Commandery, all Commanderies within its Territorial Jurisdiction must enroll under such Grand Commandery, and shall respect and obey the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations thereof.

HOW COMPOSED

Section 64. A Commandery, whether Subordinate or Constituent, consists of:

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

Such other Knights Templar as maybe members thereof; The Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Treasurer, and Recorder shall be elected, and the remaining Officers shall be elected, or appointed by the Commander, as may be provided by law.

Any Commandery may, by its By-Laws provide that the offices of its Treasurer and Recorder may be consolidated into the one office of Recorder and when so combined the Recorder shall assume and perform the duties of the Treasurer, as set forth in Section 73. Be it further provided that the permission of the Grand Encampment be obtained in the case of the Subordinate Commandery, and the permission of its Grand Commandery be obtained in the case of a Constituent Commandery.

In addition, the members include all Knights Templar who have been elected as honorary members. To become or remain an honorary member one must not otherwise be a member of the Commandery but must be a member of a Commandery or Priory under the governance of the Grand Encampment or a Great Priory in amity with the Grand Encampment. Honorary members do not have the right to vote or hold office. They are also not required to pay dues or assessments. Election must be by unanimous ballot, after due reference to a committee, and ballot had at a subsequent Stated Conclave. (1973, p. 229-233)(2012)

It is proper to issue a dispensation for a Commandery special election to fill a vacancy in the office of Generalissimo where the person elected was not present for the election and had never accepted or been installed. In such a case the office had not been filled. (1931, P. 81 & 265, No. 7, Sharp)

One having been elected to the office of Captain General of a Commandery and having died before installation, there is a vacancy in that office. A Dispensation for a special election under such circumstances would be legal. (1931, p. 81 & 267, No. 8, Sharp)

One person may not hold the offices of Recorder and Treasurer. Grand Encampment law does not authorize the holding of two elective offices by one Sir Knight. (1961, p. 39, No. 4, Wieber)

The holding of two elective offices by one member – in any Grand Constituent or Subordinate Commandery – is clearly contrary to tradition, usage, and intent of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. (1973, p.385 &507, No. 1, Bell)

A recorder could not hold a progressive line office while serving as recorder. (1988, p. 27 & 227, No. 3, Smith)

All Templar funds are to be maintained separately from funds of other organizations if practical and under no circumstances comingled with other such funds without adequate accounting and legal recourse to protect Templar funds. Commanders, Grand Commanders, The Grand Master, Commanderies and Grand Commanderies may require procedures including separate accounts. (2018, p. 83 & 268, No. 3, Vaught)

CONCLAVES

Section 65. The Conclaves of Commanderies shall be:

- (a) Stated; which shall be held at least Quarterly at such Place as may be specified in the Dispensation or Charter or otherwise provided for by Law, and at such time as may be designated.
- (b) Special; which may be called by the Commander or set by action of the Commandery. They shall be held for the conferring of Orders or for such business as may be prescribed by law, and at the Place for Stated Conclaves, provided that the Grand Master for Subordinate Commanderies, and the Grand Commander for Constituent Commanderies, may authorize the holding of such Conclaves (for the conferring of the Orders) at a Place other than that specified in the Charter or Dispensation. The notice or summons for all Special Conclaves shall specify the business to be transacted, and none other shall be considered at such Conclave.
- (c) A Commandery may, at Stated or Special Conclaves held for the transaction of business only, consider and transact business jointly with Chapters and Councils domiciled at the same location. At such Conclaves, members of Chapters and councils who are not Knights Templar may be admitted; provided, that in the event of an objection by a Knight Templar to balloting on petitions for the Orders by all present, such petitions shall be considered only by members of the Commandery. At such Conclaves, following prayer, the Commander may declare the Commandery open for the transaction of business. (1970, p. 349-356 & 456)
- (d) Virtual – In the event of extraordinary circumstances, a Commandery may conduct a Stated or Special Conclave virtually. Such virtual Conclaves may be for the transaction of business only. A virtual meeting shall be held by means of teleconference or webcast, provided that the necessary facilities are widely available to the members of the Commandery and the Conclave shall be conducted in full compliance with the requirements of sections 65 and 66 of the Constitution. No Ritual shall be performed, and no Orders shall be conferred during any such virtual Conclave.

In the absence of a General Order authorizing the holding of a virtual Conclave, it shall be necessary to obtain a dispensation from the Grand Master for Subordinate Commanderies,

and the Grand Commander for Constituent Commanderies, upon such additional conditions as he may determine. (2021, p unassigned)

A Commandery should meet at least quarterly but Grand Encampment law does not require a specific penalty for such failure. (1913, p 60, No. 20, Melish)
The power to arrest a charter for a cause such as not meeting quarterly is within the power of the Grand Commander but the Laws of the Grand Commandery cannot require him to do so. (1916, p 111 & 387, No 7, Smith)
Time means the day and hour specified in the by-laws. (1916, p 118, No. 12, Smith)
Where the bylaws of a Commandery provide an alternate date in the case of certain circumstances the change to that alternate date is not a change in the Stated Meeting. (1919, p 69 & 320, No. 40, Smith)
A Commandery must be opened in form to perform the Templar Funeral ceremony. (1925, p. 59 & 394, No. 8, Newby)
It is not necessary to open the Commandery in Special Conclave for a Christmas service and therefore families and friends of Sir Knights may be present. (1937, p 25 & 322, No. 5, Agnew)
Templar conclaves are all opened "in due form", whether they are opened in "short" or "full" form. (1940, p 68 & 290, No. 27, Norris)
A Subordinate Commandery may not amend its bylaws to provide for the reception of petitions and ballots thereon either at the same stated conclave or at a special conclave. The Grand Master has authority to issue a Dispensation under the authority of section 23(j) to receive and ballot upon petitions at the same stated but not called meeting.(1952 p. 79 &232, No. 15, Gaylord)
The Grand Master has no authority to grant a Dispensation to change a date of a stated conclave which has been definitely fixed by the By-Laws of the Commandery. (1955, p.107 & 276, No. 28, Gordon)
It is not required that the Commandery should hold a Conclave to "open" and "close" his Commandery in order to convene his members to conduct a funeral. (1964, p. 79 & 255, No. 1 Moore)
A Commandery's bylaws could make provisions for a change in the annual conclave date when it fell on a legal holiday. Such bylaw changes must be approved according to the Grand Commandery law. (1988, p. 27 & 227, No. 2, Smith)
Video tape, DVD or any other form of video presentation of the Orders of Templary as depicted in the rituals of the Grand Encampment are not to be used in the conferral of said orders. They were produced for instructional purposes only. The conferral of any Order must be done by Sir Knights, in a Commandery Asylum. (2006, p. 69 & 151, No. 3, Fischer)

QUORUM

Section 66. A quorum of a Commandery consists of nine members entitled to vote therein, including an Officer authorized to open the same. A Grand Commandery may by law provide for a lesser number for quorum purposes; provided that such number shall not be less than five. If

a Commandery is permitted to be opened with less than nine members and there are not nine or more Sir Knights present, the Short-Form Opening in the 2019 Ritual shall be used. (2018, p 107-109 & 300)(2021, p unassigned)

A quorum of a Commandery consists of nine members entitled to vote therein. Together with an officer entitled to open the Commandery (1919, p 5 & 296, No. 17, Smith)

A quorum is nine members entitled to vote. Visitors are not entitled to vote and therefore cannot be counted for a quorum. (1940, p 65 & 343, No. 10 Norris)

The Grand Master has no authority to reduce the number required for a quorum from nine to five at business Conclaves in order to accommodate small Commanderies. (1946, p 66 & 242, No. 4, Orr)

Nine or more is the indispensable number - three or more Templars hailing from three separate Commanderies with proper warrants for the purpose of forming a new Commandery. (1988, p. 27 & 227, No. 4, Smith)

OFFICERS' DUTY TO ATTEND GRAND CONCLAVES

Section 67. It is the duty of the Commander, the Generalissimo and the Captain General of Subordinate Commanderies within the continental limits of the United States to attend the conclaves of the Grand Encampment, and the duties of such officers of Constituent Commanderies to attend the conclaves of their respective Grand Commanderies. The Grand Master, in the case of Subordinate Commanderies, and the Grand Commandery, in the case of Constituent Commanderies, shall have power and authority to take such action as he or it may deem appropriate to enforce the provisions of this section. The Grand Master shall report any such action at the next conclave of The Grand Encampment. (1967, p. 97-101)

Section 68. No appeal shall lie to the Commandery from a decision of the Commander. When the decision involves the construction or effect of the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment, or the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, or the By-Laws of the Commandery, an appeal may be taken to the Grand Commandery by a Constituent Commandery, or to the Grand Encampment by a Subordinate Commandery, but pending the decision of the appeal, such ruling of the Commander shall be in full force and effect.

Inquiry regarding the construction of legislation of a Grand Commandery should be to the Grand Commander. After the Grand Commander has ruled a member may appeal to the Grand Master. (1910, p 105 & 245, No. 9, Rugg)

Appeals from Commanderies under Grand Jurisdiction go to the Grand Commandery and those under the Grand Encampment to that body. (1919, P. 49 & 293 No. 11 Smith)

A controversy in a Grand Commandery relative to the creation of a new Commandery cannot be appealed to the Grand Master where the member appealing attempted to bypass other levels of authority and make a direct appeal to the Grand Master. (1925, P. 96 & 414 No. 37,

Newby)

Inquiry regarding construction of legislation by a Grand Commandery or by Grand Encampment should initially be referred to the respective Grand Commander for reply, and resort should be had to the Grand Master only when decision by the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery is considered unsatisfactory. Attention is directed to Grand Encampment legislation covering correspondence (see Sections 210 through 213 of the Statutes). It will save time for all parties concerned, if inquires which properly call for reply by the Grand Commander are forwarded to him, and not to the Grand Master, and similarly, if requests for rulings on the part of the Grand Encampment are forwarded directly to the Grand Master, and not to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment. (1952 p 63 &155, No. 3 Gaylord)

TERM OF OFFICE

Section 69. Officers of Commanderies shall hold office and discharge the duties thereof for the term for which they are elected or appointed and until their successors are duly installed.

It is proper to issue a dispensation for a Commandery special election to fill a vacancy in the office of Generalissimo where the person elected was not present for the election and had never accepted or been installed. In such a case the office had not been filled. (1931, P. 81 & 265, No. 7, Sharp)

One having been elected to the office of Captain General of a Commandery and having died before installation, there is a vacancy in that office. A Dispensation for a special election under such circumstances would be legal. (1931, p. 81 & 267, No. 8, Sharp)

VOW OF OFFICE

Section 70. Each Officer of a Commandery, before entering upon the discharge of the duties of his office, shall take the following vow, viz: "I, (A.B.), do promise and vow that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Commandery of this Jurisdiction, and the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of this Commandery, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office in which I am about to be installed, to the best of my ability."

THE COMMANDER

Section 71. It is the duty of the Commander:

- (a) Of a Constituent Commandery, to see that the Officers and Members of his Commandery duly observe the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Commandery, the Constitution, Rules, Laws, and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, and the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment.
- (b) Of Subordinate Commanderies, to see that the Officers and Members of his Commandery

duly observe the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Commandery, and the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment.

The Commander may delegate officers and members to confer Orders under his supervision. (1919, p 55&299 No. 21 Smith)

The Grand Commander has no authority to grant a Dispensation to a Constituent Commandery authorizing it to elect a Sir Knight to the honor of Past Commander that has not served in the office. To become a Past Commander the Sir Knight must serve through the end of the term. The resignation of the Commander followed by the election and installation of a successor who then resigns to be replaced by the original commander does not give the intermediate Commander past rank. (1946, p 87 & 242, No. 15, Orr)

Any quasi-Templar organization which is not specifically recognized by Templar Law must be subject to the approval, jurisdiction, direction and control of the Commander on behalf of the Commandery. The decision clarifies that the Commander cannot dissolve drill corps unless so authorized by the Commandery. (1952, p 89 &245, No. 28, Gaylord)

An officer, who shows an utter lack of interest, doesn't attend, and is an example of gross negligence may be removed from his office by the Commander following a formal "decision" by the Commander finding unknighthly conduct by reason of nonfeasance, misfeasance, and/or malfeasance in the performance of the duties of the office of the offending officer. There is no appeal to the Commandery from such a "decision", but such action by the Commander shall not affect the standing in the Order of such officer or his membership in the Commandery. Such removal may also be ordered by the Grand Commander, for the same reason and within the same limitations.

The authority to remove an officer for non-performance of official duties rises from the broad authority of the Grand Commander and the Commander, under the vertical axis of power and authority established by Templar laws, to govern his respective level of Templar jurisdiction. Such authority, when related to the duty of seeing that Templar laws are observed and in the absence of arbitrary conduct by the presiding officer, is practically unlimited.

In the exercise of such authority, the Commander must always be concerned for the good of the Order, and such final step as removal of an officer should be taken as a last resort. It should be only rarely that an officer will not either respond to the needs of the office he has sworn to perform to the best of his ability or consent to resign voluntarily. Even then, the Commander should give written notice to the offending officer to appear at a time and place and justify his conduct, and a third member should be present at such hearing; also the Grand Commander should be informed.

While the Grand Commander of the jurisdiction and the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment have similar authority with regard to all officers within their areas of command, it seems best that problems be solved where they exist and not allowed to fester while waiting for action by some higher authority. The Commander has the tools to handle matters at the local level. And he should not expect or invite outside intervention to solve his own problems. (1970, p.142 &535, No. 4, Crofts)

All Templar funds are to be maintained separately from funds of other organizations if practical and under no circumstances comingled with other such funds without adequate accounting and legal recourse to protect Templar funds. Commanders, Grand Commanders, The Grand Master, Commanderies and Grand Commanderies may require procedures including separate accounts. (2018, p. 83 & 268, No. 3, Vaught)

SUCCESSION TO OFFICE OF COMMANDER

Section 72. In case of the temporary absence, disability, removal, or mental or physical incapacity of the Commander, the Generalissimo shall act as Commander. In case of like disability of both Commander and Generalissimo, the Captain General shall act. In case of the death, permanent removal from the Jurisdiction precluding the performance of the duties of his office, or the permanent mental or physical disability of the Commander, the Generalissimo shall succeed to the office and be installed. In case of like disability of the Generalissimo or his advancement as above provided, the Captain General shall succeed to the office and be installed. In case of the like disability of the Captain General, or his advancement as above provided, the office shall be vacant and the Grand Master in case of Subordinate Commanderies, and the Grand Commander in case of Constituent Commanderies, shall issue a Dispensation for an election to fill the vacancy and any other that may occur in consequence thereof. In case of like disability of all three officers, a Dispensation may issue for a special election to fill the vacancies and any others which may result therefrom, pending which the Junior Past Commander able to serve shall act as Commander. (1964, p. 368)

The Grand Master in case of Subordinate Commanderies, and the Grand Commander in case of Constituent Commanderies, may vary this procedure for reasons he may deem sufficient, and may issue a Dispensation to fill any vacancy. (1940, p 338)

Upon a vacancy in the office of Generalissimo the Captain General succeeds to the duties but not the office of Generalissimo. He remains Captain General and the office of Generalissimo remains vacant until filled by election. (1922, p 21 & 269, No. 3, Orr)

It is proper to issue a dispensation for a Commandery special election to fill a vacancy in the office of Generalissimo where the person elected was not present for the election and had never accepted or been installed. In such a case the office had not been filled. (1931, P. 81 & 265, No. 7, Sharp)

One having been elected to the office of Captain General of a Commandery and having died before installation, there is a vacancy in that office. A Dispensation for a special election under such circumstances would be legal. (1931, p. 81 & 267, No. 8, Sharp)

A Commander-elect having died without installation, it was held the old Commander remains Commander since he retains office until the successor is installed. As there therefore no vacancy there is no right of succession. A Dispensation should be obtained to elect a successor. (1937, pp. 23 & 319, No. 1, Agnew)

If a Captain General of a Constituent Commandery vacates his position, a Dispensation to elect his successor should be obtained from the Grand Commander. If an election and installation of

such a Captain General has been held without Dispensation, the Grand Commander can heal that which has been erroneously done by granting the Commander a Dispensation and then the Commandery may legally elect anyone it pleases as a Captain General. Election without Dispensation is invalid. (1940, p 70 & 280, No. 36, Norris)

In the case where the elected and installed Commander has died and the elected Generalissimo and Captain Generals had not been installed, the ranking past commander who is able to serve acts as commander. (1940, p 71 & 348, No. 39, Norris)

The Grand Commander has no authority to grant a Dispensation to a Constituent Commandery authorizing it to elect a Sir Knight to the honor of Past Commander that has not served in the office. To become a Past Commander the Sir Knight must serve through the end of the term. The resignation of the Commander followed by the election and installation of a successor who then resigns to be replaced by the original commander does not give the intermediate Commander past rank. (1946, p 87 & 242, No. 15, Orr)

One does not need to be elected as Grand Commander to become a permanent member of the Grand Encampment or be elected as Commander to become a permanent member of a Grand Commandery. One who succeeds to the office of Grand Commander under Sections 49 and 50 of the Constitution and who serves the remainder of the term of office would become a Past Grand Commander and a permanent member of the Grand Encampment. The same process applies to a Grand Commander. (1949, p 75 & 213, No. 4, Rice)

A Sir Knight who briefly held the office of Commander before resigning and allowing the previously elected Commander to resume his office did not become a Past Commander, did not become a permanent member of the Grand Commandery, and was not eligible for election to the office of Grand Recorder. (1955, p. 100 & 269, No. 24-1, Gordon)

THE TREASURER

Section 73. It is the duty of the Treasurer:

- (a) Of a Constituent Commandery to perform such duties as are prescribed by the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment, the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, and the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Commandery.
- (b) Of a Subordinate Commandery to perform such duties as are prescribed by the Constitution, Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment and the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of his Commandery.

THE RECORDER

Section 74. It is the duty of the Recorder:

- (a) To give Notice of all Conclaves; Notice of Special Conclaves shall state the business to be transacted.
- (b) To issue Summons when directed by the Commander or the Commandery.
- (c) To record correctly all transactions of the Commandery.
- (d) To collect all dues and assessments and other moneys due to the Commandery, and promptly turn over the same to the Treasurer.

- (e) To issue a Grand Encampment generated dues card to all Sir Knights of his Commandery. This dues card shall bear the Seal of the Grand Encampment and the attestation of the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment. The Seal of the Commandery is not required to be affixed to said card. (2015)
- (f) To have in charge the Seal of the Commandery and affix it to all papers requiring the same.
- (g) Of a Constituent Commandery, to report annually to the Grand Recorder the Roll of Officers and such other information as may be prescribed by the Grand Commandery, and with said report remit the dues and fees due to the Grand Commandery, to transmit promptly to the Grand Commander and Grand Recorder copies of all By-Laws and Resolutions adopted by the Commandery.
- (h) To submit his books for examination when required by the Commandery, and as to a Constituent Commandery when required by the Grand Commander, and as to a Subordinate Commandery when required by the Grand Master.
- (i) Of a Subordinate Commandery, to report annually on or before April First to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment the Roll of Officers and members and such other information as may be prescribed by the Grand Encampment, and with said report remit the dues, fees and assessments due to the Grand Encampment. (1961, p. 234-235)

The signed copies of the three questions for each candidate for the Order of the Temple are part of the permanent record that should be maintained by the Commandery. (1922, P 27 & 280, No. 14, Orr)

The questions do not have to be individually signed. One signature is sufficient. (1922, p 28 & 282, No. 18, Orr)

A recorder could not hold a progressive line office while serving as recorder. (1988, p. 27 & 227, No. 3, Smith)

Each Commandery Recorder and Grand Commander Grand Recorder are responsible for entering information regarding petitioners, those advancing in the Orders, and finally those who have been knighted. This applies to all information in the system to include, but not limited to address changes, status changes, deaths etc. The acceptable time frame to input changes is within 15 days of the occurrence. (2015, No. 11, Goodwin)

Editor note - this refers to the Grand Encampment data information system.

OFFICIAL BONDS

Section 75. Recorders and Treasurers of Commanderies shall give bond for the faithful performance of their duties under such regulations as the Grand Commandery may enact for Constituent Commanderies and the Grand Encampment for Subordinate Commanderies.

The intent of Section 75 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment is that Recorders and Treasurers of Commanderies shall be bonded, and that such bonding is intended to be mandatory. This provision, however, is not self-executing. It is to be executed under such "regulations" as the Grand Commandery may enact for Constituent Commanderies of their

jurisdictions.

In cases where Grand Commanderies have failed to enact such regulations, the Grand Commander, under Sections 48(a) and (e) of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, has authority to require that Recorders and Treasurers be bonded, and under Section 48(d) has authority to enforce his order so requiring. (1937, p 43 & 347 No. 4 Norris)

SPECIAL ELECTION

Section 76. Subject to the provisions of Section 72, the Grand Master for Subordinate Commanderies and the Grand Commander for Constituent Commanderies, may authorize a Special Election to fill vacancies in Commandery offices.

A Dispensation, but no Special Conclave, is required to fill a vacancy in the office of Recorder of a Subordinate Commandery. (1916, p. 294, No. 24, Mac Arthur)

Upon a vacancy in the office of Generalissimo the Captain General succeeds to the duties but not the office of Generalissimo. He remains Captain General and the office of Generalissimo remains vacant until filled by election. (1922, p 21 & 269, No. 3, Orr)

It is proper to issue a dispensation for a Commandery special election to fill a vacancy in the office of Generalissimo where the person elected was not present for the election and had never accepted or been installed. In such a case the office had not been filled. (1931, P. 81 & 265, No. 7, Sharp)

One having been elected to the office of Captain General of a Commandery and having died before installation, there is a vacancy in that office. A Dispensation for a special election under such circumstances would be legal. (1931, p. 81 & 267, No. 8, Sharp)

A question was asked about the installation of an officer against whom charges had been preferred. Only the Grand Commander has the authority to interfere with the installation. He has authority to do almost anything he believes proper in the circumstances. In the case of a disputed election the answer is the same. The Grand Commander may order a new election or whatever he thinks best in the matter. (1931, P. 84 & 270, No. 13, Sharp)

A Commander-elect having died without installation, it was held the old Commander remains Commander since he retains office until the successor is installed. As there therefore no vacancy there is no right of succession. A Dispensation should be obtained to elect a successor. (1937, pp. 23 & 319, No. 1, Agnew)

If a Captain General of a Constituent Commandery vacates his position, a Dispensation to elect his successor should be obtained from the Grand Commander. If an election and installation of such a Captain General has been held without Dispensation, the Grand Commander can heal that which has been erroneously done by granting the Commander a Dispensation and then the Commandery may legally elect anyone it pleases as a Captain General. Election without Dispensation is invalid. (1940, p 70 & 280, No. 36, Norris)

TITLES

Section 77. The honorary title of the Commander is “Eminent,” and the official title is “Commander.”

The honorary title of all officers and individual members of the Order is “Sir Knight.”

The honorary title shall be used in addressing or referring to an officer, and when so used shall immediately precede the official title, e.g.: “Eminent Commander, Sir Knight Captain General, Sir Knight Warder,” etc.

The title of each and every Knight Templar, when addressed or referred to by either or both his Christian and surnames is “Sir Knight,” without any prefix thereto, and “Sir Knights” is the title to be applied to any assemblage of Knights Templar.

In the case of Honorary titles the Constitution and not the ritual governs. (1913, p 54-55, No. 17, Melish)

The Grand Encampment may alter or abolish Commandery titles. One who has such a title retains the same as long as the law prescribes. (1925, p. 52 & 387, No. 2, Newby)

PRECEDENCE OF RANK

Section 78. The precedence of rank shall be as follows:

The Commander,

The Generalissimo,

The Captain General,

The Past Commanders according to seniority of service,

The Senior Warden,

The Junior Warden,

The Prelate,

The Treasurer,

The Recorder,

The Standard Bearer,

The Sword Bearer,

The Warder, and

The Guards and Sentinel.

When a Past Prior of a Preceptory visits a Commandery he retains that rank and should be recognized accordingly. It would correspond to the status of a Past Commander.

When a Past Prior affiliates with a chartered Commandery he retains the rank of a Past Prior, which corresponds to the rights and privileges of a Past Commander. (1964, p. 78 & 255, No. 2b & c, Moore)
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QUALIFICATIONS NOT TO BE CHANGED

Section 79. The Orders of Knighthood shall be conferred only upon candidates who possess the qualifications for membership fixed by the Statutes of the Grand Encampment. Such qualifications, when defined, shall not be changed by Grand Commanderies or Commanderies; provided, that any Grand Commandery may, by proper enactment and, by at least a two-thirds vote, require the Cryptic Degrees as prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood in its Constituent Commanderies. (1958, p. 313-319)

Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

A Subordinate Commandery cannot make Council degrees a prerequisite to membership in a Commandery as no such privilege was granted to Subordinate Commanderies by the Grand Encampment. (1961, p. 41, No. 7 Weber)

If the Council prerequisite did not apply to the Knight Templar when he petitioned for the Orders, it can never be applied to him individually, and no resolution can be adopted under the authority of Section 79 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, which would apply such prerequisite to a Knight templar retroactively. Since Council membership cannot be required of this Knight Templar, neither can it be required that he continue to be an active member of a Council of Royal and Select Masters if he becomes a member after becoming a Knight Templar.

If Council membership was prerequisite to Knight Templar membership in the individual case, good standing in the Council as well as in the Lodge and Chapter must support Templar membership. (1970, p. 142 & 543, No. 9, Crofts)

Section 80. Except as provided in Section 23(j)2 and Section 48(f)2, Petitions for Orders or for membership shall be acted upon at Stated Conclaves only. No Petition may be balloted on in less than two weeks from presentation to the Commandery, provided that the Grand Master in case of a Subordinate Commandery, and the Grand Commander in case of a Constituent Commandery, may by Dispensation authorize the presentation of and ballot upon such Petition at the same Conclave; after such notice as he may deem proper. (1952, p 570-571)

A Grand Commandery may provide a by-law that the Petitions for the Orders or for membership may be received and balloted on at the Stated or Special Conclave at which such Petition or Petitions are read in the Commandery, without Dispensation from the Grand Commander. (1964, p. 259-265 & 271)(1970, p. 195-196)

Sections 46(f)2 and 80 specifically provide that notice be given of balloting on petitions at the same Conclave and at all Special Conclaves. The form and content of the notice to be given is not prescribed by statute, but these matters are in the discretion of the authority granting the Dispensation. It is better practice for the Dispensation to name the petitioners to be balloted upon, but the notice of the Conclave need not contain their names unless the Dispensation so directs. (1961, p. 42, No. 10, Weber)

FEE FOR ORDERS

Section 81. No Commandery may confer the Orders for a less fee than Forty Dollars (\$40.00). The fee may not be remitted directly or indirectly. Provided, however, at the request of a subordinate Commandery outside of the United States, the Grand Master may set the amount of the conferral fee for said Commandery so making the request. (1970, p. 324-325)(1988 Pages 216 – 217)

A Commandery may not set a fee equal to the minimum and require an additional fee for a uniform followed by the purchase by the Commandery for the candidate of a uniform for more than the uniform fee. The minimum fee cannot be circumvented. (1919, p 49 & 295, No. 12, Smith)

In the absence of any regulation on the subject of returning the fees to a petitioner who failed to present himself for the Orders within twelve months after his election, the disposition of the money is a matter resting in the discretion of the Commandery.

The true rule and policy of Templary should be to decide each case upon the circumstances involved and allow the return of the money or insist upon its retention as the best fraternal judgment may indicate. (1925, p 408, No. 29, Newby)

Section 81 applies only to the fee for the orders and not to any fee required for purchase of a uniform. (1958, p. 249 & 291, No. 28, DeLamater)

SOJOURNERS

Section 82. No Commandery may confer the Orders, or anyone of them, upon any Sojourner unless the consent of the Commandery having territorial Jurisdiction is first obtained, provided, however, that it shall be lawful for any Commandery to receive the Petition of and confer the Orders upon any person belonging to the Active Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of the United States of America who shall have been stationed within its Territorial Jurisdiction for at least Six Months prior to the presentation of his Petition. In the event of a violation of this Section the Commandery offending shall pay to the Commandery having territorial Jurisdiction the fees received for such admission and be subject to such other penalties as may be provided by law. (1964, p. 321-322)(2021, p unassigned)

When a Commandery accepts the petition of a Sojourner – a resident of another jurisdiction – and confers the Orders upon him without obtaining the consent of the Commandery having territorial jurisdiction, and pays the penalty provided by Section 82 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, the status of the Sojourner who was thus created a Knight Templar is that of an ipso facto member of the Commandery conferring the Orders. (1940, p. 65, 66, 282 &

284, No. 14 & 18, Norris)
Where a waiver of jurisdiction over a petitioner is requested by a Constituent Commandery in one State from a Constituent Commandery in another State, correspondence should be conducted directly between the two Constituent Commanderies regardless of the intervening boundary. However, where a waiver of jurisdiction over specifically designated territory is requested, it must be granted by the Grand Commandery whose jurisdiction is to be waived. (1952, p. 75 & 229, No. 11, Gaylord)
An Army officer, a native of the Netherlands, stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, residing there from October 13, 1952, to February 17, 1953, purporting to have received his Blue Lodge and Chapter Degrees in the Netherlands, was not properly eligible to petition a Commandery for the Orders of Templary he having not been stationed within its Territorial Jurisdiction for at least Six Months. (1955, p. 77 & 197, No. 4, Gordon)
In the case of invasion of territory the offending Commandery shall pay the proper amount to the Commandery having jurisdiction without waiting for a demand for payment. (1955, p. 86 & 236, No. 11-A, Gordon)
One who belonged to a Lebanon Chapter and spends only two months of each year in New Jersey could not qualify neither as a resident. If he qualified as a Sojourner, section 82 would have to be qualified with. The permanent residence of the proposed petitioner was not determined. (1955, p. 111 & 278, No. 31, Gordon)
A Commandery under one Grand Commandery may request a waiver of jurisdiction from a Commandery under another Grand Commandery. Communication between Commanderies in different jurisdictions must be through their respective Grand Recorders. (2015, No. 10, Goodwin)

Section 83. The orders shall be conferred in the following succession: Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar. The Order of the Red Cross, and/or the order of Malta may be conferred either in full form or in short form.

ASSESSMENTS

Section 84. A Commandery has the right to levy and collect such annual dues and per capita assessments as it may deem necessary to defray its expenses. Dues and assessments have the same standing and authority but apply only to members, other than honorary members, of that Commandery. The Commandery may choose to include or exclude Life members from an assessment subject to the requirements set forth by the Grand Commandery. Otherwise, dues and assessment must apply equally to all members and may not discriminate relative to Lodge or Chapter membership, profession, honors or past offices, age or years of membership.

Assessments may only be made for the good of the Commandery, Grand Commandery or Grand Encampment and not for any program or expense of any other person or group such as a Lodge building program. Only the Grand Encampment only may levy an assessment for charitable purposes.

Dues apply to a member during his period of membership and not to any period while suspended or expelled.

Grand Commandery per Capita or special assessments are subject to the same requirements and prohibitions. (2012)

AMENDMENTS

Section 85. The Grand Encampment, upon the concurrence of Three-fourths of its members present at any Stated Conclave, may revise, amend and alter this Constitution or the Rituals adopted by the Grand Encampment, and by a Two-thirds vote of the members present, may revise, amend and alter the Statutes; provided, however, that a written copy of the motion so to revise, amend or alter shall be filed with the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment at least Three Months before the day on which the Triennial Conclave is to be held at which such motion is to be considered, and copy thereof shall be inserted in the Notice of the Conclave and presented by the Grand Recorder to the Grand Encampment for consideration, otherwise no such motion shall be considered; provided also, that if the Grand Recorder fails to give such notice, the proposed amendment may be called up by consent of Three-fourths of the members present and acted upon as if said notice had been given; provided further, that with the unanimous consent of the members of the Grand Encampment present, any member may introduce such an amendment not later than Noon of the Second Day of the Conclave, which may be considered and acted upon by the Grand Encampment at said Conclave; provided further, that any amendment proposed at a Triennial Conclave and not acted upon at such Conclave, may be acted upon at the Next Stated Conclave whether or not inserted in the Notice of the Grand Recorder, and may be considered in the absence of the propose; provided further, that the proposed amendment may be modified in any manner by the Grand Encampment while it is under consideration if such modification is germane to the proposed amendment.(1958, p. 313)(1964, pages 358 - 359)

The ritual cannot be changed indirectly but must pass through the normal procedure of proposing a resolution to amend. (1916, p 110 and 387, No. 6, Smith)
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A Grand Commandery, as such, is not a member of the Grand Encampment, and it cannot propose amendments. (1919, p 65 &311, No. 33, Smith)
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When the Proceedings is silent on the number of votes cast on an amendment to the Constitution or Ritual requiring a majority of three-fourths to adopt, and no division is called for, upon the declaration of the Grand Master that "the amendment is adopted," it will be presumed that it had been legally adopted. (1922, P. 27 &270 No. 5, Orr)

In various revisions of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment many of the original provisions have been brought forward verbatim and re-enacted by the revisions made. Provisions found in the Constitution and Statutes of 1910 and 1934 were carried forward without change into the 1934 revision. Such carrying forward without change constituted merely a re-enactment of the old provisions, and in all such cases rulings which have been

made in reference to those re-enacted provisions would be applicable today. Where changes in the provisions have been made, the old ruling would not be applicable.

Decisions approved by the Grand Encampment prior to 1934 as to re-enacted provisions brought forward from previous Constitutions and Statutes would be applicable now unless they have been overruled by a later session.

Decisions, opinions and rulings made by the Grand Master are binding until overruled by the Grand Encampment. If approved by the Grand Encampment they become a part of the law of the Grand Encampment. (1940, p 69 &279, No. 35, Norris)

Editor note – This ruling only pertains to decisions in or since 1910. In that year in order to clarify Grand Encampment law and bring all existing law together in one source all prior law was repealed to be replaced by the new Constitution and Statutes as well as decisions that were approved at that Conclave.

Notice of the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment should include only concrete proposals to revise or amend the Constitution, Statutes or Ritual of the Grand Encampment. Proposals must be made by one or more members of the Grand Encampment in their individual capacity. Memorials or statements of policy are not properly included. (1952 p 62 &152, No. 1 Gaylord)

There is no provision for an appeal from a decision of the Grand Master to be included in the official Notice of the Triennial Conclave. There is no appeal, as such, since the constitution requires every decision to be reviewed and submitted for approval at the next triennial. (1952, p 62 &154, No. 2, Gaylord)

The Grand Master may correct an obvious clerical error in the legislation adopted. Correction of clerical error must be by unanimous consent of the Grand Encampment. (1952, p 64 &156, No. 4, Gaylord)

REPEALING CLAUSE

Section 86. All Constitutional provisions not included in this Constitution are hereby repealed.

The \$10 penalty for restoring a lost ritual was adopted in 1916. The adoption of a new constitution in 1934 did not repeal that provision since it does not conflict with that prior provision. (1940, p 68 & 344, No. 28, Norris)

**STATUTES
OF THE**

**GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

CHAPTER I

DEFINITIONS

Section 87. As used in the Constitution and these Statutes:

"Healing" means re-obligating the Knights Templar and correcting what has been done amiss at his creation.

"Permanent Members" of the Grand Encampment are properly affiliated Past Grand Commanders.

"Representative Members" of the Grand Encampment are those Knights Templar who, by virtue of the offices which they hold at the time, are entitled to seats in the Grand Encampment.

"Insignia of Rank" means the Emblem prescribed by Section 241 to denote the rank of the officer or member using or wearing the same.

"Jewel of Office" means the emblem prescribed to be worn by any officer, to designate the office held by him. It is to be worn by an officer only during his incumbency.

"Adjourn." The Grand Encampment and Grand Commanderies do not "Close"; they "Adjourn."

"Close." Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies "Close"; they do not "call off" or "adjourn," but they may close to meet on a day certain, to finish business that is pending.

"Conclave." Commanderies hold "Conclaves," not "meetings."

"Open." Commanderies "Open." Grand Commanderies and the Grand Encampment "Convene."

"Notice" means a written notice.

"Sojourner" means one who is eligible to petition for the Orders of Knighthood who presents his petition to a Commandery having no territorial jurisdiction of the Petitioner.

Grand Commanderies conclaves whether special or stated always adjourn. (1919, p 68 & 319, No. 38, Smith)
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CHAPTER II

GRAND ENCAMPMENT

QUALIFICATION OF REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN CONCLAVES

Section 88. No representative Member shall be entitled to a seat in the Grand Encampment or be permitted to participate in its proceedings unless all dues, charges and assessments against the Grand or Subordinate Commandery which he represents shall have been paid, unless the Grand Encampment permits participation.

NON-AFFILIATION FORFEITS MEMBERSHIP

Section 89. A member of the Grand Encampment forfeits all rights of membership by being non-affiliated with a Commandery during such period of non-affiliation. (1916, p 423)

PARTICIPATION OF A MEMBER IN DEBATE

Section 90. No member shall be allowed to speak more than once on the same subject unless by special permission of the Grand Encampment.

COMMANDERIES OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Section 91. Whenever the Grand Encampment shall establish a Subordinate Commandery at any place outside of the United States, it shall define its territorial limits.

BY-LAWS

Section 92. The Grand Encampment may enact a uniform code of By-Laws for the government of its Subordinate Commanderies. In the absence of such code all By-Laws of such Subordinate Commanderies must be approved by the Grand Encampment; provided, however, that the Grand Master may approve By-Laws or amendments thereof adopted during the recess of the Grand Encampment, which action shall be subject to review at the Next Succeeding Conclave of the Grand Encampment.

STANDNG COMMITTEES

Section 93. The Standing Committees of the Grand Encampment shall be:

- (1) A Committee on Templar Jurisprudence.
- (2) A Committee on Finance.
- (3) A Committee on Foreign Relations.
- (4) A Committee on Printing.
- (5) A Committee on Religious Activities. (1955, p. 485-488)(1964, p. 359 - 360)
- (6) A Committee on Necrology.
- (7) A Committee on Triennial Conclave.
- (8) A Committee on The Educational Foundation.
- (9) A Committee on The Knights Templar Eye Foundation. (1955 page 262)
- (10) A Committee on Drill Regulations.
- (11) A. Committee on Triennial Conclave Expense.
- (12) A Committee on Ritualistic Matters.

- (13) A Committee on Membership.
- (14) A Committee on Patriotic and Civic Activities. (1964, p. 370)
- (15) A Committee on Public Relations. (1964, p. 360 - 363)
- (16) A Standing Committee, to be known as the Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee, shall consist of three members – The Grand Master and two members to be appointed by the Grand Master – for the purpose of sending ordained Christian ministers to the Holy Land Gratis, for their spiritual enrichment, continued education, enthusiasm and rededication.
- (17) A Committee on Electronic Communications (2021, p unassigned)

The election of participation by the respective Grand Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies in the Holy Land Pilgrimage, shall be optional with them. Monies to finance the pilgrim ministers shall be on a voluntary basis only – Each Grand Commandery and Subordinate Commandery will determine the number of ministers from the monies available which they themselves have collected

These Committees shall perform such duties as the Constitution and Statutes prescribe and are subject at all times to the direction of the Grand Encampment and the Grand Master.

(1949, p 385) (2000 pages 20 – 21)

TIME AND PLACE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Section 94. The Committee on Templar Jurisprudence shall meet at the place designated for holding the Triennial Conclave on the Thursday morning preceding the time fixed for the Conclave; provided, however, that the Grand Master or the Chairman of the Committee may call such Committee to meet at some other convenient time or place.

Section 95. The Committee on Triennial Conclave shall meet at the place designated for holding the next Triennial Conclave on the call of the Chairman of such Committee during the Triennial Period, and may hold other meetings on the call of the Chairman, approved by the Grand Master.

Section 96. All Standing Committees except those for which express provision is made herein shall meet on the call of the Chairman of such Committee at the place where the Triennial Conclave is held and at the time of the holding of such Conclave provided that other meetings of such Committees may be held at other times and places with the approval of the Grand Master.

TEMPLAR JURISPRUDENCE

Section 97. The Committee on Templar Jurisprudence shall consist of five members, to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, and to serve until the close of the next Triennial Conclave. It shall consider all decisions upon questions of Templar

Laws and usage reported by the Grand Master and such other matters as may be referred to it by him or the Grand Encampment, and its conclusions shall be reported to the Grand Encampment. The Committee, when called upon, shall give opinions on the legislative, judicial and executive functions of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Commanderies, and the Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies, and on the prerogatives, powers and duties of the officers and members thereof. It shall advise upon all questions of Templar Law and report upon all proposed amendments of the Constitution, Statutes, Regulations and Edicts.

FINANCE

Section 98. The Committee on Finance shall consist of five members, to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, and to serve until the close of the next Triennial Conclave. It shall cause to be audited by Certified Public Accountants the books, accounts and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, the Trustees of the Permanent Fund, and of such Committees, Officers and Members of the Grand Encampment as may have custody of any funds or property of the Grand Encampment, sufficiently in advance of the convening of the Triennial Conclave so that copies of such audit may be furnished the members of such Committee, the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master prior to the convening of such Conclave. It shall make up the expense bills and mileage rolls of such officers, members of Committees and others as are to be paid, and recommend such appropriations as may be necessary for the current expenses of the ensuing Triennial Period. No appropriation of funds shall be made until the proposal therefore has been referred to the Committee on Finance and its report thereon made.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Section 99. The Committee on Foreign Relations shall consist of three members, to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, and to serve until the close of the next Triennial Conclave. The Chairman shall be a Past Master or an Officer of the Grand Encampment. It shall report to the Grand Encampment all matters of interest connected with the doings and current history of Foreign Bodies of Knight Templar, make such suggestions as may conduce to the benefit and good of the Order of Christian Knighthood throughout the World, and consider and report upon such correspondence as may be had between this Grand Encampment and any foreign body of Knights Templar.

A foreign jurisdiction is any Templar Jurisdiction other than the Grand Encampment. (1937, p 39 & 338, No. 23, Agnew)

PRINTING

Section 100. The Committee on Printing shall consist of the retiring Grand Master, the Grand Master and the Grand Recorder. It shall determine, unless otherwise directed by the Grand Encampment, what portion of the proceedings shall be printed, and supervise the

publication.

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Section 101. The Committee on Religious Activities shall consist of three members, and the Grand Prelate, ex-officio, to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master and to serve until the close of the next Triennial Conclave. It shall each year prepare and cause to be submitted to all Grand and Subordinate Commanderies a suitable Toast to the Grand Master, and a Response of the Grand Master thereto, to be given on Christmas day *or at some convenient hour on or near the birthday of Christ*. It shall initiate and give active leadership throughout our Christian Order to programs that will place proper emphasis upon our individual Christian responsibilities, as well as to the religious obligations of Templary. (1955, p. 485-488)(1964, p. 359 - 360)(1973, p. 169-170)

NECROLOGY

Section 102. The Committee on Necrology shall consist of one member, to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, and to serve until the close of the next Triennial Conclave. It shall report at each Triennial Conclave the death of each member of the Grand Encampment occurring since the last Triennial Conclave, with a suitable Memorial to the Templar dead.

TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE

Section 103. The Committee on Triennial Conclave shall consist of Three members; Two to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, to serve until the next Triennial Conclave; the Third member shall be the Grand Recorder. It shall make suitable arrangements for the Conclave of the Grand Encampment and secure suitable hotel accommodations for the Officers and Members thereof. The Chairman of the Committee shall perform such other duties in connection with the arrangements for any Triennial Conclave as the Grand Master may request.

THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Section 104. The Committee on The Educational Foundation shall consist of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Recorder as Secretary, ex officio, and Four members to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master and to serve until the close of the next Triennial Conclave. It shall have general oversight of the practical working of The Educational Foundation and supervisory relation with the corresponding Committees of the respective Grand Commanderies. It shall from time to time transmit to such Committees matters of interest and recommendations for the administration of the Educational Foundation. (1943, p 341)

The resolutions for the Educational Foundation require nine annual assessments on the

<p>membership of \$1.00 per capita, each annual assessment to be based on membership of that particular year. Voluntary contributions or accretions of any kind will not release the Grand Commandery from the necessity of making annual assessments of the \$1.00 per capita on the membership. (1934, pp 211 & 215 No. 7 Agnew)</p>
<p>A Grand Commandery having made a tenth annual assessment of \$1, the funds belong to the Grand Encampment Educational Foundation and cannot be returned or withdrawn except that the Grand Encampment may allow reimbursement of appropriate expenditures out of a Grand Commandery's general fund. (1940, p 67 & 350, No. 25 Norris)</p>
<p>A Subordinate Division of the Educational Foundation must recognize the Grand Encampment Committee on the Educational Foundation as being in complete charge of all such funds and the supervising of all such work, and require the Subordinate Division to submit its reports and in all other ways recognize its status as a Subordinate Division of the Educational Foundation of the Grand Encampment. (1952, p 81 & 238, No. 19, Gaylord)</p>
<p>The capital includes the original \$9 assessment, additional assessments since that time, all gifts, bequests and donations to the fund and income previously earned on the fund. No portion of the assessment, gift, bequest, donation or earned income credited to the capital account can be withdrawn by any Division for any purpose other than for loans and investments. This does not affect the provision for scholarships out of income for any current year and segregated in a separate fund during such current year before being credited to the capital account. (1955, p. 99 & 268, No. 23, Gordon)</p>
<p>Grand Encampment has no policy of bonding officers of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation. Although it is the owner of the funds in the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, since the States have been made custodian of the funds raised by them, the Grand Encampment looks only to the several Grand Commanderies for protection insofar as those funds are concerned. Consequently, whatever procedure is followed by the Grand Commandery in bonding its officers is a matter of their own choice. (1961, p. 51, No. 26, Wieber)</p>
<p>Neither the Grand Commander nor the Grand Commandery has any authority to compel the Educational Foundation Committee of that division to set up grants or scholarships.</p>
<p>The Grand Commander or a Grand Commandery has no authority or power to fix the operating budget of the Educational Foundation Committee in any division. (1964, p. 80 & 255, No. 3, Moore)</p>
<p>Grand Commandery Officers cannot be "ex-officio members" of the Educational Foundation Committee. The Rules, Regulations and Standard Practices for the governing of the Knight Templar Educational Foundation provides for the sole method for the appointment of such committee members. (1967, p. 152, No. 9, Brucker)</p>

THE EYE FOUNDATION

Section 104½. The Committee on The Knights Templar Eye Foundation consists of the following officers and members of the Grand Encampment: the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, all Past Grand Masters holding

membership in a Constituent or Subordinate Commandery under the authority of the Grand Encampment, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder and six members of the Grand Encampment elected at large, with two members elected at each Triennial Conclave to serve for a term of nine years. The committee has general oversight of the practical working of The Knights Templar Eye Foundation. It shall, from time to time, transmit to the Grand Encampment matters of interest and recommendations for the administration of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. (1955 page 263-264)(1964, p. 446-448)(2021, p unassigned)

DRILL REGULATIONS

Section 105. The Committee on Drill Regulations shall consist of three members, to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, and to serve until the close of the next Triennial Conclave. It shall prescribe the rules and regulations governing all competitive drills to be held at any Triennial Conclave, appoint the Judges therefore and have charge thereof. It shall recommend such changes in the Drill Regulations as it may deem necessary and advisable. All proposed amendments to such Regulations shall be referred to this Committee, which shall report thereon to the Grand Encampment.

Drill regulations are obligatory upon Templar bodies for when appearing in parades, competitive drill or other public occasions. (1928, p. 53 & 343. No. 3, Vallery)

TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE EXPENSE

Section 106. The Committee on Triennial Conclave Expense shall consist of the Grand Master, the Grand Recorder and the Chairman of the Triennial Conclave Committee. It shall disburse the funds contributed by the Grand Encampment toward defraying the expenses of the Triennial Conclave.

RITUALISTIC MATTERS

Section 106(a). The Committee on Ritualistic Matters shall consist of three members, to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, and to serve until the close of the next Triennial Conclave. It shall consider all ritualistic matters referred to it by the Grand Master or the Grand Encampment. It shall recommend such changes in the Ritual as it may deem necessary or advisable. All proposed amendments to the Ritual shall be referred to this Committee, which shall report thereon to the Grand Encampment.

Explanatory information in the ritual ceremonies are part of the ritual and therefore are controlling and shall be followed. (1937, p 35 & 335, No. 20, Agnew)

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Section 106(b). The Committee on Membership shall consist of three members, to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, and serve until the close of the next Triennial Conclave. It shall consider all matters affecting the membership submitted to it by the Grand Master or the Grand Encampment. It shall recommend appropriate programs and procedures to strengthen the membership of our Order. All matters which it may consider or deem necessary or advisable with reference to membership shall be included in the report which shall be given by the Committee to the Grand Master and the Grand Encampment.

PATRIOTIC AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Section 106(c). The Committee on Patriotic and Civic Activities shall consist of a Chairman and six other members, to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, to serve until the close of the next Triennial Conclave. The committee shall foster and supervise activities of a patriotic and citizenship nature, whether in peacetime or in wartime, and shall present its recommendations for civic responsibility by Knights Templar individually and collectively, compatible with the patriotic principles of Templary. (1964, p. 370)(1967, p. 89)

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Section 106(d). The Committee on Public Relations shall consist of three members, to be appointed at the conclusion of each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, and shall serve during the pleasure of the Grand Master. The Committee shall study all existing public relations programs and procedures of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Commanderies and the Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies, and shall recommend changes and improvements in public relations to the Grand Master. The Committee shall originate educational material. It shall disseminate and promote approved public relations programs, and shall assist the Grand Master in presenting material through the official publication medium and otherwise as the Grand Master may direct. It shall disseminate and promote a Public Relations program approved by the Grand Master or by the Grand Encampment and shall assist the Grand Master in presenting the material. (1955, p 553 - 564, originally section 113 1/2) (1964, p. 360 - 363)

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Section 106(e). The Committee on Electronic Communications shall consist of three members, to be appointed at the conclusion of each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, and shall serve during the pleasure of the Grand Master. The committee shall maintain the websites of the Grand Encampment, and support the Grand Commanderies and

the Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies in establishing and maintaining a web presence, shall post the digital *KNIGHT TEMPLAR* periodical and supplements, establish and maintain mailing lists, and recommend changes and improvements in electronic communications to the Grand Master. (2021, p unassigned)

CONCLAVE COMMITTEES

Section 107. At the beginning of each Triennial Conclave the Grand Master shall appoint the following Conclave Committees of Five members each, who shall serve until the close of the Conclave, to-wit: A Committee on Credentials, a Committee on Division and Reference, a Committee on Grievances, a Committee to Designate the Time and Place for Holding the Next Triennial Conclave, a Committee on Unfinished Business, and such other committees as may be necessary.

CREDENTIALS

Section 108. The Committee on Credentials shall report as soon as practicable after the opening of the Triennial Conclave the names of the Member present entitled to participate in the proceedings thereof.

DIVISION AND REFERENCE

Section 109. The reports of the several Grand Officers shall be furnished to the Committee on Division and Reference as soon as it is appointed. Such Committee shall recommend the reference of the various subjects embraced in such reports to the appropriate Committee and recommendacti6n on matters not referred.

Section 110. Dispensations and Charters (Merged in new Section 113½ by 1955 Amendment).

GRIEVANCES

Section 111. The Committee on Grievances shall investigate all grievances submitted to it and report its conclusions and recommendations.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT CONCLAVE

Section **112.** All invitations for the succeeding Triennial Conclave shall be referred to the Committee on Time and Place of Next Conclave, and it shall recommend a suitable Time and Place for holding such Conclave.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Section 113. The Committee on Unfinished Business shall examine the proceedings of the last preceding Triennial Conclave and the business of the current Conclave, and call the

attention of the Grand Encampment to any matters undisposed of.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGES

Section 113 ½ (a). There shall be a Committee on Holy Land Pilgrimages. It shall have the general oversight of the practical working of sending ordained Christian ministers, gratis, on Pilgrimages to the Holy Land, for their spiritual enrichment, enthusiasm, and refreshed dedication.

The election of participation by the various respective Grand Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies in Holy Land Pilgrimages, shall be optional with them.

It shall, from time to time, transmit to the Grand Encampment matters interest and recommendations for the proper administration of its purpose. (1979, p. 164-166)

DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS

Section 113½(b). The Committee on Dispensations and Charters shall consist of five members, to be appointed at each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, and to serve until the close of the next Triennial Conclave. It shall examine the reports and returns of Commanderies working under Dispensation from the Grand Master or the Grand Encampment, noting particularly the nature and progress of their work, and whether they have fulfilled all necessary requirements for a Charter. It shall report upon all applications to the Grand Encampment for Dispensations or Charters and for the restoration of Dispensations or Charters which may have been arrested. It shall also report upon all matters connected with the general subject of Dispensations and Charters which are referred to it. (1955, p. 564 - 565)

PAYMENT OF MILEAGE AND PER DIEM TO OFFICERS, TRUSTEES AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Section 114. All Officers of the Grand Encampment, Past Grand Masters, Trustees and Members of the Standing Committees shall be allowed mileage expense and per diem for attendance at the Triennial Conclaves; Mileage shall be paid at the rate of ___ cents per mile one way by using the mileage charts published in the latest available Road Atlas of the United States as determined by the Grand Master each triennium/and per diem for the number of days present at the official program of the Conclave at the rate of ___ dollars per day as determined by the Grand Master each triennium. Actual expense when approved by the Grand Master shall be allowed Members of any Standing for attendance upon meetings called in the interim. (1961, p. 233-234)(1967, p. 81-82)(1985, p. 22-23 & 263)(2018, p. 164-165 & 307)(2021, p unassigned)

ANNUAL CONFERENCES

Section 114½(a). In each of the two years between Triennial Conclaves of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Master may hold a Conference of not more than two days, which may be attended by such Grand Encampment line Officers, Department Commanders, Committeemen and other members of the Grand Encampment as the Grand Master may designate. Such Conference may hear reports of Officers and Committees, and review the progress of affairs of the Grand Encampment, counsel and make recommendations to the Grand Master and the Grand Encampment, and transact any business which may be referred to it by the Grand Encampment. (1955, pages 450-452)

Section 114½(b). The Grand Master may call Annual Conferences in each of the Departments at such times and places during the Triennial period as he may determine. Such Department Conference shall include the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General and Grand Recorder of each of the Grand Commanderies in such Departments; and such others as the Grand Master shall determine. (1964, p. 363)

Attendance at annual Department Conferences is mandatory for the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General and Grand Recorder as part of their constitutional duties and oath of office. Any excused absence from the conference must be given only by the Grand Master and only in extreme cases of illness or family emergency. The Grand Master may, in these cases, provide for other means of obtaining the information. (2015, No. 13, Goodwin)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 115. Immediately after convening the afternoon session of the second day, the Grand Encampment shall proceed to the election of its officers to serve for the Next ensuing Triennium. (1991 Pages 110-112)

SEAL

Section 116. The Seal of the Grand Encampment consists of a circle two inches in diameter shaded one-eighth of an inch inside, enclosing a circle one and one-half inches in diameter. Between the outer and inner circles are the words "Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U. S. A." Within the inner circle is a representation of a Knight in full armor leaning on his sword, which is grasped by his right hand; his left arm supports a shield, triangular in shape, upon which is emblazoned across, the three upper arms of which terminate with a crosshead.

The seal of the Grand Encampment shall be affixed to dues of all Commanderies under its jurisdiction. (2015, No. 7, Goodwin)

THE GRAND RECORDER

Section 117. The Grand Recorder shall:

- (a) Report in writing to the Grand Encampment on the First Day of each Triennial Conclave, and to the Grand Master annually on the First Day of September except the year of the Triennial Conclave, when it shall be furnished Thirty Days preceding said Conclave, a list of the Grand Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies which have not complied with the requirements to furnish their full annual historical and financial returns. The report shall include a list of such as have not paid their dues.
- (b) Keep a "Book of Templary," in which shall be entered in appropriate columns:
 - 1. A Register of Commanderies to contain:
 - The date of every Warrant issued by the Grand Master for the formation of a Grand Commandery, and the date when constituted;
 - The date of every Dispensation issued for a Commandery; and
 - The date of every Charter issued for a Commandery granted by authority of the Grand Encampment since its organization.
 - 2. A register of membership, to contain:
 - A roll of Officers of the Grand Encampment, with their term of service, etc., since the organization of the same;
 - A roll of elective Officers of the Grand Commanderies, terms of service, etc., from the organization of each; and
 - A roll of Officers and Members of the Subordinate Commanderies showing the current changes resulting from demissions, suspensions, expulsions and deaths.
 - 3. Historical data which may be useful in preserving a complete history of Templary in the United States.
- (c) Bind in orderly volumes a copy of each of the Proceedings of the Grand Encampment.
- (d) Collect and bind in orderly volumes a copy of each of the Proceedings of the several Grand Commanderies from the organization of each.
- (e) Collect and bind in orderly volumes a copy of the Statutes and Regulations of each of the Grand Commanderies.
- (f) Collect and bind in orderly volumes an impression of the Seal of each of the Grand Commanderies.
- (g) Collect and bind in orderly volumes a copy of the By-Laws of each of the Subordinate Commanderies.
- (h) Collect and bind in orderly volumes an impression of the Seal of each of the Subordinate Commanderies. .
- (i) Render a monthly Trial Balance as of the last day of each month of his account of all moneys received by him naming the sources from which received, a copy of which shall be forwarded to the Grand Master, the Chairman of the Committee on Finance and the Grand Treasurer. (1988 pages 81-84)
- (j) Render to the Grand Encampment at each Triennial Conclave a full report of his official acts, giving an itemized account of the moneys received and expenditures of the Contingent Fund

of his office. (1988 pages 81-84)

- (k) Submit his Books for the inspection of the Committee on Finance or such Certified Public Accountants or Auditors as such Committee may designate, whenever required by it.
- (l) Immediately forward to the Commander of a Commandery to which a Dispensation has been issued for the formation of a Commandery, a copy of the Constitution and Statutes, and the Proceedings of the Grand Encampment next preceding the issue of the Dispensation.
- (m) Cause to be printed in advance of each Conclave a sufficient number of copies of the reports of the Grand Officers to supply the Committees and Members.

REPORTS OF GRAND OFFICERS

Section 118. At each Triennial Conclave the Grand Master, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder shall each report the transactions of his office during the preceding Triennial Period, which report shall be referred to the Committee on Division and Reference.

REVENUE

Section 119. A fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) shall be paid to the Grand Encampment for the issue of each Dispensation or Charter for the formation of a Grand or Subordinate Commandery, which shall be paid to the Grand Recorder before the Dispensation or Charter shall be issued. If a Dispensation is issued and later a Charter thereon, there shall be an extra charge therefore.

Section 120. Each Subordinate Commandery shall pay to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment Two Dollars (\$2.00) for each Knight Templar created in such Commandery, and an annual per capita of One Dollar (\$1.00) for each member on the roll of such Commandery on the first day of January in each year.

READING OF JOURNAL

Section 121. After the formal convening of the Grand Encampment in Triennial Conclave, the printed proceedings of the preceding Triennial and any intervening Conclaves shall be read. At the resumption of business on each succeeding day, the minutes of the preceding day's session shall be read, and just prior to final adjournment the minutes of the last day's session shall be read. Anyone or more of such readings may be dispensed with by order of the Grand Encampment.

FUNDS TO BE REMITTED TO GRAND RECORDER

Section 122. Every member of the Grand Encampment receiving moneys or property belonging to the Grand Encampment shall forthwith transmit the same to the Grand Recorder unless other disposition shall be specified in the Constitution or Statutes.

CHAPTER III

GRAND COMMANDERIES

ORGANIZATION

Section 123. When a Dispensation is duly issued; a convention of the Representatives of at least three of the petitioning Commanderies is held; the Dispensation of the Grand Master is read; credentials are examined and approved; a resolution is adopted agreeing to form a Grand Commandery; Officers are elected and installed; Laws are enacted. All of these proceedings must be entered upon the journal, and due report thereof made to the Grand Master and Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment.

RANK OF COMMANDERIES

Section 124. The Commanderies rank according to the dates of their Charters. In the absence of the Grand Master or his duly appointed Proxy, the Commander of the oldest Commandery is entitled to preside until a Grand Commander is elected and installed.

CONTINUANCE

Section 125. A Grand Commandery once formed continues in existence as long as it has Three Commanderies; when the number of its Commanderies is less than three, it becomes extinct, and its remaining Commanderies become Subordinate Commanderies. The former Grand Commandery's property and effects vest in the Grand Encampment. (2021, p unassigned)

DISSOLUTION

Section 126. If a Grand Commandery should dissolve, its Commanderies become at once Subordinate Commanderies.

COMMITTEES

Section 130. A Grand Commandery may provide for the appointment of such Committees as may be necessary for the transaction of its business or for the good of the Order, and may prescribe their duties.

The Grand Commander has sole authority to appoint all Grand Commander committees and all offices not made elective. An amendment to provide that particular persons or the holder of a particular office shall serve on a committee is in violation of Grand Encampment law. (1955, p. 83 & 235, No. 10, Gordon)

BY-LAWS

Section **131.** A Grand Commandery may enact a uniform Code of By-Laws for the government of its Constituent Commanderies, but all By-Laws of such Constituent Commanderies must be approved by the Grand Commandery providing, however, that the Grand Commander may approve By-laws or Amendment thereof adopted during the recess of the Grand Commandery, which action shall be subject to review at the next succeeding Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

A Uniform code of By-laws enacted by a Grand Commandery must not be in conflict with the law of Grand Encampment. (1913,p 44, No. 8 Melish)

RECEPTION OF OFFICERS

Section 132. A Grand Commandery may prescribe the Ceremony for the Reception of its Officers by its Constituent Commanderies.

A Past Grand Commander should be accorded the same courtesy and honors due him as are shown the Grand Commander, irregardless of whether he is in uniform or not. (See Agnew decision number18, 1937) (1955, p, 95 & 267, No. 20, Gordon)

TIME FOR PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES MAY BE FIXED

Section 133. A Grand Commandery may fix the Time at which members of its Constituent Commanderies shall pay annual dues. It may also prescribe the Penalty for non-payment and fix the terms for restoration, but no member shall be deprived of his rights and privileges without due notice and an opportunity to be heard.

A Commandery may not inflict a penalty upon a member for non-payment of dues without a proper hearing. It also may not exempt members over a certain age from the payment of dues. (1910, p 108 &248, No. 17, Rugg)

Fees to receive the orders must apply to all alike and not set lower amounts for certain professions. (1916, p 117, No. 11, Smith)

MAY FIX MINIMUM FEES FOR ORDERS

Section 134. Each Grand Commandery may fix the minimum fee for the Orders, but in no case shall it be less than Forty Dollars (\$40.00), which shall be paid before the Order of the Red Cross is conferred. (1970, p. 324-325)

Fees to receive the orders must apply to all alike and not set lower amounts for certain

professions. (1916, p 117, No. 11, Smith)

A Commandery may not set a fee equal to the minimum and require an additional fee for a uniform followed by the purchase by the Commandery for the candidate of a uniform for more than the uniform fee. The minimum fee cannot be circumvented. (1919, p 49 &295, No. 12, Smith)

There is no provision in the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment prohibiting prizes, such as certain jewelry, for securing petitions for the Order, and if the prizes offered did not amount to a lottery or gambling, and if no portion of the fees was remitted to the petitioner, such practice is not objectionable so long as kept within reasonable bounds. (1958, p.243 &284, No. 19, DeLamater)

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Section 135. Each Grand Commandery may adopt, or determine whether or not its Constituent Commanderies may adopt By-Laws providing for Life Memberships but must prescribe the minimum conditions of such memberships. No Life Memberships heretofore issued shall be invalidated thereby. Subordinate Commanderies may not provide or operate a life membership program.

No Grand or Constituent Commandery may use its own funds to purchase a life membership for a member and may not issue such a life membership except for money paid by someone on a basis that is open to all similarly situated members and does not discriminate for or against any member on the basis of current or past office, honors or profession. The only basis for distinctions between members that are permitted shall be based upon age and years of membership.

A member holding a life membership in a particular Commandery shall have the rights and privileges of membership in that Commandery contained by the payment of annual dues. A life member remains subject to assessments unless provided otherwise by the terms of the assessment and is subject to all other applicable Templar law. He may be suspended or expelled in the same manner as any other member. (2012)

A Commandery may not inflict a penalty upon a member for non-payment of dues with a proper hearing. It also may not exempt members over a certain age from the payment of dues. (1910, p 108 &248, No. 17, Rugg)

CHAPTER IV

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 136. Each Grand Commandery may determine whether nominations may be made at elections of its Officers and at elections of Officers by its Constituent Commanderies.

If the Grand Commandery regulations or laws prohibit nominations from the floor for officers of the Grand Commandery, the Grand Commander can prevent nominations from being made from the floor; but in the absence of such law prohibiting such nominations, nominations from the floor are permissible, and a member of the Grand Commandery has the right to request the privilege of the floor to make such nomination. (1961, p. 51, No. 25, Wieber)

Section 137. When nominations are permitted and more than one name is in nomination, the election shall be by ballot; if only one name is in nomination, the election may be by acclamation.

Section 138. A majority of all votes cast is necessary to an election.

Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

If the Grand Commandery regulations or laws prohibit nominations from the floor for officers of the Grand Commandery, the Grand Commander can prevent nominations from being made from the floor; but in the absence of such law prohibiting such nominations, nominations from the floor are permissible, and a member of the Grand Commandery has the right to request the privilege of the floor to make such nomination. (1961, p. 51, No. 25, Wieber)

Section 139. Any member in good standing is eligible to election to any office in the Commandery.

An un-naturalized foreigner may be elected Commander. (1913, p 49 No. 12 Melish)

Permanent removal from the jurisdiction does not make affect a member's eligibility for Grand Commander office so long as he is a member of a constituent Commandery of that jurisdiction and otherwise qualified. (1913, p 51-52, No. 14, Melish)

According to Templar law and Sir Knight is good standing is eligible to be elected from the floor to any office of the Commandery, but before he can be considered a Past Commander he would have to serve his full term of office as Commander. He could not be elected, resign and then be considered a past Commander whose rank gives him permanent membership in the Grand Commandery. (1961, p. 48, No. 17, Wieber)

If the Grand Commandery regulations or laws prohibit nominations from the floor for officers of the Grand Commandery, the Grand Commander can prevent nominations from being made from the floor; but in the absence of such law prohibiting such nominations, nominations from the floor are permissible, and a member of the Grand Commandery has the right to request the privilege of the floor to make such nomination. (1961, p. 51, No. 25, Wieber)

Eligibility requirements for Commandery and Grand Commandery office are provided in Grand Encampment law. No authority exists to add or remove eligibility requirements. Custom in

officer selection is permitted so long as it does not deprive a member of his eligibility rights. (2018, p. 83 & 277, No. 8, Vaught)

CHAPTER V

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Section 140. The Officers of the Grand Encampment may be installed by the Grand Master, or by any Past Grand Master, or Past Grand Commander.

Section 141. The Officers of a Grand Commandery may be installed by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo, or Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment, by a Grand Commander or Past Grand Commander, or in their absence by a Past Commander.

The installation of an officer of a Grand Commandery must take place in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of which the officer is a member. (1913, p 39, No. 2, Melish)

The Officers of a Grand Commandery may be installed by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo, or Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment, by a Grand Commander or Past Grand Commander, or in their absence by a Past Commander. (2015, No. 5, Goodwin)

Section 142. Any Officer of the Grand Encampment, or of a Grand Commandery, who cannot be present at the regular installation may be installed by taking the oath of office in any Commandery, or in cases of emergency by taking such oath before any member of the Grand Encampment in case of Grand Encampment Officers, and before a Past Commander in case of Grand Commandery Officers. Such obligating shall be certified to the respective Grand Recorders.

The installation of an officer of a Grand Commandery must take place in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of which the officer is a member. (1913, p 39, No. 2, Melish)

Section 143. The Officers of a Constituent or Subordinate Commandery may be installed by any Permanent Member of the Grand Encampment, by the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo or Grand Captain General of the Grand Commandery, by the Commander, or by a Past Commander of any Commandery.

A question was asked about the installation of an officer against whom charges had been preferred. Only the Grand Commander has the authority to interfere with the installation. He has authority to do almost anything he believes proper in the circumstances. In the case of a disputed election the answer is the same. The Grand Commander may order a new election or whatever he thinks best in the matter. (1931, P. 84 & 270, No. 13, Sharp)

Officers of a constituent Commandery who have been regularly elected may be installed at a

regular conclave of their Commandery without dispensation. (1940, p 65 & 282, No. 13, Norris)
An installation should not be held on a Sunday. (1940, p 69 & 290, No. 32, Norris)

Section 144. Before the Installing Officer administers the Vow of Office in a Constituent or Subordinate Commandery he shall see that the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery if the same be a Constituent Commandery, the Rituals of the Red Cross, and the Orders of Malta and Knight Templar are in possession of the incoming Commander or properly accounted for.

Section 145. A Constituent or Subordinate Commandery may hold a public installation in its own Asylum, but not elsewhere without a Dispensation from the Grand Commander or the Grand Master, respectively.

Section 145 (a). All officers of the Grand Encampment, the several Grand Commanderies and the Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies shall be installed into office in a formal ceremony for such purpose. Such installation may be conducted at a Public Ceremony. The incoming Grand Master, Grand Commander, or Eminent Commander, respectively, as soon as they are elected, shall be charged with the responsibility of making suitable arrangements, therefore, and for the appointment of the Installing Officer, Marshal and Prelate for such ceremony. (1967, p. 82)

The installation of an officer of a Grand Commandery must take place in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of which the officer is a member. (1913, p 39, No. 2, Melish)
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The conferring of the Order of the Temple should not be undertaken on Sunday. (1919, p. 299, No. 22, Smith, 1988 digest - 348)
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An installation should not be held on a Sunday. (1940, p 69 & 290, No. 32, Norris)
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It falls fully within the discretion of the Grand Commander to decide whether a public, joint installation is to be permitted on a Sunday. The Installation is a ceremony and not Templar work and therefore section 216 does not apply. (1967, p. 153, No. 12, Brucker) It was noted by the committee that this in conflict with Gordon decision No. 11-B in 1955.

The Installation of Officers is a “ceremony” as opposed to a “work”; it is not necessary that the Commandery be “opened”. Thus it is not necessary that the Commandery be “opened”. Not being “opened”, it is not necessary that it be “closed”. There is a clear distinction between “work” and “ceremonies” such as installation of officers, attendance at divine services, parades and memorial services, etc. The one requires “opening” and “closing” and may not be performed on Sunday: the other is not subject to the same limitations.

If it is desired that the “ceremonies” be combined in the same session with “work”, it is recommended that the Commandery be closed before the “ceremonies” begin, in order to avoid the embarrassment of dismissing non-members. Both the “closing” of a Commandery and the “opening” of a Commandery are ritualistic and private and may not be displayed to anyone who is not a Knight Templar. (1970, p. 142 & 533, No. 2, Crofts)
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Section 146. It is not necessary for a reelected Officer to be installed, as he holds over by virtue of his former election and installation until his successor is installed.

CHAPTER VI

COMMANDERIES - TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION

Section 147. The jurisdiction of a Commandery is determined by the authority that grants the charter or dispensation but in no case extends beyond the jurisdictional limits of such authority. Jurisdiction granted can be amended or revoked by the authority that granted it and such jurisdiction can be further confirmed, amended, or revoked by the Grand Encampment, in the case of the Grand Master or by a Grand Commandery in the case of a Grand Commander. Jurisdiction assigned by a Grand Commandery may not be changed by a Grand Commander unless such authority has been granted to the Grand Commander by enactment of law or specific authorization. Jurisdiction assigned by the Grand Encampment can not be changed by the Grand Master.

The Grand Encampment or a Grand Commandery may also assign concurrent jurisdiction between some or all Commanderies. This can include statewide or nationwide jurisdiction within its overall territorial jurisdiction.

In the absence of a specified jurisdiction, the Jurisdiction thereof over Petitioners for the Orders extends in all directions one-half of the distance on a direct line between its Asylum and the Asylums of Commanderies located in adjacent territory, not, however, beyond the limits of the state, country, or geographical region in which such Commandery is located unless the adjoining Grand Commandery waives its Jurisdiction over specified territory. (2012)

147 A - The Grand Encampment has exclusive power to constitute new Commanderies within any State or geographical region over which the United States exercises Jurisdiction, wherein there is no Grand Commandery regularly formed under the authority of the Grand Encampment, and to that end it may grant and revoke Warrants, Dispensations and Charters for Commanderies.

It may establish Commanderies and Grand Commanderies in any country in which there is no supreme governing body exercising Knight Templar Jurisdiction, and when such Grand Commanderies are established in any country outside the territorial limits of the United States of America, it may grant a charter for a Sovereign Grand Encampment, provided that such Grand Commandery has at least five chartered Commanderies and that the Masonic Grand Lodge of such country is generally recognized by the Masonic Grand Lodges of the United States of America and the said Grand Lodge does not object to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar. (1994 pages 77-78) (2012)

147 B - The Grand Master may issue Dispensations during the recess of the Grand Encampment for the formation of new Commanderies in countries, states or geographical regions where there is no Grand Commandery, and to do this without the recommendation or consent of the nearest Commandery. Such Dispensation, however, shall be issued only upon the petition of at least nine Knights Templar in good standing, and when issued shall be duly recorded in the office of the Grand Recorder and be in force no longer than the next Triennial Conclave.

The Grand Master may establish Subordinate Commanderies in any country, state or geographical region in which there is no supreme governing body exercising Templar Jurisdiction. (Amended 2003 pages 85-86) (2012)

147 C - A Grand Commandery shall, within its Jurisdiction, have exclusive power, with or without the consent of existing Commanderies, to form new Commanderies and assign jurisdiction to them. It may also consolidate Constituent Commanderies under its jurisdiction. (1964 pages 343-345)(1967 pages 119-120)(2012)

147 D - The Grand Commander may grant, during any recess of the Grand Commandery, dispensations for the formation of new Commanderies. Such dispensation requires:

1. A petition by nine or more duly qualified Knights Templar.
2. The consent and recommendation of the nearest Commandery in that Jurisdiction, provided that if the new Commandery is to be located in a city having more than one Commandery, two of such Commanderies must consent and recommend and provided further that if the Commanderies in such city, state or other territorial jurisdiction have concurrent jurisdiction then any two nearby Commanderies sharing that jurisdiction must consent and recommend.

A dispensation when issued shall be in force only until the next annual conclave of the Grand Commandery. If not acted upon by the Grand Commandery at that time it may be reissued by the next Grand Commander without renewed consent and recommendation. (2012)

In the case of a seaman who may have no fixed residence he should designate one and if within the jurisdiction of the Commandery is eligible to petition it. If his designated residence is in another jurisdiction a waiver is required. (1919, p 52& 297, No. 18, Smith)
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A waiver of jurisdiction, if required, should be requested before acting upon a petition. (1919, p 53 & 297, No. 19, Smith)

A candidate elected to receive the orders and who does receive the Order of the Red Cross must be elected to receive the remaining orders if more than a year has passed but the Commandery where he was elected and received the Red Cross retains jurisdiction to do so although the companion has relocated his residence to another jurisdiction. Waiver from the other jurisdiction is not necessary. (1919, p 54 & 297, No. 20, Smith)
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A petitioner for the orders who has been a resident within the jurisdiction of the Commandery for less than six months is not eligible without a waiver of jurisdiction from the Commandery having jurisdiction. The location of Lodge and Chapter membership are not factors. (1919, p 57 & 300, No. 24, Smith)

<p>When one or more Commanderies have concurrent jurisdiction in a city and a resident of the city wishes to petition a Commandery not having jurisdiction, waiver from any one of the Commanderies having original jurisdiction is necessary. (1919, p 65 & 312, no. 34, Smith)</p>
<p>Residence in a cantonment less than six months is not sufficient to allow a Commandery to confer Orders. (1919, p 70 & 321, No. 41, Smith)</p>
<p>A Government employee residing in the Canal Zone but claiming residence in Illinois can petition for the Orders in a Commandery located in his home locality in Illinois. An employee of the government does not lose citizenship by being located away from his home. (1922, p 24 & 274, No. 8, Orr)</p>
<p>Any Commandery in a Grand Commandery that has statewide concurrent jurisdiction may grant a waiver of jurisdiction for a Companion to receive the Orders in another Grand Commandery jurisdiction. (1922, p 25 & 275, No. 9, Orr)</p>
<p>Residence is established by the petitioner selecting that place as his residence. (1922, p 27 & 278, No. 12, Orr)</p>
<p>A Commandery retains no territorial jurisdiction over a Royal Arch Mason who moved from his jurisdiction to that of another Commandery and becomes a bonafide resident thereof.</p> <p>After having been rejected by a Commandery and thereafter moving to the territorial jurisdiction of another Commandery and residing therein for six months, the rejected man may petition the Commandery into whose jurisdiction he has removed, but such petition cannot be acted on within three years after his rejection without the consent by unanimous ballot of the Commandery by which he was previously rejected. (1925, p 89 & 410, No. 31, Newby)</p>
<p>When a Commandery accepts the petition of a Sojourner – a resident of another jurisdiction – and confers the Orders upon him without obtaining the consent of the Commandery having territorial jurisdiction, and pays the penalty provided by Section 82 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, the status of the Sojourner who was thus created a Knight Templar is that of an ipso facto member of the Commandery conferring the Orders. (1940, p. 65, 66, 282 & 284, No. 14 & 18, Norris)</p>
<p>A former resident of Louisiana, now a five-year resident of Panama City, Panama, it being Templar unoccupied territory, cannot petition a Commandery in New Orleans for the Orders.</p> <p>The territorial jurisdiction of a Commandery in Louisiana cannot be extended into a foreign country. (1946, p 67 & 242, No. 5, Orr)</p>
<p>Where a waiver of jurisdiction over a petitioner is requested by a Constituent Commandery in one State from a Constituent Commandery in another State, correspondence should be conducted directly between the two Constituent Commanderies regardless of the intervening boundary. However, where a waiver of jurisdiction over specifically designated territory is requested, it must be granted by the Grand Commandery whose jurisdiction is to be waived. (1952, p. 75 & 229, No. 11, Gaylord)</p>
<p>A nearby resident of the Province of Quebec, upon permission from the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, together with a waiver from the Canadian Preceptory within whose jurisdiction he resides, may be elected to receive the Orders of Knighthood in a New York Commandery. (1952, p 79 & 233, No. 16, Gaylord)</p>

A Commandery under one Grand Commandery may request a waiver of jurisdiction from a Commandery under another Grand Commandery. Communication between Commanderies in different jurisdictions must be through their respective Grand Recorders. (2015, No. 10, Goodwin)

Section 148. A Commandery may waive jurisdiction over any person who desires to petition elsewhere, and a Commandery may accept a petition without waiver if it is the Commandery whose asylum is located nearest to the petitioner's place of residence, irrespective of Grand Commandery boundaries. (1949, p 387)(1970, p. 325-327)

In the case of a seaman who may have no fixed residence he should designate one and if within the jurisdiction of the Commandery is eligible to petition it. If his designated residence is in another jurisdiction a waiver is required. (1919, p 52& 297, No. 18, Smith)

A waiver of jurisdiction, if required, should be requested before acting upon a petition. (1919, p 53 & 297, No. 19, Smith)

When one or more Commanderies have concurrent jurisdiction in a city and a resident of the city wishes to petition a Commandery not having jurisdiction, waiver from any one of the Commanderies having original jurisdiction is necessary. (1919, p 65 & 312, no. 34, Smith)

A former resident of Louisiana, now a five-year resident of Panama City, Panama, it being Templar unoccupied territory, cannot petition a Commandery in New Orleans for the Orders.

The territorial jurisdiction of a Commandery in Louisiana cannot be extended into a foreign country. (1946, p 67 & 242, No. 5, Orr)

Under the provisions of Section 147 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the territorial jurisdiction of a Grand Commandery is limited to the boundaries of the country, state, territory or district in which it is located and it cannot legally extend the jurisdiction of any of its Commanderies beyond its borders; hence, it follows that any such Commandery cannot legally receive an original petition of one whose domicile is in another Jurisdiction. Moreover, neither can same be legally authorized by Dispensation, since the effect of such a Dispensation would set aside Section 147, as well as other provisions of our Constitution and Statutes. (1946, p 71&242, No. 8, Orr)

Where a waiver of jurisdiction over a petitioner is requested by a Constituent Commandery in one State from a Constituent Commandery in another State, correspondence should be conducted directly between the two Constituent Commanderies regardless of the intervening boundary. However, where a waiver of jurisdiction over specifically designated territory is requested, it must be granted by the Grand Commandery whose jurisdiction is to be waived. (1952, p. 75 & 229, No. 11, Gaylord)

A nearby resident of the Province of Quebec, upon permission from the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, together with a waiver from the Canadian Preceptory within whose jurisdiction he resides, may be elected to receive the Orders of Knighthood in a New York Commandery. (1952, p 79 & 233, No. 16, Gaylord)

A Commandery under one Grand Commandery may request a waiver of jurisdiction from a

Commandery under another Grand Commandery. Communication between Commanderies in different jurisdictions must be through their respective Grand Recorders. (2015, No. 10, Goodwin)

Section 149. A Commandery to which a Sojourner presents a Petition for the Orders, except persons in the Active Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of the United States as prescribed in Section 82 of the Constitution shall immediately notify the Commandery having Jurisdiction over the petitioner and obtain its waiver of Jurisdiction over the Petitioner and obtain its waiver of Jurisdiction before receiving and acting upon the Petition. (1964, p. 321-322)(2021, p. unassigned)

In the case of a seaman who may have no fixed residence he should designate one and if within the jurisdiction of the Commandery is eligible to petition it. If his designated residence is in another jurisdiction a waiver is required. (1919, p 52 & 297, No. 18, Smith)

A waiver of jurisdiction, if required, should be requested before acting upon a petition. (1919, p 53 & 297, No. 19, Smith)

When one or more Commanderies have concurrent jurisdiction in a city and a resident of the city wishes to petition a Commandery not having jurisdiction, waiver from any one of the Commanderies having original jurisdiction is necessary. (1919, p 65 & 312, no. 34, Smith)

When a Commandery accepts the petition of a Sojourner – a resident of another jurisdiction – and confers the Orders upon him without obtaining the consent of the Commandery having territorial jurisdiction, and pays the penalty provided by Section 82 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, the status of the Sojourner who was thus created a Knight Templar is that of an ipso facto member of the Commandery conferring the Orders. (1940, p. 65, 66, 282 & 284, No. 14 & 18, Norris)

A former resident of Louisiana, now a five-year resident of Panama City, Panama, it being templar unoccupied territory, cannot petition a Commandery in New Orleans for the Orders.

The territorial jurisdiction of a Commandery in Louisiana cannot be extended into a foreign country. (1946, p 67 & 242, No. 5, Orr)

Where a waiver of jurisdiction over a petitioner is requested by a Constituent Commandery in one State from a Constituent Commandery in another State, correspondence should be conducted directly between the two Constituent Commanderies regardless of the intervening boundary. However, where a waiver of jurisdiction over specifically designated territory is requested, it must be granted by the Grand Commandery whose jurisdiction is to be waived. (1952, p. 75 & 229, No. 11, Gaylord)

A nearby resident of the Province of Quebec, upon permission from the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, together with a waiver from the Canadian Preceptory within whose jurisdiction he resides, may be elected to receive the Orders of Knighthood in a New York Commandery. (1952, p 79 & 233, No. 16, Gaylord)

A Commandery under one Grand Commandery may request a waiver of jurisdiction from a

Commandery under another Grand Commandery. Communication between Commanderies in different jurisdictions must be through their respective Grand Recorders. (2015, No. 10, Goodwin)

CHAPTER VII

COMMANDERIES - UNDER DISPENSATION

PETITIONERS

Section 150. A Petition for a Dispensation for a new Commandery may be signed by any Knight Templar residing within the territorial Jurisdiction of the proposed new Commandery. Petitioners who are members of a Commandery need not demit, but may secure from the Recorder of their respective Commanderies Certificates of Good Standing under the Seal of the Commandery showing that the member has paid dues for at least three months beyond the date of the certificate. The Certificates of Good Standing of the Petitioners or their Demits shall be filed with the Petition. After action upon the Petition by the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery, the Certificates and Demits shall be filed with the Grand Recorder whether such action has been favorable or unfavorable. If the action is favorable, the Grand Recorder shall report the same to the Commandery issuing the Certificates of Good Standing. If the action is unfavorable, all Demits which accompanied the Petition shall be returned to the Petitioners to whom they were issued, and all Certificates of Good Standing shall be cancelled and returned to the Commanderies which issued them.

A petition for a new Commandery requires the signatures of nine petitioners. (1919, p 311, No. 32, Smith)

A certificate of good standing issued by a Preceptory in Scotland may be used in the same way as a demit for the purpose of a dispensation to form a new Commandery. (1919, p 66 & 314, No. 35, Smith)

A certificate of good standing issued by a Preceptory in Scotland may not be used in the same way as a demit for the purpose of a dispensation to form a new Commandery. (1922, p 24 & 273, No. 7, Orr)

2) All Members of a Commandery U.D. at the time the Charter is granted become members of the new Commandery. (1925, p. 53 & 388 No. 3, Newby)

STATUS OF PETITIONERS

Section 151. After a Dispensation to form a new Commandery is granted, the membership of the Petitioners in their own Commanderies remains in abeyance, they become Active Members of the Commandery under Dispensation, and are not required to pay dues to their own Commanderies while members of the Commandery under Dispensation. If a charter is refused, the Petitioners resume membership in their own Commanderies.

Section 152. Any Petitioner for a Dispensation for a new Commandery may sever his connection with such new Commandery at any time before a Charter is granted by notice to the Grand Recorder, and the new Commandery, and his Certificate of Good Standing or Demit shall be returned; and his former status resumed.

Section 153. When a Dispensation for a new Commandery has been refused, the matter can be revived only by a new Petition.

COMMENCEMENT OF WORK

Section 154. A Commandery under Dispensation requires no formal proceedings in order to commence work. The members assemble and proceed as if the Commandery were regularly constituted.

A Grand Commandery may allow a Commandery under Dispensation to which a Charter has been granted but where not yet constituted to continue work. The Grand Commander does not have that authority. (1913, p. 41 No. 3, Melish)
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A Commandery under dispensation may receive and ballot upon petitions for affiliation. (1913, p 40-41 p 53-54, No. 5& 16, Melish)

Except by authority of an extended dispensation as described in 1913 No. 3, a Commandery that has been granted a Charter but not yet constituted may not confer the orders. Any orders so conferred are irregular but may be healed. (1916, p 35 & 280, No. 7, Mac Arthur)
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1) A Commandery U.D. if granted a Charter, can confer no orders until it is constituted.
4) Anybody receiving the order during the period during which the Commandery may confer no orders must be healed.

(1925, p. 53 & 388 No. 3, Newby)

POWERS

Section 155. A Commandery under Dispensation cannot enact By-Laws, but it may prescribe such Rules as are necessary for its government. It cannot be represented in the Grand Body under whose authority the Dispensation was granted.

A Grand Commandery may allow a Commandery under Dispensation to which a Charter has been granted but where not yet constituted to continue work. The Grand Commander does not have that authority. (1913, p. 41 No. 3, Melish)
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A Commandery under dispensation may receive and ballot upon petitions for affiliation. (1913, p 40-41 p 53-54, No. 5 & 16, Melish)
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Except by authority of an extended dispensation as described in 1913 No. 3, a Commandery that has been granted a Charter but not yet constituted may not confer the orders. Any orders
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so conferred are irregular but may be healed. (1916, p 35 & 280, No. 7, Mac Arthur)
The Grand Master cannot authorize a Commandery U.D. to change its meeting night, that being fixed by rule of the Commandery. (1910, p 250, No. 19, Ruff)
5) A Commandery U.D. cannot adopt By-laws but it may prescribe rules for its government while under dispensation.
6) After being constituted, a Commandery may adopt By-Laws, revise or amend the same, subject to the approval of the Grand Encampment or Grand Commandery. (1925, p. 53 & 388 No. 3, Newby)

Section 156. Except as otherwise provided, a Commandery under Dispensation has the same rights and powers as a Chartered Commandery.

A Commandery under dispensation may receive and ballot upon petitions for affiliation. (1913, p 40-41 p 53-54, No. 5 & 16, Melish)
The status of a member as to payment of dues should be determined as of the date the request for a Demit was received by the Recorder. (1937, p 35 & 335 No. 19 Agnew)
A Commandery U.D. may issue demits. (1958, p.237 & 272, No. 12, DeLamater)

TERM OF OFFICE

Section 157. The officers of such Commandery hold office during the continuance of the Dispensation unless removed by the Grand Master if it be a Subordinate Commandery, or the Grand Commander if it be a Constituent Commandery.

Officers of a Subordinate Commandery Under Dispensation do not have any election or advance. They remain in office until the Commandery has been granted a charter. (1958, p. 254 & 296, No. 37, DeLamater)

Section 158. Any officer of a Commandery under Dispensation may resign with the consent of the Grand Master if it be a Subordinate Commandery, or of the Grand Commander if it be a Constituent Commandery.

Officers of a Subordinate Commandery Under Dispensation do not have any election or advance. They remain in office until the Commandery has been granted a charter. (1958, p. 254 & 296, No. 37, DeLamater)

STATUS OF INITIATES

Section 159. Knights Templar created in a Commandery under Dispensation bear the same relation to that Commandery and to other Knights Templar as is borne by those created

inChartered Commanderies.

Sir Knights created in a duly instituted Commandery were Knights Templar in good standing, eligible for affiliation with another Commandery if they so desire. The temporary existence of the Commandery under dispensation, now extinct, would not detract from their good standing as unaffiliated members. (1910, p 106 & 245, No. 11, Rugg)

A Commandery U.D. may issue demits. (1958, p.237 &272, No. 12, DeLamater)

Section 160. Petitions presented to a Commandery under Dispensation and not balloted on may be considered and acted on by the Commandery after it is constituted under Charter.

STATUS OF NON-AFFILIATED PETITIONERS AND KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CREATED IF COMMANDERYBECOMES EXTINCT

Section 161. When a Commandery under Dispensation ceases to exist, the non-affiliated petitioners and the Knights Templar created therein are entitled to a certificate from the Grand Recorder showing that they are non-affiliated Knights Templar, which shall have the effect of a Demit.

Sir Knights created in a duly instituted Commandery were Knights Templar in good standing, eligible for affiliation with another Commandery if they so desire. The temporary existence of the Commandery under dispensation, now extinct, would not detract from their good standing as unaffiliated members. (1910, p 106 & 245, No. 11, Rugg)

CHAPTER VIII

COMMANDERIES - CONSTUTION OF

Section 162. No Commandery shall be constituted until it provided with a suitable Asylum properly furnished.

The Grand Commander has the authority to refuse to constitute a Commandery under its Charter when investigation reveals that the Commandery failed to comply with the statutes of the Grand Encampment while working under Dispensation (1922, p. 283, No. 19 Orr)

Section 163. A Commandery cannot be constituted without a Charter.

Section 164. Officers of a Commandery shall not be named in a Charter, but shall be elected and installed after the Commandery is constituted.

A Charter may list the names of the members at the time the Charter is issued. (1913, p 41-42, No. 6 question1, Melish)

3) Officers are not named in a Charter. They are elected after the Commandery is constituted.(1925, p. 53 &388 No. 3, Newby)

Service as Commander while under dispensation does not make one a Past Commander. If he is elected Commander after the charter has been issued and serves out his term to the next annual election, however brief that may be, he will have earned the rank of Past Commander: however he must serve to the end of that term. (1958, p. 243 & 284, No. 18, DeLamater)

Anyone serving a Commandery under dispensation as Commander does not become a Past Commander under Grand Encampment law. That title is conferred only upon a Sir Knight who has served as Commander in a Subordinate Commandery duly Chartered. (1961, p. 53, No. 30, Wieber)

Section 165. Until the Commandery is constituted, the Officers thereof are not Members of the Grand Commandery and cannot vote therein.

Section 166. A Commandery can be constituted only by the Grand Master if the Charter was granted by the Grand Encampment, or by the Grand Commander if the Charter was granted by a Grand Commandery, or such Officers' appointed proxy. Nine members must be present.

A Conclave at which a new Commandery is constituted is a Special Conclave of the Grand Commandery, not a Special Conclave of the new Commandery. (1919, p 49 &295 No. 14 Smith)

A petition for a new Commandery requires the signatures of nine petitioners. (1919, p 311, No. 32, Smith)

The Grand Commander has the authority to refuse to constitute a Commandery under its Charter when investigation reveals that the Commandery failed to comply with the statutes of the Grand Encampment while working under Dispensation (1922, p. 283, No. 19 Orr)

Section 167. The Officer constituting the Commandery shall make report thereof to the Grand Master or Grand Commander, respectively, whose proxy he was.

BY-LAWS

Section 168. When a Commandery has been constituted it shall enact By-Laws for its government and the transaction of its business, not in conflict with the Constitution, Statutes, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Encampment and the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of its Grand Commandery.

Where the bylaws of a Commandery provide an alternate date in the case of certain circumstances the change to that alternate date is not a change in the Stated Meeting. (1919, p 69 & 320, No. 40, Smith)
5) A Commandery U.D. cannot adopt By-laws but it may prescribe rules for its government while under dispensation.
6) After being constituted, a Commandery may adopt By-Laws, revise or amend the same, subject to the approval of the Grand Encampment or Grand Commandery. (1925, p. 53 & 388 No. 3, Newby)
A Commandery may adopt a by-law that parallels Grand Encampment law but is cautioned against establishing automatic provisions which may require actions contrary to the good judgment of the members on a case by case basis. (1931, P. 80 & 264, No. 6, Sharp)
A Subordinate Commandery may not amend its bylaws to provide for the reception of petitions and ballots thereon either at the same stated conclave or at a special conclave. The Grand Master has authority to issue a Dispensation under the authority of section 23(j) to receive and ballot upon petitions at the same stated but not called meeting. (1952 p. 79 & 232, No. 15, Gaylord)
A Subordinate Commandery cannot make Council degrees a prerequisite to membership in a Commandery as no such privilege was granted to Subordinate Commanderies by the Grand Encampment. (1961, p. 41, No. 7 Wieber)
The Statutes of the Grand Encampment contain no provisions as to the right of Constituent Commanderies to own and transfer real estate. The transfer of title to real estate is governed by the statutes of the state in which it is located. (1961, p. 49, No. 19, Wieber)
A Commandery's bylaws could make provisions for a change in the annual conclave date when it fell on a legal holiday. Such bylaw changes must be approved according to the Grand Commandery law. (1988, p. 27 & 227, No. 2, Smith)

CHAPTER IX

COMMANDERIES - CONSOLIDATION

Section 169. The Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery may investigate and may determine to initiate proceedings to consolidate two or more Commanderies if in their judgment it should be undertaken. He shall cause a conference to be held by him with the Eminent Commanders of the Commanderies involved. Two or more Commanderies having concurrent Jurisdiction or stationed in adjoining Jurisdictions may be consolidated into one Commandery, provided, that the proposition for such consolidation shall be presented at a Stated Conclave of each Commandery, which proposition shall be acted upon at a subsequent Stated Conclave. Notice thereof shall be mailed to all Members of each Commandery involved at least ten days prior to such Conclave.

A consolidation shall not be effected unless at least two-thirds of the Members present at each Commandery vote in favor of the proposition. Two or more Commanderies having thus

decided to consolidate may unite under the charter of one of said Commanderies, retaining the Officers thereof, or they may elect new Officers by a proper Dispensation. The Charter or Charters surrendered must be deposited with the Grand Recorder. (1955, p. 488-492)(1967, p. 86-87)

Grand Encampment laws govern consolidation of Commanderies and Grand Commanderies may not pass by-laws governing the subject. (1931, p. 82 & 267, No. 9, Sharp)

Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

TITLE TO PROPERTY

Section 170. The title to all the property and effects of the consolidating Commanderies shall upon consolidation vest in the new Commandery, and the new Commandery shall be liable for all indebtedness of the several Commanderies consolidating.

All Members of the Commanderies consolidating shall, immediately upon consolidation, become Members of the new Commandery.

CHAPTER X

COMMANDERIES - SURRENDER OF CHARTER

Section 171. The Charter of a Commandery may be surrendered by a two-thirds vote of its Members present at any Stated Conclave; provided, that a written Resolution proposing such surrender shall have been read and filed with the Recorder, at the Stated Conclave next immediately preceding, and that at least twenty-one days notice of such proposal shall have been given to each Member of the Commandery. (1955, P. 492-496)

When the charter of a Commandery has been surrendered or arrested, a former member who has been suspended for non-payment of dues may apply for reinstatement or condition of good standing to the Grand Commandery having jurisdiction. (1919, p 59 & 303, No. 29, Smith)
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Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

Section 172. A Charter surrendered or arrested cannot be used to form a new Commandery, but may be restored by either the Grand Encampment or the Grand Commandery which granted the same, to not less than nine unaffiliated former Members in good standing. In such

case it is not proper to reconstitute the Commandery.

In regard to the restoration or granting of a Charter where a previous Charter had been lifted and property taken by the Grand Commandery a question was asked about returning property obtained from the previous Commandery. The disposition of property which was acquired by the Grand Commandery from a Commandery whose Charter had been arrested is entirely within the discretion of that Grand Commandery.

As to granting a charter with the previous number, numbers assigned to Commanderies indicate seniority and justly so. After a lapse of eight years or more, during which former members have been scattered or affiliated elsewhere, restorations of the old Charter and of the old Commandery Number would not seem to be proper or equitable procedure. (1955, p.114 & 280, No. 33, Gordon)

Section 173. The forfeiture or surrender of the Charter of a Commandery does not affect the good standing of the members thereof.

When the charter of a Commandery has been surrendered or arrested, a former member who has been suspended for non-payment of dues may apply for reinstatement or condition of good standing to the Grand Commandery having jurisdiction. (1919, p 59 & 303, No. 29, Smith)

Section 174. When the Charter of a Commandery is surrendered or arrested, the Members in Good Standing, upon payment to the Grand Commandery of their dues, shall be entitled to a Certificate of Good Standing from the Grand Recorder, which shall have the effect of a demit.

When the charter of a Commandery has been surrendered or arrested, a former member who has been suspended for non-payment of dues may apply for reinstatement or condition of good standing to the Grand Commandery having jurisdiction. (1919, p 59 & 303, No. 29, Smith)

Section 175. A member of a Commandery which has ceased to exist from any cause other than having been consolidated with another Commandery is not liable for dues to such Commandery after the same has ceased to exist.

The Grand Encampment as to Subordinate Commanderies and the Grand Commandery as to Constituent Commanderies has the right to collect from the members of such extinct Commandery all dues chargeable against them at the time it became extinct, and to discipline those who refuse or neglect to pay the same.

When such Commandery ceases to exist, its members may join another Commandery upon Petition and Certificates from the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment if the extinct Commandery was a Subordinate Commandery, or of the Grand Commandery if the extinct

Commandery was a Constituent Commandery, that his standing was good when said Commandery ceased to exist.

The funds and other property of such extinct Commandery become the property of the Grand Encampment if it was a Subordinate Commandery, or the Grand Commandery if it was a Constituent Commandery.

When the charter of a Commandery has been surrendered or arrested, a former member who has been suspended for non-payment of dues may apply for reinstatement or condition of good standing to the Grand Commandery having jurisdiction. (1919, p 59 & 303, No. 29, Smith)

In regard to the restoration or granting of a Charter where a previous Charter had been lifted and property taken by the Grand Commandery a question was asked about returning property obtained from the previous Commandery. The disposition of property which was acquired by the Grand Commandery from a Commandery whose Charter had been arrested is entirely within the discretion of that Grand Commandery.

As to granting a charter with the previous number, numbers assigned to Commanderies indicate seniority and justly so. After a lapse of eight years or more, during which former members have been scattered or affiliated elsewhere, restorations of the old Charter and of the old Commandery Number would not seem to be proper or equitable procedure. (1955, p.114 &280, No. 33, Gordon)

Section 176. A Commandery that fails to hold a Conclave for twelve consecutive months, or to knight a single candidate within such period, shall be placed on probation for the period of one year, and if thereafter it fails to hold a Conclave for the next twelve consecutive months or to Knight a single candidate within such period, its Charter may be arrested. (1967, p. 84-86)

A Commandery should meet at least quarterly but Grand Encampment law does not require a specific penalty for such failure. (1913, p 60-61, No. 20, Melish)

The power to arrest a charter for a cause such as not meeting quarterly is within the power of the Grand Commander but the Laws of the Grand Commandery cannot require him to do so. (1916, p 111 & 387, No 7, Smith)

Probation as used in Sections 48 and 176 as amended in 1967, is hereby defined in the broad sense intended, to include whatever requirements of prohibitions the Grand Commander may deem necessary to be imposed in order to remedy whatever violation of Templar laws may have been committed by the Commandery, including but not limited to failure to hold a Conclave or to receive a single new member by knighting during the twelve consecutive months.

It seems reasonable to assume that the Commandery under Probation would be under close supervision of the Grand Commander or his personal representative, that the probation being imposed by reason of certain faults would terminate when those faults are corrected and that

the purpose and terms of probation will always be of constructive nature.

Finally, it should be understood that the Grand Commandery in Conclave having the right to revoke a Charter, has also the right to prescribe probationary terms before taking such final action. (1970, p. 142 & 533, No. 3, Crofts)

Section 176 A Holding Commanderies

A Grand Commandery may create and charter one or more Holding Commanderies for the purpose of retaining Sir Knights who were members of a Constituent Commandery which demised. Membership in such a Holding Commandery shall only be obtained by affiliation. A Holding Commandery may not create Sir Knights. The Grand Commander shall appoint the officers of a Holding Commandery, except that the offices of Recorder and Treasurer shall be held by the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer respectively, and the elected Grand Commandery officers shall be *ex officio* members of the Holding Commandery without payment of dues or assessments. All other members of the Holding Commandery shall be subject to the payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery and Commandery and shall be subject to discipline as otherwise provided by law. A Holding Commandery shall not be required to have a suitable Asylum, to meet quarterly, or to create new Sir Knights as normally required by Section 176. The Commander of a Holding Commandery does not obtain the rank of Past Commander by virtue of such service. (2021, p unassigned)

Section 176 B Special Commanderies

A Grand Commandery may create and charter special-purpose Commanderies, such as a research Commandery, for such purposes and under such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate. Membership in such a special-purpose Commandery shall only be by affiliation and may not be a Sir Knight's sole membership. All members of a special-purpose Commandery shall be subject to the payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery and the Commandery and shall be subject in all other respects to Templar law. A special-purpose Commandery shall not be required to have a suitable Asylum, to meet quarterly, or to create new Sir Knights. A Sir Knight serving as Commander of a special-purpose Commandery does not obtain the rank of Past Commander by virtue of such service. (2021, p unassigned. (2021, p unassigned)

Section 176 C Not Used

Section 176 D Auxiliary Units

A Grand Commandery may authorize the formation of auxiliary units of a Constituent Commandery for such purposes as deemed advisable, and under such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate. Auxiliary Units are subordinate to the Constituent Commandery under which they are formed and must be composed only of members of the Constituent

Commandery under which they are formed.

- (a) No auxiliary unit may be organized, or continue to exist, without the express written approval of the Grand Commander.
- (b) No auxiliary unit may be organized until its bylaws have been approved in writing by the Grand Commander. No amendments to such bylaws shall be effective until approved in writing by the Grand Commander. The Grand Commander may direct such modifications to the bylaws as he deems appropriate.
- (c) A list of the elected officers is to be presented to the Grand Commander for approval by the Grand Commander. Service as an officer of an auxiliary unit does not confer any rank upon the Sit Knight serving as an officer.
- (d) Auxiliary units shall keep such financial records and inventories as directed by the Grand Commander and shall make such periodic reports as reasonably required by him.
- (e) The assets of auxiliary units belong to the Constituent Commandery under which they are formed. However, the Grand Commander may allow assets to be in the custody of the auxiliary unit. Moneys in the custody of an auxiliary unit shall be deposited into accounts in the name of the auxiliary unit.
- (f) Auxiliary units are governed by the provisions of Grand Encampment and Grand Commandery law and the bylaws of the Constituent Commandery under which they operate which are not inconsistent herewith.
- (g) An organization of Knights Templar meeting as such, as defined by Grand Encampment law, is governed by such law.
(2021, p unassigned)

CHAPTER XI

COMMANDERIES - ELECTION OF CANDIDATES AND MEMBERS

QUALIFICATIONS OF PETITIONERS

Section 177. Anyone,

- (a) Who is a Master Mason and Royal Arch Mason affiliated in both Lodge and Chapter; or who is an affiliated Master Mason, and who has petitioned a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the Capitular Degrees, (provided, however, that none of the Orders of Knighthood shall be conferred upon said Petitioner until he shall have received the Royal Arch Degree); and in Grand Commanderies requiring the Cryptic Degrees as prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood, who is a Royal and Select Master Mason, or has petitioned a Council of Royal and Select Masters for the Cryptic Degrees, (provided, however, that none of the Orders of Knighthood shall be conferred upon said Petitioner until he shall received the Select Master Degree); and (1958, p. 5)
- (b) Who is a firm believer in the Christian religion; and (c) Who is physically able to conform to the ceremonies of the Order or whose physical inability to so conform shall have been

waived by Dispensation of the Grand Commander in the case of a Constituent Commandery or of the Grand Master in the case of a Subordinate Commandery; and (1949, p 389 - 394)

(c) Intentionally blank

(d) Who, immediately prior to the date of his Petition, has resided (1) for at least one year within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery within which is located the Constituent Commandery petitioned, and for at least six months within the Jurisdiction of such Commandery; or (2) for at least one year within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment and for at least six months within the Jurisdiction of the Subordinate Commandery petitioned; or (3) who is a Sojourner on whom the Commandery having Jurisdiction has waived such Jurisdiction; or (4) who is a member of the Active Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of the United States and has resided within the Jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned for at least six months immediately prior to the date of his Petition or (5) has resided within the Jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned for at least six months immediately prior to the date of his Petition if the Commandery in question has not been in the jurisdiction of a Grand Commandery for more than one year is eligible to Petition for the Orders of Knighthood. (1940, p 255)(1955, p. 547-548)(1964, p. 321-322)(2018, p. 89-91 & 285-289)(2021, p. unassigned)

Any candidate who signs a petition for membership and agrees to the profession of faith therein, can become a member. (1916, p. 52 & 294 No. 23 Mac Arthur)
In the case of a seaman who may have no fixed residence he should designate one and if within the jurisdiction of the Commandery is eligible to petition it. If his designated residence in another jurisdiction a waiver is required. (1919, p 52 & 297, No. 18, Smith)
A waiver of jurisdiction, if required, should be requested before acting upon a petition. (1919, p 53 & 297, No. 19, Smith)
A candidate elected to receive the orders and who does receive the Order of the Red Cross must be elected to receive the remaining orders if more than a year has passed but the Commandery where he was elected and received the Red Cross retains jurisdiction to do so although the companion has relocated his residence to another jurisdiction. Waiver from the other jurisdiction is not necessary. (1919, p 54 & 297, No. 20, Smith)
A petitioner for the orders who has been a resident within the jurisdiction of the Commander for less than six months is not eligible without a waiver of jurisdiction from the Commandery having jurisdiction. The location of Lodge and Chapter membership are not factors. (1919, p 57 & 300, No. 24, Smith)
When one or more Commanderies have concurrent jurisdiction in a city and a resident of the city wishes to petition a Commandery not having jurisdiction, waiver from any one of the Commanderies having original jurisdiction is necessary. (1919, p 65 & 312, no. 34, Smith)
Residence in a cantonment less than six months is not sufficient to allow a Commandery to confer Orders. (1919, p 70 & 321, No. 41, Smith)
A Government employee residing in the Canal Zone but claiming residence in Illinois can petition for the Orders in a Commandery located in his home locality in Illinois. An employee of

<p>the government does not loose citizenship by being located away from his home. (1922, pp 24 &274, No. 8, Orr)</p>
<p>Any Commandery in a Grand Commandery that has statewide concurrent jurisdiction may grant a waiver of jurisdiction for a Companion to receive the Orders in another Grand Commandery jurisdiction. (1922, p 25 & 275, No. 9, Orr)</p>
<p>Residence is established by the petitioner selecting that place as his residence. (1922, p 27 & 278, No. 12, Orr)</p>
<p>If a petitioner has not received the orders within twelve months after being elected to membership in a Commandery, that Commandery losses jurisdiction over the petitioner and he may petition another Commandery without reference to the prior petition. (1925, p. 54 & 389, No. 4, Newby)</p>
<p>The Grand Encampment Knights Templar is sovereign and actions of the General Grand Chapter are of not effect. (1925, p 72 & 401, No. 20, Newby)</p>
<p>A petitioner for the Orders was elected to and received the same on the assumption that he was a member in good standing in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Actually, at the time of his petition and election he had been demitted from his Royal Arch Chapter. After the receipt of the Orders it was voted to reinstate him in the Chapter, but the same apparently was not legally accomplished. Under this state of facts, the Grand Master held that the Companion was illegally Knighted and the defects in the Knighting never having been cured by healing, he never became a Knight Templar. (1925, p. 85 &407 No. 28, Newby)</p>
<p>A Commandery retains no territorial jurisdiction over a Royal Arch Mason who moved from his jurisdiction to that of another Commandery and becomes a bonafide resident thereof.</p> <p>After having been rejected by a Commandery and thereafter moving to the territorial jurisdiction of another Commandery and residing therein for six months, the rejected man may petition the Commandery into whose jurisdiction he has removed, but such petition cannot be acted on within three years after his rejection without the consent by unanimous ballot of the Commandery by which he was previously rejected. (1925, p 89 &410, No. 31, Newby)</p>
<p>When a Commandery accepts the petition of a Sojourner – a resident of another jurisdiction – and confers the Orders upon him without obtaining the consent of the Commandery having territorial jurisdiction, and pays the penalty provided by Section 82 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, the status of the Sojourner who was thus created a Knight Templar is that of an ipso facto member of the Commandery conferring the Orders. (1940, p. 65, 66, 282 & 284, No. 14 & 18, Norris)</p>
<p>A former resident of Louisiana, now a five-year resident of Panama City, Panama, it being Templar unoccupied territory, cannot petition a Commandery in New Orleans for the Orders.</p> <p>The territorial jurisdiction of a Commandery in Louisiana cannot be extended into a foreign country. (1946, p 67 & 242, No. 5, Orr)</p>
<p>The withdrawal of recognition by one Grand Lodge of another Grand Lodge does not affect the standing of Master Masons insofar as their prerequisite for the Orders of Knighthood is concerned. (1949, p 81 & 216, No. 9, Rice)</p>
<p>Where a waiver of jurisdiction over a petitioner is requested by a Constituent Commandery in</p>

one State from a Constituent Commandery in another State, correspondence should be conducted directly between the two Constituent Commanderies regardless of the intervening boundary. However, where a waiver of jurisdiction over specifically designated territory is requested, it must be granted by the Grand Commandery whose jurisdiction is to be waived. (1952, p. 75 & 229, No. 11, Gaylord)

A nearby resident of the Province of Quebec, upon permission from the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, together with a waiver from the Canadian Preceptory within whose jurisdiction he resides, may be elected to receive the Orders of Knighthood in a New York Commandery. (1952, p 79 & 233, No. 16, Gaylord)

An Army officer, a native of the Netherlands, stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, residing there from October 13, 1952, to February 17, 1953, purporting to have received his Blue Lodge and Chapter Degrees in the Netherlands, was not properly eligible to petition a Commandery for the Orders of Templary he having not been stationed within its Territorial Jurisdiction for at least Six Months. (1955, p. 77 & 197, No. 4, Gordon)

One who belonged to a Lebanon Chapter and spends only two months of each year in New Jersey could not qualify neither as a resident. If he qualified as a Sojourner, section 82 would have to be qualified with. The permanent residence of the proposed petitioner was not determined. (1955, p. 111 & 278, No. 31, Gordon)

The Council is not a prerequisite to membership in a Commandery, and a Sir Knight does not have to be a member of a Council before being eligible to visit a Commandery. (1958, p. 245 & 289, No. 23, DeLamater)

A Subordinate Commandery cannot make Council degrees a prerequisite to membership in a Commandery as no such privilege was granted to Subordinate Commanderies by the Grand Encampment. (1961, p. 41, No. 7 Weber)

Membership in a Scottish Chapter qualifies one to make application for membership in a Subordinate Commandery under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment. Council recognition is not a consideration. (1961, p. 48, No. 18, Wieber)

A Grand Commandery may enact legislation requiring membership in the Council of Royal and Select masters in addition to the requirement of affiliation in Lodge and Chapter to qualify a petitioner for the Orders of Knighthood. (1964, p. 82 & 255, No. 6, Moore)

Membership in a Chapter chartered by the Grand Chapter of England and Wales qualifies one to make application for membership in a Commandery under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment. (1967, p. 151, No. 7, Brucker)

If the Council prerequisite did not apply to the Knight Templar when he petitioned for the Orders, it can never be applied to him individually, and no resolution can be adopted under the authority of Section 79 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, which would apply such prerequisite to a Knight Templar retroactively. Since Council membership cannot be required of this Knight Templar, neither can it be required that he continue to be an active member of a Council of Royal and Select Masters if he becomes a member after becoming a Knight Templar.

If Council membership was prerequisite to Knight Templar membership in the individual case, good standing in the Council as well as in the Lodge and Chapter must support Templar membership. (1970, p. 142 & 543, No. 9, Crofts)

A Commandery under one Grand Commandery may request a waiver of jurisdiction from a Commandery under another Grand Commandery. Communication between Commanderies in different jurisdictions must be through their respective Grand Recorders. (2015, No. 10, Goodwin)

The requirements of membership are as stated and limited thereto. No person otherwise eligible for membership becomes ineligible due to form, place or type of religious worship or nature of religious belief if the required statement of belief is honestly made. This includes religious practices some might not consider typically Christian. Rejection of a petition if the petitioner is believed to have falsely represented himself is appropriate but it is a serious betrayal of our order to reject a petitioner solely for form of religious belief or practice. (2018, p. 83 & 280, No. 10, Vaught)

CONTENTS OF PETITION

Section 178. Every Petition for the Orders of Knighthood shall declare the Lodge in which the Petitioner received the Degrees, the Lodge in which he is affiliated, the Chapter in which he received or is to receive the Chapter Degrees and also the Chapter in which he is or will be affiliated and, if required by the Grand Commandery under which the Constituent Commandery is Chartered, the Council in which he received or is to receive the Degrees of Royal and Select Master and also the Council in which he is or will be affiliated. It shall also give his full name, date of birth, residence and occupation, and shall state whether he has Petitioned any other Commandery, and if so, the name of such Commandery, time and date and action taken thereon, and the facts of his residence showing his qualifications under subdivision (d) of Section 177. The Petitioner shall declare that he is a firm believer in the Christian religion, that he has read the Petition and that he has personally signed the same. The Petition must be signed by two members of the Commandery petitioned who shall vouch for the good character and Masonic standing of the petitioner and recommend favorable action. (1940, p 255)(1958. p. 5 &319-320)

Sponsors of a petition for membership by affiliation or the for receiving the orders must be members of the Commandery to which the petition is presented. Honorary members are not eligible. An individual does not become a member until all three orders are conferred.(1940, p 63 & 341, No. 6, Norris)

The form of the petition for the orders, approved and printed with the book of constitutions is the only proper and required one to be used in all jurisdictions. If space allows it is permissible to print or inscribe on the back of the form pertinent data which the Grand Recorder may desire for his records and convenience. (1955, p.87 &237, No. 12, Gordon)

A Subordinate Commandery cannot make Council degrees a prerequisite to membership in a Commandery as no such privilege was granted to Subordinate Commanderies by the Grand Encampment. (1961, p. 41, No. 7 Wieber)

Membership in a Scottish Chapter qualifies one to make application for membership in a Subordinate Commandery under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment. Council recognition is not a consideration. (1961, p. 48, No. 18, Wieber)

The requirements of membership are as stated and limited thereto. No person otherwise

eligible for membership becomes ineligible due to form, place or type of religious worship or nature of religious belief if the required statement of belief is honestly made. This includes religious practices some might not consider typically Christian. Rejection of a petition if the petitioner is believed to have falsely represented himself is appropriate but it is a serious betrayal of our order to reject a petitioner solely for form of religious belief or practice. (2018, p. 83 & 280, No. 10, Vaught)

Section 179. No Petition signed by more than one Petitioner shall be received.

PETITION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

Section 180. A Petition, whether for Orders or Membership, shall be referred to a Committee of Three Members of the Commandery, only when requested to do so by a member in good standing in the Commandery acting upon the petition. If a committee is empowered to investigate the petitioner it shall consist of members who shall know or personally interview the petitioner. The fact of the report, being made, and not its character, shall be entered on the minutes of the Commandery. (1964, p. 259-265 & 271)(1991 Pages 195 – 200)

A Commandery has the undoubted right to appoint a committee to inquire into the character and conduct of a petitioner for reinstatement who has been suspended for non-payment of dues. (1937, p 40 & 343, No. 2, part 2, Norris)

The report of the Investigating Committee of a Commandery upon a petition cannot be confined to the Commander and Recorder, but must be presented to the Commandery before the ballot is taken. (1952, p 87 & 244, No. 26, Gaylord)

WITHDRAWAL OF PETITION

Section 181. A Petition may be withdrawn by the Petitioner at any time before ballot.

BALLOT

Section 182. An unfavorable report from the Committee does not dispense with the necessity of a ballot.

Section 183. Every member present when a ballot on a Petition is taken is required to vote unless excused by the Commander or Commandery before the balloting has commenced.

a. A visiting Sir Knight has no right to vote on a petition for membership in the Commandery or upon any subject which affects the Commandery.

b. None but members of the Commandery have a right to cast a ballot.

c. A visiting Sir Knight has no right to object to the Order of the Red Cross being conferred on a Royal Arch Mason who has been regularly elected to receive the Order of the Commandery.

d. It is the duty of the Eminent Commander to ascertain beyond any question of doubt that a Sir Knight who desires to visit the Commandery is in good standing.

e. A Sir Knight should hold receipts showing that he is not delinquent in his dues to the Commandery to which he belongs. (1928, p. 61 & 311, No. 10, Vallery)

Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

Section 184. The ballot upon a Petition for the Orders or for Membership must be secret and unanimous. The reason for casting a blackball cannot be disclosed or inquired into.

Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

Section 185. Two or more Petitions, whether for Orders or Membership, regularly presented, may be balloted upon at one time. If such ballot is unanimous, each Petitioner should be declared elected. In the event of the appearance of a blackball in such group ballot, there must be a ballot upon each Petition separately. A Commander may order one additional re-ballot before the result of a ballot upon any separate Petition has been announced and before any member of the Commandery has left the Asylum. (1952, p 234)

FILING OF PETITION AFTER REJECTION

Section 186. A rejected Petitioner for the Orders, if still residing within the Jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned, may again Petition after the expiration of Six Months, but shall not Petition any other Commandery until the expiration of Three Years after such rejection unless the consent of the Commandery by which he was rejected is given by unanimous ballot.

A Commandery retains no territorial jurisdiction over a Royal Arch Mason who moved from his jurisdiction to that of another Commandery and becomes a bonafide resident thereof.

After having been rejected by a Commandery and thereafter moving to the territorial jurisdiction of another Commandery and residing therein for six months, the rejected man may

petition the Commandery into whose jurisdiction he has removed, but such petition cannot be acted on within three years after his rejection without the consent by unanimous ballot of the Commandery by which he was previously rejected. (1925, p 89 & 410, No. 31, Newby)

An objection against an elected petitioner for the Orders who has not received the Order of Red Cross, is voided at the end of six months, but he may not petition another Commandery until the expiration of three years after such objection, unless the consent of the Commandery by which he was rejected is given by unanimous ballot, the objection being analogous to rejection by ballot, and governed by Section 186 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment. (1949, p 80 & 216, No. 8, Rice)

OBJECTIONS TO CONFERRING ORDERS UPON CANDIDATES AFTER BALLOT

Section 187. A Member of a Commandery in Good Standing whether or not present when the ballot was taken, may object to the conferring of the Order of the Red Cross upon an elected Candidate, and cannot be required to disclose his reason therefore. The objection may be made either in open Commandery or to the Commander, and is equivalent to rejection by ballot, and the Orders shall not be conferred. The fact that objection was made, and not the name of the objector, shall be entered on the minutes, but such objection may be withdrawn before it has been so entered.

a. A visiting Sir Knight has no right to vote on a petition for membership in the Commandery or upon any subject which affects the Commandery.

b. None but members of the Commandery have a right to cast a ballot.

c. A visiting Sir Knight has no right to object to the Order of the Red Cross being conferred on a Royal Arch Mason who has been regularly elected to receive the Order of the Commandery.

d. It is the duty of the Eminent Commander to ascertain beyond any question of doubt that a Sir Knight who desires to visit the Commandery is in good standing.

e. A Sir Knight should hold receipts showing that he is not delinquent in his dues to the Commandery to which he belongs. (1928, p. 61 & 311, No. 10, Vallery)

An objection against an elected petitioner for the Orders who has not received the Order of Red Cross, is voided at the end of six months, but he may not petition another Commandery until the expiration of three years after such objection, unless the consent of the Commandery by which he was rejected is given by unanimous ballot, the objection being analogous to rejection by ballot, and governed by Section 186 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment. (1949, p 80 & 216, No. 8, Rice)

Section 188. Except as provided in Section 195 any Companion of the Order of the Red Cross is entitled to receive the remaining Orders unless found unworthy after trial on charges duly

preferred. No Member of a Commandery, whether or not present when the ballot was taken, shall prevent or delay the conferring of the remaining Order or Orders by a mere objection.

A candidate elected to receive the orders and who does receive the Order of the Red Cross must be elected to receive the remaining orders if more than a year has passed but the Commandery where he was elected and received the Red Cross retains jurisdiction to do so although the companion has relocated his residence to another jurisdiction. Waiver from the other jurisdiction is not necessary. (1919, p 54 & 297, No. 20, Smith)

Section 189. Any member of a Commandery who seeks to prevent or delay the conferring of the remaining Order or Orders on any elected Candidate who shall have been constituted a Companion of the Order of the Red Cross shall be required to prefer written Charges against him, which shall be filed with the Recorder of the Commandery, and the Candidate shall be entitled to receive a copy of such Charges and to be heard in person and by counsel if the counsel is a Knight Templar. The remaining Orders cannot be conferred until such charges have been disposed of, either by withdrawal or determination according to the Disciplinary Rules of the Grand Encampment. Only the fact that charges have been preferred, and not the name of the objector or the nature of the charges, shall be entered on the minutes. Before the commencement of the hearing and on the request of the complainant, such charges may be withdrawn by vote of the Commandery.

Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

Section 190(a). A Knight Templar may be admitted to membership in any Commandery regardless of his residence and may be an elected officer in more than one Commandery at the same time, provided he may not be Commander of more than one Commandery at the same time. (1937, p 355)(1964, p. 18 & 449-452)(1982, p. 156-157 & 268)(2021, p unassigned)

A Grand Commandery may not require residence in the jurisdiction from and un-affiliated petitioner for affiliation. (1913, p 61, No. 21, Melish)

A Subordinate Commandery may accept as one of its members, a member of a Constituent Commandery without the permission of the Constituent Commandery. (1940, p 65 & 288, No. 9, Norris)

A Constituent Commandery may accept as one of its members, a member of a Subordinate Commandery and remain a member of the Subordinate Commandery. (1940, p 65 & 343, No. 12, Norris)

A member of a Subordinate Commandery, wishing to join a Commandery in the States, although his residence will remain where the Subordinate Commandery is located, is entitled to

a Demit if he is not in arrears in dues and if no charges are pending against him. There is no residence requirement as to petition for affiliation and no waiver of jurisdiction is required. (1961, p. 45, No. 13, Wieber)

Section 190(b). Plural membership may be in any Subordinate Commandery and any Constituent Commandery whose Grand Commandery laws so provide, in two Commanderies in the same Jurisdiction if the laws of the Grand Commandery so provide, or in two Commanderies in separate jurisdictions if the laws of both Grand Commanderies so provide. (1964, p. 18 & 449-452)(1970, p. 193-195)(1991 Pages 106-109)

A Subordinate Commandery may accept as one of its members, a member of a Constituent Commandery without the permission of the Constituent Commandery. (1940, p 65 & 288, No. 9, Norris)

A member of Shanghai Commandery 1 (a Subordinate Commandery) was not prohibited from dual membership in a Commandery at Bombay chartered by the Great Priory of England and Wales. The oath of the Bombay Commandery was not in conflict with his obligations as a member of Shanghai Commandery. (1952, p 78 &231, No. 13, Gaylord)

A member of Tokyo Commandery No. 1 (a Subordinate Commandery) may maintain his membership in that Commandery and also affiliate with and become a member of a Constituent Commandery, Indianapolis, under a Grand Commandery. To join the latter, he may apply for affiliation on a certificate of good standing issued by Tokyo Commandery No. 1. The certificate of good standing will not sever his membership in Tokyo Commandery. (1958, p. 244 & 288, No. 21, DeLamater)

A member of a Subordinate Commandery, wishing to join a Commandery in the States, although his residence will remain where the Subordinate Commandery is located, is entitled to a Demit if he is not in arrears in dues and if no charges are pending against him. There is no residence requirement as to petition for affiliation and no waiver of jurisdiction is required. (1961, p. 45, No. 13, Wieber)

Can a member of Bavaria Commandery No. 3 Munich Germany, also become an active member of a Constituent Commandery in Kansas.

This is permissible under our law. The case is controlled by the proviso in Section 190 of our Statutes, which permits dual membership in the case of Subordinate Commanderies – that is, a Knight Templar may be an active member of both a Subordinate Commandery and a Constituent Commandery at the same time. We have so held on a number of occasions. (1961, p. 51 No. 24, Wieber)

When a member holding dual membership loses the same in one Commandery, he losses it in both, and the Grand Recorder of one Jurisdiction where the sentence was imposed should notify the Grand Recorder of the other Jurisdiction of the results of the trial. Provided he may demit from one Commandery without affecting his membership in the other Commandery. (1967, p. 154, No. 14 part 4, Brucker)

Section 190(c). A petition for plural membership must be accompanied by a certificate of good standing issued by the Commandery of which the petitioner is a member. A plural member is entitled to all the rights and privileges of full membership in all Commanderies except as in paragraph (a) above and is subject to all dues and assessments of all Commanderies. Loss of active membership by action of any Commandery shall cause loss of membership in all Commanderies; provided, however, a plural member may demit from any Commandery. (1970, p. 192-195)(1991 Pages 106-109)

When a member holding dual membership loses the same in one Commandery, he loses it in both, and the Grand Recorder of one Jurisdiction where the sentence was imposed should notify the Grand Recorder of the other Jurisdiction of the results of the trial. Provided he may demit from one Commandery without affecting his membership in the other Commandery. (1967, p. 154, No. 14 part 4, Brucker)

Section 191. A Knight Templar desiring to affiliate with a Commandery must file a Petition for Membership, together with a Demit or its equivalent, which shall be retained by the Commandery petitioned if the Petitioner is elected to membership; if rejected, the Demit, or its equivalent, shall be returned to the Petitioner.

A Commandery may issue a duplicate of a Demit setting forth the fact that it is a duplicate. (1913, p 38 No. 1, Melish)

A certificate from an un-affiliated member's former Commandery is equivalent to a demit. (1916, p 49 & 293, No. 21, Mac Arthur)

The status of a member as to payment of dues should be determined as of the date the request for a Demit was received by the Recorder. (1937, p 35 & 335 No. 19 Agnew)

No Grand Encampment law requires a fee for affiliation. Grand Commanderies may provide for such a fee and if it does not legislate on the subject a Commandery may do so. (1940, p 63 & 288, No. 3, Norris)

Sponsors of a petition for membership by affiliation or the for receiving the orders must be members of the Commandery to which the petition is presented. Honorary members are not eligible. An individual does not become a member until all three orders are conferred.(1940, p 63 & 341, No. 6, Norris)

A Templar may move his membership form one Commandery to another in one of two ways. He may follow the procedures of Section 194 and remain continuously affiliated or he may request a demit, severing his affiliation, and present the demit in his petition for affiliation in a new Commandery. (1940, p 68 & 344, No. 29, Norris)

A Sir Knight who has demitted and so remained may re-affiliate with his old Commandery or any other Commandery regardless of his residence.

A Sir Knight who has been suspended for non-payment of dues and moved to another jurisdiction may be restored to membership in his old Commandery by unanimous vote, or restored to good standing by a majority vote. (1940, p 69 & 346, No. 34, Norris)

Official information, such as annual returns, that a Demithas been granted may be substituted for the actual Demitin affiliating a Knight Templar. (1949, p 83 & 217, No. 11, Rice)
A Commandery U.D. may issue demits. (1958, p.237 & 272, No. 12, DeLamater)
A member of a Subordinate Commandery, wishing to join a Commandery in the States, although his residence will remain where the Subordinate Commandery is located, is entitled to a Demit if he is not in arrears in dues and if no charges are pending against him. There is no residence requirement as to petition for affiliation and no waiver of jurisdiction is required. (1961, p. 45, No. 13, Wieber)
Following the suppression of Freemasonry in Cuba - A member of Havana Commandery is entitled to remain in good standing if he pays his annual dues to the Grand Encampment, directly or through a volunteer for this purpose. Such a member is entitled to receive a membership card from the Grand Recorder under the seal of the Grand Encampment, certifying that his is a member in good standing for the period for which his annual dues are paid. Any Officer or Past Commander, volunteering to assist in this work, should keep in touch with the Grand Recorder and should forthwith remit any dues collected together with the name and address of such member. In the meantime, a member of Havana Commandery in good standing may petition a Commandery at the place of his new residence to become affiliated with such other Commandery, but he is not required to do so in order to retain his membership in good standing. (1967, p. 150, No. 3, Brucker)
Grand Encampment laws are silent concerning whether a voluntarily unaffiliated (demitted) Knight Templar should be extended the privilege of visitation, although in his Decision No. 3 Grand Master Rice expressed the opinion that such privilege should not be granted indefinitely. A Demitted member may be extended such privilege, though any member may deny it by objecting in accordance with Section 224 (now section 223) of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment.
Regarding a Knight Templar who is involuntarily unaffiliated by reason of disciplinary action, either by expulsion or suspension, it is my decision that he not only has no "right" to be admitted but also should not be admitted to any Templar assembly. Having been denied the privileges of membership by his Commandery, it seems obvious that these privileges should not be extended by any other Templar group. Further, it seems equally obvious that no Commandery may restore the privileges of active membership except the Commandery that imposed the discipline. Finally, having no membership, he may not propose any Templar action except his own restoration by regular petition to the Commandery of which he formerly was a member. (1970, p.142 & 537, No. 5, Crofts)
The Grand Master after inquiry and investigation determined that a Sir Knight's failure to have a dues card or Demit was through no fault of his own. The Grand Master issued a letter to be used in lieu of a demit or its equivalent. (1970, p. 142 & 542, No. 8, Crofts)

Section 191(a). A Knight Templar created in a recognized foreign Sovereign Jurisdiction, desiring to affiliate with a Commandery under the jurisdiction of Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A., must file a petition for membership together with a demit or its equivalent from such foreign Jurisdiction. Alternatively, such Knight Templar created in a

foreign Jurisdiction may petition for dual membership in a Commandery under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment, providing his petition is accompanied by official evidence of membership in good standing in a Preceptory or Commandery under such foreign Jurisdiction; provided, further, that the laws of the foreign Jurisdiction must permit such dual membership, and, if the Commandery petitioned is a Constituent of a Grand Commandery, that the laws of the Grand Commandery must permit such dual membership. (1958, p. 320-321)(1970, p. 334-336 & 443)

MEMBER ENTITLED TO DEMIT

Section 192. A member, upon written request presented in open Commandery, is entitled to a demit, without a vote of the Commandery provided he is not indebted to the Commandery and no charges are pending against him. Unless the Commandery approves of an inquiry to ascertain the reason for the demit being requested, such request severs his membership. Dues shall not be charged during the period the request is held in abeyance. (1970, p. 406-407 & 450)

The status of a member as to payment of dues should be determined as of the date the request for a Demit was received by the Recorder. (1937, p 35 & 335 No. 19 Agnew)
Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)
A Sir Knight who has demitted and so remained may re-affiliate with his old Commandery or any other Commandery regardless of his residence.
A Sir Knight who has been suspended for non-payment of dues and moved to another jurisdiction may be restored to membership in his old Commandery by unanimous vote, or restored to good standing by a majority vote. (1940, p 69 & 346, No. 34, Norris)
A Commandery U.D. may issue demits. (1958, p.237 & 272, No. 12, DeLamater)
Any member of a Commandery, including an officer, may Demit from the Commandery on the conditions set out in Section 192 of the Statutes. (1958, p. 256 & 300, No. 40, DeLamater)
A member of a Subordinate Commandery, wishing to join a Commandery in the States, although his residence will remain where the Subordinate Commandery is located, is entitled to a Demit if he is not in arrears in dues and if no charges are pending against him. There is no residence requirement as to petition for affiliation and no waiver of jurisdiction is required. (1961, p. 45, No. 13, Wieber)

AFFILIATION IN LODGE AND CHAPTER NECESSARY ALSO COUNCIL IF REQUIRED

Section 193. Affiliation in Lodge and Chapter, and if required by the Grand Commandery of which the Commandery petitioned is constituent, also the Council is necessary to qualify a Petitioner for membership. (1958, p. 5)

A petitioner for the Orders was elected to and received the same on the assumption that he was a member in good standing in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Actually, at the time of his petition and election he had been demitted from his Royal Arch Chapter. After the receipt of the Orders it was voted to reinstate him in the Chapter, but the same apparently was not legally accomplished. Under this state of facts, the Grand Master held that the Companion was illegally Knighted and the defects in the Knighting never having been cured by healing, he never became a Knight Templar. (1925, p. 85 & 407 No. 28, Newby)

The withdrawal of recognition by one Grand Lodge of another Grand Lodge does not affect the standing of Master Masons insofar as their prerequisite for the Orders of Knighthood is concerned. (1949, p 81 & 216, No. 9, Rice)

A Subordinate Commandery cannot make Council degrees a prerequisite to membership in a Commandery as no such privilege was granted to Subordinate Commanderies by the Grand Encampment. (1961, p. 41, No. 7 Weber)

A Grand Commandery may enact legislation requiring membership in the Council of Royal and Select masters in addition to the requirement of affiliation in Lodge and Chapter to qualify a petitioner for the Orders of Knighthood. (1964, p. 82 & 255, No. 6, Moore)

Membership in a Chapter chartered by the Grand Chapter of England and Wales qualifies one to make application for membership in a Commandery under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment. (1967, p. 151, No. 7, Brucker)

CONTINUOUS AFFILIATION

Section 194. If a Member wishes to change his membership and be continuously affiliated, he may file his Petition with the Commandery in which he desires membership and with it a Certificate of Good Standing from the Recorder of his Commandery under the Seal there of showing that his dues have been paid three months in advance, and shall file a written application to his Commandery for a Demit. If he is elected to membership in the Commandery petitioned, the Recorder thereof shall immediately forward said Application for a Demit to the Commandery for which it is addressed, and where the Demit is received, it shall be filed with the Petition, and the Sir Knight's name shall be entered as a member of the Commandery petitioned as of even date with the Demit. If the Petitioner is rejected, the Certificate of Good Standing and Application shall be returned to him. (1916, p 407)

A Commandery under dispensation may receive and ballot upon petitions for affiliation. (1913, p 40-41 p 53-54, No. 5 & 16, Melish)

A Templar may move his membership from one Commandery to another in one of two ways. He may follow the procedures of Section 194 and remain continuously affiliated or he may request a demit, severing his affiliation, and present the demit in his petition for affiliation in a new Commandery. (1940, p 68 & 344, No. 29, Norris)

A member of the Preceptory of Newfoundland may affiliate with a Commandery in Louisiana, on showing that he is in good standing in the prerequisite bodies. (1958, p. 231 & 267, No. 5,

DeLamater)

ELECTION VOIDED BY FAILURE TO RECEIVE ORDERS

Section 195. Failure of a candidate to present himself for the Orders within twelve months after receiving his first written notice to appear for the conferring of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross voids his election, and the disposition of any fees paid or any deposit made shall be determined according to the Laws of the Grand Commandery if the election was by a Constituent Commandery, and according to the Laws of the Grand Encampment if the election was by a Subordinate Commandery. (1952, p 544)

One Constituted a Companion of the Order of the Red Cross who fails to appear to receive the remaining Orders within one year after having received the Order of the Red Cross shall not be entitled to receive such remaining Orders unless by a favorable, secret and unanimous ballot of the Commandery.

A candidate elected to receive the orders and who does receive the Order of the Red Cross must be elected to receive the remaining orders if more than a year has passed but the Commandery where he was elected and received the Red Cross retains jurisdiction to do so although the companion has relocated his residence to another jurisdiction. Waiver from the other jurisdiction is not necessary. (1919, p 54 & 297, No. 20, Smith)

If a petitioner has not received the orders within twelve months after being elected to membership in a Commandery, that Commandery loses jurisdiction over the petitioner and he may petition another Commandery without reference to the prior petition. (1925, p. 54 & 389, No. 4, Newby)

A Grand Commandery law providing that a petitioner who has not received the orders within six months of election shall forfeit his fee unless he shall present good cause for the failure, is void. Whatever the condition may be regarding civil law and the fair treatment of a Brother Freemason, nevertheless the Grand Encampment law controls. (1925, p. 28 & 409, No. 29, Newby)

HEALING

Section 196. The Grand Master or the Grand Commander in whose Jurisdiction an irregularly created Knight Templar resides has the power to heal him, and may authorize a Commandery or a Commander to do so.

Except by authority of an extended dispensation as described in 1913, No. 3, a Commandery that has been granted a Charter but not yet constituted may not confer the orders. Any orders so conferred are irregular but may be healed. (1916, p 35 & 280, No. 7, Mac Arthur)

1) A Commandery U.D. if granted a Charter, can confer no orders until it is constituted.

2) All Members of a Commandery U.D. at the time the Charter is granted become members of the new Commandery.

3) Officers are not named in a Charter. They are elected after the Commandery is constituted.

4) Anybody receiving the order during the period during which the Commandery may confer no orders must be healed.

5) A Commandery U.D. cannot adopt By-laws but it may prescribe rules for its government while under dispensation.

6) After being constituted, a Commandery may adopt By-Laws, revise or amend the same, subject to the approval of the Grand Encampment or Grand Commandery. (1925, p. 53 & 388 No. 3, Newby)

When a member has been knighted although he does not possess a uniform (where required) the improperly knighted member should be healed upon compliance with the requirement. (1925, P. 63 & 396, No. 11, Newby)

When a member has been knighted although he does not possess a uniform (where required) the improperly knighted member should not be healed unless he complies with the requirement. A Commandery intentionally knighting people improperly may have its charter arrested. (1925, P. 69 & 400, No. 17, Newby)

Candidates for the orders who have been elected at other than stated conclaves and have thereafter been dubbed as knights have been illegally elected. They can be healed under sections 87 & 196 by being regularly elected at a stated conclave and under order from the Grand Commander for their healing. After they are legally elected the orders can be communicated or re-communicated and they can be redubbed. (1940, p 70 & 280, No. 36, Norris)

Section 197. One Knighted in a clandestine manner or in a spurious Commandery cannot be healed.

CONFERRING ORDERS UPON APPLICANT NECESSARY QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Section 199. Until the Three Orders of Knighthood have been conferred upon an applicant, he is not possessed of the necessary qualifications for membership and therefore not subject to the payment of dues, but is subject to discipline by the Commandery for Unknightly conduct.

Sponsors of a petition for membership by affiliation or for receiving the orders must be members of the Commandery to which the petition is presented. Honorary members are not eligible. An individual does not become a member until all three orders are conferred. (1940, p 63 & 341, No. 6, Norris)

Video tape, DVD or any other form of video presentation of the Orders of Templary as depicted in the rituals of the Grand Encampment are not to be used in the conferral of said orders. They

were produced for instructional purposes only. The conferral of any Order must be done by Sir Knights, in a Commandery Asylum. (2006, p. 69 & 151, No. 3, Fischer)

Section 200. Those to whom a Charter is issued and those who receive the Orders in a Commandery are ipso facto Members thereof except where the Orders have been conferred for and by request of another Commandery.

CHAPTER XII

FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP AND REINSTATEMENT

NON-AFFILIATION IN LODGE OR CHAPTER

Section 201. Voluntary non-affiliation in a Lodge or Chapter or Council where required, for six months shall deprive a Knight Templar of his membership in the Commandery. (1988 pages 208–209)

The Statutes of the Grand Encampment control the methods and procedures for the termination of a Sir Knight's membership. A Grand Commandery law to require annual certifications of good standing and ipso facto assumption of non-affiliation would be improper. (1913, pp 55-60 & 227, No. 19 Melish)

A voluntarily unaffiliated Knight who has remained such for six months has no right to attend sessions of the Commandery or take part in any of its activities. A Grand Commandery may not change this period to one year. (1937, p 40 & 343, No. 2 part 3 Norris)

The withdrawal of recognition by one Grand Lodge of another Grand Lodge does not affect the standing of Master Masons insofar as their prerequisite for the Orders of Knighthood is concerned. (1949, p 81 & 216, No. 9, Rice)

When a member holding dual membership loses the same in one Commandery, he loses it in both, and the Grand Recorder of one Jurisdiction where the sentence was imposed should notify the Grand Recorder of the other Jurisdiction of the results of the trial. Provided he may demit from one Commandery without affecting his membership in the other Commandery. (1967, p. 154, No. 14 part 4, Brucker)

If the Council prerequisite did not apply to the Knight Templar when he petitioned for the Orders, it can never be applied to him individually, and no resolution can be adopted under the authority of Section 79 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, which would apply such prerequisite to a Knight templar retroactively. Since Council membership cannot be required of this Knight Templar, neither can it be required that he continue to be an active member of a Council of Royal and Select Masters if he becomes a member after becoming a Knight Templar.

If Council membership was prerequisite to Knight Templar membership in the individual case, good standing in the Council as well as in the Lodge and Chapter must support Templar membership. (1970, p. 142 & 543, No. 9, Crofts)

Section 202. When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Lodge or Chapter or Council where required, for any reason, he shall be suspended or expelled, as the case may be, from his Commandery. The suspension or expulsion shall be automatic upon receipt of notice of same from the Grand Lodge or Chapter or Council where required from which the Knight Templar was suspended or expelled. Except as herein provided, the Action of the Grand Lodge or Chapter or Council where required shall not be subject to review by the Grand Encampment or the Grand, Constituent, or Subordinate Commandery of which the Knight Templar is a member. (1988 Pages 208-209) (2021, page unassigned)

Notwithstanding the previous paragraph of this section, if a Knight Templar believes he has been involuntarily suspended or expelled only from Chapter, or Council where required, either illegally or because of personal, arbitrary, capricious or other improper motive by the Chapter or Council he may appeal to the Grand Master and suspension from Templary shall be held in abeyance for a period of not more than 30 days to allow investigation. If within that period the Grand Master and any two other elected officers of the Grand Encampment agree, the requirement of continuous Chapter, or Council if otherwise required, membership may be waived for that member. (2012) (2021, page unassigned)

The requirement of Chapter, or Council if required, for a petition for affiliation or to receive the orders is not affected by this exception. (2012)

Until lawful information has been brought to the attention of a Commandery that a member has been suspended in Lodge or Chapter, he is entitled to be considered in good standing. Therefore, a Commandery cannot require its members to exhibit to the Recorder receipts for dues in Lodge and Chapter. (1919, p 60 & 303 No. 30, Smith)

Action of the Grand Lodge declaring the sentence of indefinite suspension in the Lodge null and void was conclusive and authoritative. Where a Sir Knight has been suspended from Templary due to that suspension from lodge he is restored to his Commandery membership as if no interruption has occurred. (1955. p. 108 & 277, No. 29, Gordon)

When a member holding dual membership loses the same in one Commandery, he loses it in both, and the Grand Recorder of one Jurisdiction where the sentence was imposed should notify the Grand Recorder of the other Jurisdiction of the results of the trial. Provided he may demit from one Commandery without affecting his membership in the other Commandery. (1967, p. 154, No. 14 part 4, Brucker)

If the Council prerequisite did not apply to the Knight Templar when he petitioned for the Orders, it can never be applied to him individually, and no resolution can be adopted under the authority of Section 79 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, which would apply such prerequisite to a Knight templar retroactively. Since Council membership cannot be required of this Knight Templar, neither can it be required that he continue to be an active member of a Council of Royal and Select Masters if he becomes a member after becoming a Knight Templar.

If Council membership was prerequisite to Knight Templar membership in the individual case,

good standing in the Council as well as in the Lodge and Chapter must support Templar membership. (1970, p. 142 & 543, No. 9, Crofts)

Section 203. When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Commandery solely because of his suspension or expulsion from his Lodge or Chapter or Council where required, restoration in such Lodge or Chapter or Council shall entitle him to restoration in his Commandery on written application therefore and a majority vote at a Stated Conclave.

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

Assessments have the same standing as dues and a member is required to pay the same. (1916, p 118, No. 13, Smith)

When the charter of a Commandery has been surrendered or arrested, a former member who has been suspended for non-payment of dues may apply for reinstatement or condition of good standing to the Grand Commandery having jurisdiction. (1919, p 59 & 303, No. 29, Smith)

Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

A Commandery has the undoubted right to appoint a committee to inquire into the character and conduct of a petitioner for reinstatement who has been suspended for non-payment of dues. (1937, p 40 & 343, No. 2, part 2, Norris)

A suspended member of Tampico Commandery No. 1 (a Subordinate Commandery) may not petition for the Orders of Knighthood in a Constituent Commandery of a Grand Commandery, but must obtain reinstatement in Tampico Commandery No. 1, under regular statutory procedure. (1952, p 87 & 243, No. 25, Gaylord)

A former member of a Commandery, suspended prior to the surrender of the Charter by the Commandery, is not entitled to a Demit, but can be reinstated to Good Standing by action of the Grand Commandery, governed by rules which would be applicable if his Commandery were still in existence; in such case, a majority vote of the Grand Commandery would be required. (1952, p 93 & 249, No. 30, Gaylord)

If the Council prerequisite did not apply to the Knight Templar when he petitioned for the Orders, it can never be applied to him individually, and no resolution can be adopted under the authority of Section 79 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, which would apply such prerequisite to a Knight templar retroactively. Since Council membership cannot be required of this Knight Templar, neither can it be required that he continue to be an active member of a Council of Royal and Select Masters if he becomes a member after becoming a Knight Templar.

If Council membership was prerequisite to Knight Templar membership in the individual case, good standing in the Council as well as in the Lodge and Chapter must support Templar

membership. (1970, p. 142 & 543, No. 9, Crofts)

When a member has been suspended or expelled due to action by his lodge, chapter or council and the member was a member of more than one Commandery he must apply first to his "original" or "home" Commandery before applying to any others. He would then need to reapply to each of the others. (2009, p. 71& 77, No. 2, Koon)

Case - 1. If a Sir Knight has been suspended from multiple Commanderies solely by reason of involuntary termination of membership in a required prerequisite body and has been restored to membership in the required prerequisite body and his "original" or "home" Commandery, his status as a Knight Templar is resumed. His status in all Commanderies other than his home Commandery is equivalent to that of a withdrawn or former member of that Commandery inasmuch as failure to apply for restoration in each additional Commandery was voluntary. Should he apply for restoration in such additional Commandery and be rejected the rejection is be equivalent to a rejection for affiliation not affecting his primary membership. Koon Decision 2 is modified.

Further: if the Sir Knight had held Life Membership status in any such Commandery he shall be restored to that status without the a vote of the membership.

Case -2. If a Sir Knight has been suspended in any Commandery solely by reason of non-payment of dues, he stands suspended in each and every Commandery in which he held membership. In each Commandery, the suspension is effective when notice is received that suspension has occurred elsewhere. It should be noted that the Commandery that imposed the penalty of suspension for non-payment of dues may restore the member upon "payment of such part of his dues in arrears as the Commandery may require." A Commandery in such a situation is strongly encouraged to waive collection for the good of the order and out of Knightly courtesy to the member. A demit might then be issued by that Commandery to terminate the membership in that Commandery on terms of good standing. Membership in the Commandery having issued the suspension now being terminated by demit, the member is now eligible for restoration or affiliation in any other Commandery. Should he apply for restoration in such additional Commandery and be rejected the rejection is equivalent to a rejection for affiliation.

Case – 3. The law relative to restorations involving multiple Commanderies is governed by Grand Encampment law and Grand Commandery jurisdiction does not apply to the question.

Case - 4. If a Sir Knight with multiple memberships terminates his membership in a home Commandery, then the Commandery with the next most senior date of membership becomes his home Commandery. (2018, p. 83 & 261, No. 1, Vaught)

SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION FOR UNKNIGHTLY CONDUCT

Section 204. Acquittal by a Lodge or acquittal , suspension or expulsion by a Chapter or Chapter or Council where required, on a charge of un-Masonic conduct does not deprive a Commandery of the right to try a member thereof for the same or other offenses committed

either before or after his trial in the Lodge or Chapter or Council. (2021, p unassigned)

When a member holding dual membership loses the same in one Commandery, he loses it in both, and the Grand Recorder of one Jurisdiction where the sentence was imposed should notify the Grand Recorder of the other Jurisdiction of the results of the trial. Provided he may demit from one Commandery without affecting his membership in the other Commandery. (1967, p. 154, No. 14 part 4, Brucker)

If the Council prerequisite did not apply to the Knight Templar when he petitioned for the Orders, it can never be applied to him individually, and no resolution can be adopted under the authority of Section 79 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, which would apply such prerequisite to a Knight templar retroactively. Since Council membership cannot be required of this Knight Templar, neither can it be required that he continue to be an active member of a Council of Royal and Select Masters if he becomes a member after becoming a Knight Templar.

If Council membership was prerequisite to Knight Templar membership in the individual case, good standing in the Council as well as in the Lodge and Chapter must support Templar membership. (1970, p. 142 & 543, No. 9, Crofts)

Section 205. Suspension or expulsion of a Knight Templar by the Grand Encampment, by a Grand Commandery, or by a Commandery deprives him of membership in the Commandery and all rights and privileges of Knighthood so long as the judgment remains in force.

The suspension of a Sir Knight deprives him of all rights and privileges of knighthood as long as the judgment remains in force. Hence, such a Knight would not be entitled to a Templar funeral. The right to a Templar Funeral exists only in the case of a Sir Knight in good standing.

It is discretionary with the Commandery to grant the funeral honors for an unaffiliated Sir Knight or for a sojourner. (1940, p 67 & 287, No. 22, Norris)

Case - 1. If a Sir Knight has been suspended from multiple Commanderies solely by reason of involuntary termination of membership in a required prerequisite body and has been restored to membership in the required prerequisite body and his "original" or "home" Commandery, his status as a Knight Templar is resumed. His status in all Commanderies other than his home Commandery is equivalent to that of a withdrawn or former member of that Commandery inasmuch as failure to apply for restoration in each additional Commandery was voluntary. Should he apply for restoration in such additional Commandery and be rejected the rejection is be equivalent to a rejection for affiliation not affecting his primary membership. Koon Decision 2 is modified.

Further: if the Sir Knight had held Life Membership status in any such Commandery he shall be restored to that status without the a vote of the membership.

Case -2. If a Sir Knight has been suspended in any Commandery solely by reason of non-payment of dues, he stands suspended in each and every Commandery in which he held

membership. In each Commandery, the suspension is effective when notice is received that suspension has occurred elsewhere. It should be noted that the Commandery that imposed the penalty of suspension for non-payment of dues may restore the member upon "payment of such part of his dues in arrears as the Commandery may require." A Commandery in such a situation is strongly encouraged to waive collection for the good of the order and out of Knightly courtesy to the member. A demit might then be issued by that Commandery to terminate the membership in that Commandery on terms of good standing. Membership in the Commandery having issued the suspension now being terminated by demit, the member is now eligible for restoration or affiliation in any other Commandery. Should he apply for restoration in such additional Commandery and be rejected the rejection is equivalent to a rejection for affiliation.

Case – 3. The law relative to restorations involving multiple Commanderies is governed by Grand Encampment law and Grand Commandery jurisdiction does not apply to the question.

Case - 5. If a Sir Knight has been suspended or expelled for unknighly conduct, he stands suspended or expelled in each and every Commandery. In each Commandery the suspension or expulsion shall be effective when notice is received that suspension or expulsion has occurred elsewhere. If the member regains good standing status in the Commandery imposing the discipline, either by readmission or issuance of a demit then the status in all other Commanderies is that of a former member in good standing and he is now eligible for restoration or affiliation in any other Commandery. Should he then apply for restoration or affiliation in a Commandery and be rejected the rejection is equivalent to a rejection for affiliation not affecting his primary membership. (2018,p. 83 & 261, No. 1, Vaught)

RESTORATION TO MEMBERSHIP OR GOOD STANDING

Section 206. When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled for unknighly conduct, he may be restored to membership on petition if the ballot is unanimous. (1973, p. 176-178)

Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

A former member of a Commandery, suspended prior to the surrender of the Charter by the Commandery, is not entitled to a Demit, but can be reinstated to Good Standing by action of the Grand Commandery, governed by rules which would be applicable if his Commandery were still in existence; in such case, a majority vote of the Grand Commandery would be required. (1952, p 93 & 249, No. 30, Gaylord)

Section 206 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment provides that when a member is suspended or expelled for unknighly conduct, he may be restored to membership on petition if the ballot is unanimous. There is no such thing in Templar law as "automatic" restoration. The

fact that the sentence of expulsion was reduced by the Grand Master to a fixed term did not change the requirement that in order to be restored to membership, Section 206 would have to be complied with. (1967, p. 149, No. 2, Brucker)

Grand Encampment laws are silent concerning whether a voluntarily unaffiliated (demitted) Knight Templar should be extended the privilege of visitation, although in his Decision No. 3 Grand Master Rice expressed the opinion that such privilege should not be granted indefinitely. A Demitted member may be extended such privilege, though any member may deny it by objecting in accordance with Section 224 (now section 223) of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

Regarding a Knight Templar who is involuntarily unaffiliated by reason of disciplinary action, either by expulsion or suspension, it is my decision that he not only has no "right" to be admitted but also should not be admitted to any Templar assembly. Having been denied the privileges of membership by his Commandery, it seems obvious that these privileges should not be extended by any other Templar group. Further, it seems equally obvious that no Commandery may restore the privileges of active membership except the Commandery that imposed the discipline. Finally, having no membership, he may not propose any Templar action except his own restoration by regular petition to the Commandery of which he formerly was a member. (1970, p.142 & 537, No. 5, Crofts)

Case – 3. The law relative to restorations involving multiple Commanderies is governed by Grand Encampment law and Grand Commandery jurisdiction does not apply to the question.

Case - 4. If a Sir Knight with multiple memberships terminates his membership in a home Commandery, then the Commandery with the next most senior date of membership becomes his home Commandery.

Case - 5. If a Sir Knight has been suspended or expelled for unknighly conduct, he stands suspended or expelled in each and every Commandery. In each Commandery the suspension or expulsion shall be effective when notice is received that suspension or expulsion has occurred elsewhere. If the member regains good standing status in the Commandery imposing the discipline, either by readmission or issuance of a demit then the status in all other Commanderies is that of a former member in good standing and he is now eligible for restoration or affiliation in any other Commandery. Should he then apply for restoration or affiliation in a Commandery and be rejected the rejection is equivalent to a rejection for affiliation not affecting his primary membership. (2018, p. 83 & 261, No. 1, Vaught)

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

Section 207. The Eminent Commander shall supervise and determine whether it is advisable to remit the dues of a delinquent member because of illness, infirmity or financial inability, and shall recommend to his Commandery the remission of dues whenever he deems the same justified. If the Eminent Commander does not see fit to recommend the remission of dues of a delinquent member, he shall appoint a Committee of at least two members to make a personal call, if possible, upon such delinquent member with reference thereto. The report of such

Committee shall be reviewed by the Eminent Commander, and shall be reported to the Commandery. The process of suspension shall be undertaken only after the foregoing preliminary requirements have been met.

Thereupon, the Eminent Commander shall see to it that the Recorder send either a certified or registered letter to the delinquent member at his last known address, giving official notice of intention to suspend such member, including the date and hour when the suspension proceedings will be brought before the Commandery for action. At the time when such suspension proceedings are brought before the Commandery, the Eminent Commander shall first inform the Commandery of all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding such delinquent member and shall exhibit the return receipt of the certified or registered letter to the delinquent member, or the unclaimed certified or registered letter, before any action shall be taken by the Commandery. (1967, p. 83)

A Commandery may not inflict a penalty upon a member for non-payment of dues without a proper hearing. It also may not exempt members over a certain age from the payment of dues. (1910, p 108 & 248, No. 17, Rugg)

In a case where proper notice was given to the delinquent members and the meeting in question was not held due to a lack of quorum, the question of suspension can be taken up at the next meeting without new notices since the members accused of non-payment had not appeared at the originally scheduled meeting. (1928, P. 55 & 309, No. 6, Vallery)

When a member holding dual membership loses the same in one Commandery, he loses it in both, and the Grand Recorder of one Jurisdiction where the sentence was imposed should notify the Grand Recorder of the other Jurisdiction of the results of the trial. Provided he may demit from one Commandery without affecting his membership in the other Commandery. (1967, p. 154, No. 14 part 4, Brucker)

Case - 1. If a Sir Knight has been suspended from multiple Commanderies solely by reason of involuntary termination of membership in a required prerequisite body and has been restored to membership in the required prerequisite body and his "original" or "home" Commandery, his status as a Knight Templar is resumed. His status in all Commanderies other than his home Commandery is equivalent to that of a withdrawn or former member of that Commandery inasmuch as failure to apply for restoration in each additional Commandery was voluntary. Should he apply for restoration in such additional Commandery and be rejected the rejection is be equivalent to a rejection for affiliation not affecting his primary membership. Koon Decision 2 is modified.

Further: if the Sir Knight had held Life Membership status in any such Commandery he shall be restored to that status without the a vote of the membership.

Case -2. If a Sir Knight has been suspended in any Commandery solely by reason of non-payment of dues, he stands suspended in each and every Commandery in which he held membership. In each Commandery, the suspension is effective when notice is received that suspension has occurred elsewhere. It should be noted that the Commandery that imposed the penalty of suspension for non-payment of dues may restore the member upon "payment of

such part of his dues in arrears as the Commandery may require.” A Commandery in such a situation is strongly encouraged to waive collection for the good of the order and out of Knightly courtesy to the member. A demit might then be issued by that Commandery to terminate the membership in that Commandery on terms of good standing. Membership in the Commandery having issued the suspension now being terminated by demit, the member is now eligible for restoration or affiliation in any other Commandery. Should he apply for restoration in such additional Commandery and be rejected the rejection is equivalent to a rejection for affiliation.

Case – 3. The law relative to restorations involving multiple Commanderies is governed by Grand Encampment law and Grand Commandery jurisdiction does not apply to the question.

Case - 4. If a Sir Knight with multiple memberships terminates his membership in a home Commandery, then the Commandery with the next most senior date of membership becomes his home Commandery.

Case - 5. If a Sir Knight has been suspended or expelled for unknighly conduct, he stands suspended or expelled in each and every Commandery. In each Commandery the suspension or expulsion shall be effective when notice is received that suspension or expulsion has occurred elsewhere. If the member regains good standing status in the Commandery imposing the discipline, either by readmission or issuance of a demit then the status in all other Commanderies is that of a former member in good standing and he is now eligible for restoration or affiliation in any other Commandery. Should he then apply for restoration or affiliation in a Commandery and be rejected the rejection is equivalent to a rejection for affiliation not affecting his primary membership. (2018, p. 83 & 261, No. 1, Vaught)

Section 208. When a member of a Commandery is summoned to show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payment of dues and fails to appear, the Commander cannot declare him suspended until the Commandery has so voted.

A Commandery may not inflict a penalty upon a member for non-payment of dues with a proper hearing. It also may not exempt members over a certain age from the payment of dues. (1910, p 108 & 248, No. 17, Rugg)

Where the word “ballot” is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by “vote”, a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

DISCIPLINARY RULES

Section 209. In the conduct of all trials and all proceedings incident thereto, the Disciplinary rules adopted by the Grand Encampment shall be observed.

The Grand Master overruled a Grand Commandery trial sentence of expulsion and reduced the sentence to definite suspension. The trial was conducted improperly. Continuance was denied, trial was in absentia, no counsel was appointed for accused, member was refused right to speak in favor of accused, inadmissible and inflammatory hearsay evidence was submitted and vote was taken collectively rather than on each charge. Nonetheless the Grand Master believed there was sufficient evidence to justify a lesser sentence. (1961, p. 44, No. 11, Wieber)

CHAPTER XIII

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN COMMANDERIES

Section 210. Correspondence between Commanderies of different Grand Commanderies must be conducted through their respective Grand Commanders, except in cases of petitions for waiver of Jurisdiction. (1949, p 388)

A waiver of jurisdiction, if required, should be requested before acting upon a petition. (1919, p 53 & 297, No. 19, Smith)

A former resident of Louisiana, now a five-year resident of Panama City, Panama, it being templar unoccupied territory, cannot petition a Commandery in New Orleans for the Orders.

The territorial jurisdiction of a Commandery in Louisiana cannot be extended into a foreign country. (1946, p 67 & 242, No. 5, Orr)

Where a waiver of jurisdiction over a petitioner is requested by a Constituent Commandery in one State from a Constituent Commandery in another State, correspondence should be conducted directly between the two Constituent Commanderies regardless of the intervening boundary. However, where a waiver of jurisdiction over specifically designated territory is requested, it must be granted by the Grand Commandery whose jurisdiction is to be waived. (1952, p. 75 & 229, No. 11, Gaylord)

A nearby resident of the Province of Quebec, upon permission from the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, together with a waiver from the Canadian Preceptory within whose jurisdiction he resides, may be elected to receive the Orders of Knighthood in a New York Commandery. (1952, p 79 & 233, No. 16, Gaylord)

A Commandery under one Grand Commandery may request a waiver of jurisdiction from a Commandery under another Grand Commandery. Communication between Commanderies in different jurisdictions must be through their respective Grand Recorders. (2015, No. 10, Goodwin)

Section 211. Correspondence between a Subordinate Commandery and a Constituent Commandery must be conducted through the Grand Master and the respective Grand Commander.

When a Royal Arch Companion who has been elected to receive the orders is relocated to the jurisdiction of a Subordinate Commandery, the Commandery having original territorial

jurisdiction may request a Commandery in the Companions new location to confer the orders. The communication should be through the Grand Recorders, or in the case of a Subordinate Commandery, the Grand Master. (1940, p 65 & 285, No. 15, Norris)

Section 212. Complaints and correspondence must be addressed in the first instance to the Commander, through him to the Grand Commander, and if proper, through him to the Grand Master. A Member of the Grand Encampment may communicate directly with the Grand Master, and a Past Grand Commander and all Officers of a Grand Commandery may communicate directly with the Grand Commander. If the proper Officer refuses or neglects to forward communications as herein provided, the complainant may transmit the same directly to the superior Officer.

A request for decision must be made through a Commander to a Grand Commandery, or through a Grand Commander to the Grand Master. (1919, p 291 No. 4 Smith)

Inquiry regarding construction of legislation by a Grand Commandery or by Grand Encampment should initially be referred to the respective Grand Commander for reply, and resort should be had to the Grand Master only when decision by the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery is considered unsatisfactory. Attention is directed to Grand Encampment legislation covering correspondence (see Sections 210 through 213 of the Statutes). It will save time for all parties concerned, if inquiries which properly call for reply by the Grand Commander are forwarded to him, and not to the Grand Master, and similarly, if requests for rulings on the part of the Grand Encampment are forwarded directly to the Grand Master, and not to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment. (1952, p 63 &155, No. 3 Gaylord)

Section 213. A member of a Subordinate Commandery, in applying to the Grand Master for a decision, must do so through his Commander.

A request for decision must be made through a Commander to a Grand Commandery, or through a Grand Commander to the Grand Master. (1919, p 291 No. 4 Smith)

Inquiry regarding construction of legislation by a Grand Commandery or by Grand Encampment should initially be referred to the respective Grand Commander for reply, and resort should be had to the Grand Master only when decision by the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery is considered unsatisfactory. Attention is directed to Grand Encampment legislation covering correspondence (see Sections 210 through 213 of the Statutes). It will save time for all parties concerned, if inquiries which properly call for reply by the Grand Commander are forwarded to him, and not to the Grand Master, and similarly, if requests for rulings on the part of the Grand Encampment are forwarded directly to the Grand Master, and not to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment. (1952, p 63 &155, No. 3 Gaylord)

Section 214. Reserved (2021, p unassigned)

Section 215. Reserved (2021, p unassigned)

Section 216. No Commandery or Grand Commandery shall hold a Conclave or perform any Templar work on Sunday, except for the purpose of conducting funerals, attending religious services, or conducting practice or tactical or other drills for instruction. (1952, p 548)(1970, p. 331-332)

The conferring of the Order of the Temple should not be undertaken on Sunday. (1919, p. 299, No. 22, Smith)
A Commandery must be opened in form to perform the Templar Funeral ceremony. (1925, p. 59 & 394, No. 8, Newby)
An installation should not be held on a Sunday. (1940, p 69 & 290, No. 32, Norris)
An installation of officers is a phase of "Templar work" and is therefore not permitted on Sunday despite being held in connection with a religious service. (1955, p. 86 & 236, No. 11-B, Gordon)
It is improper and illegal to confer the Order of the Temple on a Sunday. (1955, p. 91 & 239, No. 17-A, Gordon)
It falls fully within the discretion of the Grand Commander to decide whether a public, joint installation is to be permitted on a Sunday. The Installation is a ceremony and not Templar work and therefore section 216 does not apply. (1967, p. 153, No. 12, Brucker) It was noted by the committee that this in conflict with Gordon decision No. 11-B in 1955.

ASYLUM

Section 217. A Subordinate Commandery with the approval of the Grand Master, and a Constituent Commandery with the approval of the Grand Commander, may remove its Asylum from one building to another in the same municipality by a vote of a majority of its members present at a Stated Conclave after due notice of the proposed change. A relocation outside the limits of the municipality in which the Commandery was located may be granted on the same conditions if it is in the same general area and is not being relocated outside its existing jurisdiction. If such a relocation is outside the previous jurisdiction of the Commandery the approval by the Grand Commander or Grand Master requires the recommendation and consent of the nearest Commandery having jurisdiction at the proposed location.

The Grand Master, in the case of a Subordinate Commandery, or a Grand Commander, in the case of a Constituent Commandery, may grant temporary dispensation to a Commandery to relocate to a place within the Commandery's jurisdiction without the need for a vote of the Commandery's members if the relocation is necessary because the Asylum of the Commandery has been destroyed or damaged to such an extent as to render it unfit for occupancy. In the

case of such conditions requiring a relocation the Grand Master or Grand Commander can alternatively grant a dispensation to relocate outside the jurisdiction of the Commandery subject to the same limitations that would apply to the granting of a dispensation for a new Commandery.

The Grand Master in the case of a Subordinate Commandery and the Grand Commander in the case of a Constituent Commandery may grant dispensation to a Commandery to hold a special conclave at any place within the jurisdiction of the officer granting the dispensation.

The Grand Encampment or Grand Commandery, as the case may be, always has the authority to approve a change in location of a Commandery created by it. (2012)

Where the word "ballot" is used in Templar law it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by "vote", a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p. 39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew)

The Constitution of the Grand Encampment, Section 48(f)1, authorizes a Grand Commander to grant Dispensation to Constituent Commanderies: "To hold Special Conclaves for conferring of the Orders at places within their Jurisdiction other than those named in their Charters," and that this authority conferred upon the Grand Commander by the Grand Encampment cannot be taken from him by action of this Grand Commandery. (1949, p 78 & 215 No. 6 Rice)

CHARTER

Section 218. The Dispensation or Charter of a Commandery must be in the Asylum throughout a Conclave.

It is permissible for A Grand Commandery to have a law that requires the Charter or dispensation to be present throughout a Conclave. (1937, p 40 & 343, No. 2, part 1, Norris)

A true copy of a Commandery Charter rather than the original Charter will satisfy the requirements of Section 218 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment, subject to the following stipulations:

1. That the decision to copy and store the original Charter shall have been made by the Commandery in Stated Conclave.
2. That the true copy to be substituted shall carry in a margin or on the reverse side a certification by the Commander and Recorder that it is such.
3. That the Commandery records shall show in whose personal custody and in what safe place the original Charter is currently stored. (1970, p.142 & 538.No. 7, Crofts, 1988 digest 48)

Section 219. If the Charter of a Commandery is lost, mutilated or destroyed, the Grand Master as to Subordinate Commanderies, and the Grand Commander as to Constituent Commanderies, upon satisfactory proof shall direct the respective Grand Recorder to issue an attested copy thereof under Seal.

FUNERAL SERVICE

Section 220. Only a Knight Templar in Good Standing is entitled to Templar funeral honors, but a Commandery may grant them to, or withhold them from, an unaffiliated Knight Templar. The funeral service adopted by the Grand Encampment shall be followed.

A Commandery must be opened in form to perform the Templar Funeral ceremony. (1925, p. 59 & 394, No. 8, Newby)

The suspension of a Sir Knight deprives him of all rights and privileges of knighthood as long as the judgment remains in force. Hence, such a Knight would not be entitled to a Templar funeral. The right to a Templar Funeral exists only in the case of a Sir Knight in good standing.

It is discretionary with the Commandery to grant the funeral honors for an unaffiliated Sir Knight or for a sojourner. (1940, p 67 & 287, No. 22, Norris)

The funeral service adopted by the Grand Encampment shall be followed. A Grand Commandery does not have the authority or legal right to adopt and use a funeral service of its own choosing or composition. (1955, p. 80 & 199, No. 7, Gordon)

It is not required that the Commandery should hold a Conclave to “open” and “close” his Commandery in order to convene his members to conduct a funeral. (1964, p. 79 & 255, No. 1, Moore)

CONFERRING ORDERS FOR ANOTHER COMMANDERY

Section 221. A Commandery may confer the Orders upon a Candidate elected by another Commandery to receive them, at the request of such other Commandery.

1) A Commandery U.D. if granted a Charter, can confer no orders until it is constituted.

4) Anybody receiving the order during the period during which the Commandery may confer no orders must be healed.

(1925, p. 53 & 388 No. 3, Newby)

When a Royal Arch Companion who has been elected to receive the orders is relocated to the jurisdiction of a Subordinate Commandery, the Commandery having original territorial jurisdiction may request a Commandery in the Companions new location to confer the orders. The communication should be through the Grand Recorders, or in the case of a Subordinate Commandery, the Grand Master. (1940, p 65 & 285, No. 15, Norris)

Video tape, DVD or any other form of video presentation of the Orders of Templary as depicted in the rituals of the Grand Encampment are not to be used in the conferral of said orders. They were produced for instructional purposes only. The conferral of any Order must be done by Sir Knights, in a Commandery Asylum. (2006, p. 69 & 151, No. 3, Fischer)

VISITORS

Section 222. If he is not otherwise properly vouched for, a Visitor must be examined by a committee of one or more members and the committee must report that it is convinced that the Visitor is a member in good standing of a recognized Commandery or Priory of Knights Templar, before the Visitor may be admitted to the Asylum. (1967, p. 95-96)

A Knight Templar who is a member under the authority of a Great Priory which is recognized by the Grand Encampment is eligible to visit a Commandery regardless of the status between his Royal Arch allegiance and the General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons. (1919, p 66 & 314, No. 36, Smith)

Visitation is based upon the member being in good standing in his Commandery. Orders of a General Grand High Priest relative to Chapter jurisdictional disputes have no effect. (1925, p 69 & 399, No. 16 Newby)

a. A visiting Sir Knight has no right to vote on a petition for membership in the Commandery or upon any subject which affects the Commandery.

b. None but members of the Commandery have a right to cast a ballot.

c. A visiting Sir Knight has no right to object to the Order of the Red Cross being conferred on a Royal Arch Mason who has been regularly elected to receive the Order of the Commandery.

d. It is the duty of the Eminent Commander to ascertain beyond any question of doubt that a Sir Knight who desires to visit the Commandery is in good standing.

e. A Sir Knight should hold receipts showing that he is not delinquent in his dues to the Commandery to which he belongs. (1928, p. 61 & 311, No. 10, Vallery)

The Council is not a prerequisite to membership in a Commandery, and a Sir Knight does not have to be a member of a Council before being eligible to visit a Commandery. (1958, p. 245 & 289, No. 23, DeLamater)

Grand Encampment laws are silent concerning whether a voluntarily unaffiliated (demitted) Knight Templar should be extended the privilege of visitation, although in his Decision No. 3 Grand Master Rice expressed the opinion that such privilege should not be granted indefinitely. A Demitted member may be extended such privilege, though any member may deny it by objecting in accordance with Section 224 (now section 223) of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

Regarding a Knight Templar who is involuntarily unaffiliated by reason of disciplinary action, either by expulsion or suspension, it is my decision that he not only has no "right" to be admitted but also should not be admitted to any Templar assembly. Having been denied the privileges of membership by his Commandery, it seems obvious that these privileges should not be extended by any other Templar group. Further, it seems equally obvious that no

Commandery may restore the privileges of active membership except the Commandery that imposed the discipline. Finally, having no membership, he may not propose any Templar action except his own restoration by regular petition to the Commandery of which he formerly was a member. (1970, p.142 & 537, No. 5, Crofts)

Section 223. If a member objects, no member of another Commandery can be admitted into an Asylum unless he visits in an official capacity. The objection may be made openly in the Commandery or privately to the Commander, and in neither case can the objector be required to disclose the reason for his objection.

The right to object to the presence of visiting Sir Knight does not apply to an honorary member. Such honorary member may not be objected to. (1913, p 40, No. 4, Melish)

The statute on right of objection to a visitor only applies to Commanderies. In the case of objection to a visitor to a Grand Commandery it would have to be determined by a vote of the Grand Commandery. (1925, P. 105 & 416, No. 42, Newby)

Grand Encampment laws are silent concerning whether a voluntarily unaffiliated (demitted) Knight Templar should be extended the privilege of visitation, although in his Decision No. 3 Grand Master Rice expressed the opinion that such privilege should not be granted indefinitely. A Demitted member may be extended such privilege, though any member may deny it by objecting in accordance with Section 224 (now section 223) of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

Regarding a Knight Templar who is involuntarily unaffiliated by reason of disciplinary action, either by expulsion or suspension, it is my decision that he not only has no "right" to be admitted but also should not be admitted to any Templar assembly. Having been denied the privileges of membership by his Commandery, it seems obvious that these privileges should not be extended by any other Templar group. Further, it seems equally obvious that no Commandery may restore the privileges of active membership except the Commandery that imposed the discipline. Finally, having no membership, he may not propose any Templar action except his own restoration by regular petition to the Commandery of which he formerly was a member. (1970, p.142 & 537, No. 5, Crofts)

MOUNTED COMMANDERIES

Section 227. A Commandery requires no Dispensation or permission to change to a mounted Commandery.

SEAL

Section 228. The presiding Officer of a Commandery has the right to order its Seal affixed to any Certificate or other document which he can legally issue in the name of the Commandery.

The seal of the Grand Encampment shall be affixed to dues of all Commanderies under its jurisdiction. (2015, No. 7, Goodwin)

SUMMONS

Section 229. A Summons issued by the Commander shall be attested by the Recorder under the Seal of the Commandery.

Section 230. A Summons may be personally served on the Knight Templar to whom it is addressed, or it may be left at his place of residence or business, or mailed to him at his usual address.

For purposes of this section, "his usual address" means his last known address. (1916, p 116, No. 10, Smith)

RITUAL

Section 231. The Rituals, as promulgated by the Grand Encampment, cannot be altered or abridged except by the action of the Grand Encampment.

No Commander or Commandery has the authority to add or take away from any of the forms and ceremonies in the conferring of the orders. Either the full ceremonial or the short ceremonial without abridgement or change should be used in conferring the Order of Malta. (1910, p 244-245, No. 8 Rugg)

No Commandery has the right to omit any part of the rendition of the Ritual. (1913, p 47-48, No. 10, Melish)

In the case of Honorary titles the Constitution and not the ritual governs. (1913, p 54-55, No. 17, Melish)

As to the question of wording in the Lord's Prayer only the Grand Encampment has the power to alter the ritual and the wording used in the ritual is therefore the proper wording. (1916, p 38, No. 8, Mac Arthur)

A Grand Commandery may prescribe a ceremony for its own opening so long as it does not conflict with the laws of the Grand Encampment. (1916, p45, No. 17, Mac Arthur)

While the question of tactics is within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commanderies, the ritual shall be followed. (1922, p 27 & 280, No. 15, Orr, 1988 digest – 326 & 356)

When the ritual prescribes a procedure, that procedure must be complied followed. When it does not, each Grand Jurisdiction may adopt its own procedure. (1937, p 27 & 325, No. 10, Agnew)

Explanatory information in the ritual ceremonies are part of the ritual and therefore are controlling and shall be followed. (1937, p 35 & 335, No. 20, Agnew)

Rituals are under the sole supervision and control of the Grand Encampment and may be published and issued by it alone. It is unlawful for any Commandery or member thereof to issue

any others or print, publish or use any other.

The rituals cannot be altered or abridged except by the Grand Encampment. Drill regulations are within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery. (1940, p 64 & 281, No. 4, Norris)

In the event of conflict between the Constitution and Ritual relative to the use of titles, the provisions of the Constitution control. (1949, p 219, No. 12, Rice)

There is no authority for a Grand Commandery to adopt an abbreviated form for the prescribed Full Form Opening.

Ritual directions that the short form be used only "in an extreme case" is required.

Tactics are under the control of the Grand Commandery but where tactics are prescribed by the ritual they must be observed.

No part of the ritual can be published by the Grand Commandery but tactics may refer to ritual page and line number.

(1952, p 66 & 159, No. 7, Gaylord)

It is not possible for the Order of the Red Cross or the Order of the Temple to be conferred in short form, absent an official ritual of that type and the Grand Master is without power to grant such Dispensation. (1955, p. 76 & 196, No. 3, Gordon)

Portions of the ritual identified as optional such as the baldric lecture may be omitted. (1955, p. 92 & 264, No. 18-3, Gordon)

The Grand Encampment has sole and exclusive right to change, modify or amend the Ritual, and no other authority has any power to do so. A Grand Commandery may not add the words "Council of Royal and Select Masters" to the vow. (1961, p. 46, No. 15, Wieber)

The "Ode to the SK" is not essentially a part of the secret ritual of the Grand Encampment. (1961, p. 49, No. 20, Wieber)

Section 232. The Rituals of the Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar are under the sole supervision and control of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and may be published and issued by it alone. It is unlawful for any Commandery or member thereof to use any others than those authorized by the Grand Encampment and issued by it, or to write, print, publish, issue, or cause to be written, printed, published, issued or used any other Ritual in connection with said Orders or anyone of them.

The ritual issued by the Grand Encampment is the only authorized one and it must be conformed to in the conferring of the Order everywhere throughout the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment. (1910, p 105 & 244, No. 7, Rugg)

When the ritual prescribes a procedure, that procedure must be complied followed. When it does not, each Grand Jurisdiction may adopt its own procedure. (1937, p 27 & 325, No. 10, Agnew)

Explanatory information in the ritual ceremonies are part of the ritual and therefore are controlling and shall be followed. (1937, p 35 & 335, No. 20, Agnew)

The full form opening is part of the Ritual. The Ritual is all secret work. It is not to be exemplified in the presence of anyone who is not a Knight Templar in good standing.No Grand Commandery is authorized to permit any of the ritualistic work to be exemplified except in the secrecy of the asylum. (1937, p 42 &346, No. 3, Norris)

Rituals are under the sole supervision and control of the Grand Encampment and may be published and issued by it alone. It is unlawful for any Commandery or member thereof to issue any others or print, publish or use any other.

The rituals cannot be altered or abridged except by the Grand Encampment. Drill regulations are within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery. (1940, p 64 &281, No. 4, Norris)

A Grand Commandery is not entitled to have delivered to it for its use of its officers a larger number of rituals than is prescribed by the Grand Encampment. (1940, p 68 & 278, No. 31, Norris)

There is no authority for a Grand Commandery to adopt an abbreviated form for the prescribed Full Form Opening.

Ritual directions that the short form be used only "in an extreme case" is required.

Tactics are under the control of the Grand Commandery but where tactics are prescribed by the ritual they must be observed.

No part of the ritual can be published by the Grand Commandery but tactics may refer to ritual page and line number.

(1952, p 66 & 159, No. 7, Gaylord)

If a Commandery is opened in the Order of the Temple and the Commander is present, or in his absence the next duly qualified offices is present, then the work of conferring the order of the temple under the supervision of such presiding officer could be conferred by any Sir Knight whom the Commander would select, provided that any duly-elected officer replaced in the cast would consent to such arrangement.

The Grand Encampment does not recognize any other organization except a duly-constituted Commandery as qualified to confer the Order of Knighthood. Consequently, no organization under the auspices of the Shrine or any other body which sees fit to call itself "The Crusaders" has the legal right as such organization, without the sponsorship of a duly-constituted Commandery of Knights Templar, nor can any such organization in its own name be empowered to do so by either the Grand Commander or the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment.

Another thing to remember is that when such organization qualifies to confer the Orders of Knighthood, the members participating in the ritualistic work must be dressed as Knights

Templar, wearing uniforms legalized by the Grand Commandery of that jurisdiction and the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. (1961, p. 47, No. 16, Wieber)

All parts of the Ritual are secret and no portion thereof can be exhibited or revealed to the public. To do so would be a serious offense against Templary. (1961, p. 50, No. 22 Wieber)

CHAPTER XV

OFFICERS - RESIGNATION - FILLING VACANCIES - RETENTION OF RANK

RESIGNATION

Section 233. Any Officer of the Grand Encampment, of a Grand Commandery, of a Subordinate or of a Constituent Commandery may resign his office by filing a written resignation with the respective Grand Recorder or Recorder, save that the resignation of the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment shall be filed with the Grand Master, of the Grand Recorder of a Grand Commandery with the Grand Commander and of the Recorder of a Commandery with the Commander; provided that the resignation of an Officer of a Subordinate or Constituent Commandery shall not be effective until accepted by the Commandery.

A Commander has the right to resign but doing so does not complete his term of office and therefore does not become a Past Commander and is not entitled to be uniformed as such. (1916, p 121, No. 18, Smith)

FILLING VACANCIES

Section 234. A vacancy in any office of the Grand Encampment created by resignation shall be filled as prescribed in Section 25 and 26 of the Constitution as to the office therein mentioned; as to all other offices, by appointment by the Grand Master. A vacancy in any office of a Grand Commandery created by resignation shall be filled as prescribed in Sections 49 and 50 of the Constitution as to the offices therein mentioned; as to all other offices, by appointment by the Grand Commander. A vacancy in a Commandery office shall be filled as prescribed in Section 72 of the Constitution.

RETENTION OF RANK

Section 235. One who has filled by installation and completion of term of service and who maintains membership in a Commandery under the authority of the Grand Encampment, the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General,

Grand Prelate or Department Commander in the Grand Encampment; Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo or Grand Captain General in a Grand Commandery; or Commander in a Commandery; is entitled to retain the title of the highest office attained by him in the Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery and Commandery, with the word, "Past" immediately preceding and qualifying the official title. Past rank is limited to the offices named in this section, and may include the Administrative Offices as authorized in Section 43 and 55 of the Constitution. An officer who is installed and thereafter dies during his term of office is considered to have completed his term of office. (1964, p. 6 & 334 - 338& 340-341) (Retroactive to 1964)(1967, p. 91)(1979, p. 130-131 & 291-293) (1991 Pages 20-22) (2015) (2021, p unassigned)

There are no such offices as past Captain General of a Commandery, Past Grand Prelate or Past Grand Recorder. Such persons should wear insignia of rank of highest other position. (1916, p 107 & 366, No. 2 Smith)
A Commander has the right to resign but doing so does not complete his term of office and therefore does not become a Past Commander and is not entitled to be uniformed as such. (1916, p 121, No. 18, Smith)
A Past Commander of a Commandery of a Grand Jurisdiction moving to another Grand Jurisdiction and affiliating with a Constituent Commandery located therein retains his rank as a Past Commander regardless of whether he becomes a member of the Grand Commandery of not. (1919, pp 288 – 289, No. 1, Smith)
A Past Commander who has joined a Commandery in another jurisdiction retains the rank and courtesies of that rank. (1919, p 70 & 322, No. 42, question 3, Smith)
A Sir Knight may not be elected Grand Commander, be installed, serve a part of the Annual Conclave, resign his office and upon the election of his successor be recognized as a Past Grand Commander. (1925, p 401, No. 18, Newby)
The Eminent Commander of a Commandery merged with another Commandery is entitled to the rank of a Past Commander though he did not complete a full term of service. (1937, p 24 & 321 No. 3, Agnew)
The Eminent Commander of a Commandery merged with another Commandery is entitled to the rank of a Past Commander though he did not complete a full term of service. (1937, p 37 & 337, No. 21, Agnew)
A Grand Generalissimo of a Grand Commandery, having declined advancement and not having been re-elected as Grand Generalissimo, becomes a Past Grand Generalissimo and retains that rank. His shoulder straps are prescribed in section 243(c) of the Grand Encampment Statutes. (1940, p 70 & 291, No. 37, Norris)
Where two Commanderies are consolidated the Commander that is retired by reason of Consolidation of his Commandery with another is entitled to the rank of Past Commander. (1943, p 27 & 367, No. 2, Pollard)
The Grand Commander has no authority to grant a Dispensation to a Constituent Commandery authorizing it to elect a Sir Knight to the honor of Past Commander that has not served in the office. To become a Past Commander the Sir Knight must serve through the end of the term.

The resignation of the Commander followed by the election and installation of a successor who then resigns to be replaced by the original commander does not give the intermediate Commander past rank. (1946, p 87 & 242, No. 15, Orr)

One does not need to be elected as Grand Commander to become a permanent member of the Grand Encampment or be elected as Commander to become a permanent member of a Grand Commandery. One who succeeds to the office of Grand Commander under Sections 49 and 50 of the Constitution and who serves the remainder of the term of office would become a Past Grand Commander and a permanent member of the Grand Encampment. The same process applies to a Grand Commander. (1949, p 75 & 213, No. 4, Rice)

A Deputy Grand Commander who is elected Grand Commander, and thereafter resigns, or removes permanently from his jurisdiction before completing his term of office, would not acquire the rank of Past Grand Commander nor become a member of the Grand Encampment. (1949, p 77 & 214, No. 5, Rice)

Legislation shortening the terms of Commanders of Constituent Commanderies in order to change the fiscal year did not deprive such Commanders of their status nor prevent them from becoming permanent members of the Grand Commandery. Sections 235 and 236 of the statutes, requiring service for a "full term" as a condition precedent to becoming permanent members of the Grand Commandery are satisfied if the Commanders served for "the full period provided by the Grand Commandery even though such period was shorter than twelve months. (1952, p 86 & 241, No. 21, Gaylord)

A Grand Generalissimo is a "representative" member of the Grand Encampment only while actively serving in the office he holds by legal election and installation, and on completion of his term of office he is not a member of the Grand Encampment, and as such has no rights or privileges therein. A Grand Generalissimo having satisfactorily completed his term in that office retains the title of that office, and is a Past Grand Generalissimo. His status and rank would be above that of a Past Commander. (1955, p. 78 & 197, No. 5, Gordon)

Under the circumstances of death in succession to the office of Grand Commander during the same term, both Sir Knights who served in that capacity merit the title of Past Grand Commander, and are to be recorded as such. (1955, p. 82 & 200, No. 9, Gordon)

A Grand Captain General who permanently removes from the jurisdiction, and is so situated as to be precluded from the performance of the duties of his office, is ineligible to continue in office. If however, despite his removal, he faithfully attends Conclaves and performs the duties of his office for the full period of his term, he is entitled to the rank of Past Grand Captain General. (1955, p. 89 & 238, No. 15, Gordon)

Due to advanced age, a Deputy Grand Commander was elected and installed as Grand Commander. At a later session of the conclave new elections were held and he did not remain as Grand Commander. One who has not completed the full term of office to which he was elected cannot be listed on the records as a Past Grand Commander. (1955, p. 98 & 267, No. 22, Gordon)

A Sir Knight who briefly held the office of Commander before resigning and allowing the previously elected Commander to resume his office did not become a Past Commander, did not become a permanent member of the Grand Commandery, and was not eligible for election to the office of Grand Recorder. (1955, p. 100 & 269, No. 24-1, Gordon)

Service as Commander while under dispensation does not one a Past Commander. If he is elected Commander after the charter has been issued and serves out his term to the next annual election, however brief that may be, he will have earned the rank of Past Commander: however he must serve to the end of that term. (1958, p. 243 & 284, No. 18, DeLamater)

The phrase "term of service" as used in Section 235 of the statutes means the full term for which the officer was installed. It makes no difference how brief the term may be provided the officer serves to the end of the term. (1961, p. 42, No. 9, Wieber)

According to Templar law and Sir Knight is good standing is eligible to be elected from the floor to any office of the Commandery, but before he can be considered a Past Commander he would have to serve his full term of office as Commander. He could not be elected, resign and then be considered a past Commander whose rank gives him permanent membership in the Grand Commandery. (1961, p. 48, No. 17, Wieber)

Anyone serving a Commandery under dispensation as Commander does not become a Past Commander under Grand Encampment law. That title is conferred only upon a Sir Knight who has served as Commander in a Subordinate Commandery duly Chartered. (1961, p. 53, No. 30, Wieber)

When a Commander of a Commandery U.D. goes out of office when the chartered Commandery is constituted, he has no official status or title. He has no permanent rank as a Past Commander. The reason for this is that the Commandery U.D. is a temporary organization and the officers thereof have no tenure but hold office at the pleasure of the operating authority. It makes no difference how long he may have served, and there is no exception to this rule. (1964, p. 79 & 255, No. 2a, Moore)

When a Past Prior of a Preceptory visits a Commandery he retains that rank and should be recognized accordingly. It would correspond to the status of a Past Commander.

When a Past Prior affiliates with a chartered Commandery he retains the rank of a Past Prior, which corresponds to the rights and privileges of a Past Commander. (1964, p. 78 & 255, No. 2b & c, Moore)

Resignation of a Grand Master due to permanent disability is equivalent to "dies during his term of office" and entitles the person to past rank. The decision is issued along very narrow lines and is not intended to set any type of precedent. (2009, p. 71 & 77, No. 1, Koon)

Section 235(a). The Grand Master, with the approval of the Grand Encampment, may grant Past status to the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment.

Section 236. A member resigning from any of the offices enumerated in the preceding section shall retain the title of the highest office attained by him in which he has served a full term, and shall not retain the title of the office occupied by him at the time of his resignation.

A Sir Knight may not be elected Grand Commander, be installed, serve a part of the Annual Conclave, resign his office and upon the election of his successor be recognized as a Past Grand Commander. (1925, p 401, No. 18, Newby)

The Grand Commander has no authority to grant a Dispensation to a Constituent Commandery authorizing it to elect a Sir Knight to the honor of Past Commander that has not served in the office. To become a Past Commander the Sir Knight must serve through the end of the term. The resignation of the Commander followed by the election and installation of a successor who then resigns to be replaced by the original commander does not give the intermediate Commander past rank. (1946, p 87 & 242, No. 15, Orr)

A Deputy Grand Commander who is elected Grand Commander, and thereafter resigns, or removes permanently from his jurisdiction before completing his term of office, would not acquire the rank of Past Grand Commander nor become a member of the Grand Encampment. (1949, p 77 & 214, No. 5, Rice)

Due to advanced age, a Deputy Grand Commander was elected and installed as Grand Commander. At a later session of the conclave new elections were held and he did not remain as Grand Commander. One who has not completed the full term of office to which he was elected cannot be listed on the records as a Past Grand Commander. (1955, p. 98 & 267, No. 22, Gordon)

A Sir Knight who briefly held the office of Commander before resigning and allowing the previously elected Commander to resume his office did not become a Past Commander, did not become a permanent member of the Grand Commandery, and was not eligible for election to the office of Grand Recorder. (1955, p. 100 & 269, No. 24-1, Gordon)

According to Templar law and Sir Knight in good standing is eligible to be elected from the floor to any office of the Commandery, but before he can be considered a Past Commander he would have to serve his full term of office as Commander. He could not be elected, resign and then be considered a past Commander whose rank gives him permanent membership in the Grand Commandery. (1961, p. 48, No. 17, Wieber)

When a Past Prior of a Preceptory visits a Commandery he retains that rank and should be recognized accordingly. It would correspond to the status of a Past Commander.

When a Past Prior affiliates with a chartered Commandery he retains the rank of a Past Prior, which corresponds to the rights and privileges of a Past Commander. (1964, p. 78 & 255, No. 2b & c, Moore)

Section 237. The Commander of a Commandery under Dispensation does not become a Past Commander when such Commandery is chartered.

When a Commander of a Commandery U.D. goes out of office when the chartered Commandery is constituted, he has no official status or title. He has no permanent rank as a Past Commander. The reason for this is that the Commandery U.D. is a temporary organization and the officers thereof have no tenure but hold office at the pleasure of the operating authority. It makes no difference how long he may have served, and there is no exception to this rule. (1964, p. 79 & 255, No. 2a, Moore)

Section 237(a). Honorary titles may be conferred upon Sir Knights who have rendered long, outstanding and distinguished service in the cause of Templary in conformity with the provisions hereof. No titles of office, whether active or honorary, shall be conferred by any Grand Commandery, or any Constituent or Subordinate Commandery, except the title of active officers named in, or authorized by, the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, or honorary titles as authorized in this section. Each Grand Commandery, each Constituent Commandery and each Subordinate Commandery, shall have the right, in conformity to the provisions of this section to confer honorary titles as follows:

- (a) Grand Commanderies may confer the honorary titles of Honorary Past Grand Commander, Grand Treasurer Emeritus, Grand Recorder Emeritus, and Grand Prelate Emeritus upon written approval of the Grand Master;
- (b) Commanderies, whether Constituent or Subordinate, may confer the honorary titles of Honorary Past Commander, Captain General Emeritus, Treasurer Emeritus, Recorder Emeritus, and Prelate Emeritus upon written approval of the Grand Master in the case of Subordinate Commanderies and written approval of the Grand Commander of the respective Jurisdiction in the case of Constituent Commanderies;
- (c) The holder of such honorary title shall have no right, by virtue of such honorary title, to exercise any of the functions or powers of the office as to which he holds an honorary title, nor shall he by virtue of such honorary title wear the jewel of the office to which such title pertains. The holder of such honorary title, however, shall be privileged to wear the uniform and shoulder straps of the office to which such honorary title applies, and there may be conferred upon him a jewel and, shoulder straps appropriate to his honorary title, provided that such jewel and shoulder straps must bear a specific notation that the title which it represents is honorary only.
- (d) Such honorary titles shall not be conferred upon any Sir Knight other than a member of the respective Commandery or Grand Commandery by which the honorary title is conferred.
- (e) The precedence of rank for holders of such honorary titles shall be in the order of seniority appropriate to the office for which the honorary title is applicable, except that
 - (1) The holder of the title of a past officer by virtue of service shall take precedence over the holder of an honorary title, and provided further
 - (2) In any Grand Commandery the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander and all Past Grand Commanders shall take precedence over all holders of honorary title, and
 - (3) In any Commandery, whether Constituent or Subordinate, the Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General and all Past Commanders shall take precedence over all holders of honorary titles. (1952, p 262 & 567)(1967, p. 94-95)

The Grand Encampment may alter or abolish Commandery titles. One who has such a title retains the same as long as the law prescribes. (1925, p. 52 & 387, No. 2, Newby)

A Grand Commandery may not create the office of Honorary Grand Commander. (1946, pp 75-

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR

Section 237(b). There is hereby created and established a meritorious award to be known as the "Knights Templar Cross of Honor" which may be awarded by the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America to deserving Sir Knights of Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies on the following conditions and stipulations:

- (a) The following items must be presented to a recipient of the "Knights Templar Cross of Honor". An award consisting of a gold medal upon the center of which is a Patriarchal Cross in purple. Around the cross are to be inscribed the words "Knights Templar Cross of Honor." The medal is suspended on a red neck ribbon. A lapel pin in the form of the medal as described above must also be provided. A suitable certificate of award issued by the Grand Encampment and signed by the Grand Master and the Grand Recorder bearing the seal of the Grand Encampment and thereon must set forth the citation. Although not a part of the established presentation package, a recipient may wear the previous style of jewel as an alternative. (Amended 2009)(2021, p unassigned)
- (b) A nomination for the award shall be made by the Commandery of which the nominee is a member, by a motion adopted by the Commandery and must be submitted in writing and approved by the Grand Commander of the respective state and must give his name, address, Masonic rank, name of his Commandery and particulars outlining the nature of his meritorious service, thus justifying the nomination.
- (c) The award may be made only for exceptional and meritorious service rendered to the Order, far beyond the call of duty, and beyond the service usually expected of an officer or Knight Templar. No present or past elected Grand Officer in the advancing line of a Grand Commandery is eligible for the award. (1982, p. 157-164 & 268)(2021, p unassigned)
- (d) One nomination may be made from each Grand Commandery, regardless of the number of members, plus one additional nomination may be made from a Grand Commandery for each 5,000 members or major fraction thereof, during any one year. Only one nomination may be made from the total of the subordinate Commanderies during one year. (2000, p. 70-73) (Amended 2009)
- (e) In deciding the awards, precedents shall be entirely ignored, and each case shall be decided on its own unusual merits.
- (f) No posthumous awards shall be made.
- (g) Whereas this jewel is to be given by the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America after nomination by Grand Commanders of the Constituent Grand Bodies, it shall be the responsibility of the Grand Encampment to provide the jewels and certificates of award without cost 'to the recipients.

(1964, p. 440-443& 444-445)(1967, p. 88-89)(2000 pages 70 – 73)

There shall be no posthumous awarding of any Knights Templar Honors. (2015, No. 6, Goodwin)

NATIONAL AWARD

Section 237(c).

- (a) A national award shall be given by the Grand Encampment at each Triennial Conclave.
- (b) It shall be awarded to a person; not necessarily a Knight Templar, who has made an outstanding contribution to our country through civic, professional, military, scientific, religious, etc., endeavor.
- (c) Nominations for the award may be made by any Commandery or Sir Knight.
- (d) Nominations are to be made to the Grand Master who may either refer the nominations to a Special Committee O, have the Grand Encampment Line Officers choose the recipient. The Grand Encampment Line Officers or the Special Committee may in their discretion determine the criteria for the award. (1979, p. 121-122)

Section 237(d).

A Knight Templar shall retain all honors and awards granted to him by the Grand Encampment a Grand Commandery, or a Commandery only as long as he retains his membership in good standing in a Commandery under the authority of the Grand Encampment. (2021, p unassigned)

CHAPTER XVI

GRAND STANDARD, BEAUSEANT, GRAND STANDARD AND FLAG

GRAND STANDARD

Section 238. The Grand Standard is of white woolen or silk material, five feet in height and three feet in width, made tri-partite at the bottom, fastened at the top to the cross bar by nine rings; in the center of the field a blood red Passion Cross, over which is the motto, "In Hoc Signo Vinces"; and under "Non Nobis Domine, Non Nobis, Sed Nominis Tuo Da Gloriam." The cross to be three feet in height and the upright bar to be six inches in width. On top of the staff a gilded globe or ball four inches in diameter, surmounted by the Cross of Salem, twelve inches in height - the Cross to be crimson, edged with gold. (1931, page 284)

Banners, including the Christian Flag, should not be officially displayed in the asylum except as provision for their display is made in the Constitution, Statutes or Ritual of our Order. (1952, p 88 & 244, No. 27, Gaylord)

BEAUSEANT

Section 239. The Beauseant of the Order shall be of silk, in two stripes of equal width running horizontally, the upper stripe black and the lower stripe white - six feet fly and three feet six inches on the staff; swallow-tailed one-third its length' the edges of the flag shall be

plain, without fringe. The name of the Commandery shall be placed upon its upper stripe and its location on the lower stripe, the lettering being in contra colors to the field. The staff shall be nine feet in length, including the crosshead, which shall be of gold or gilt metal, consisting of a ball surmounted by the Cross of Salem. Cords and tassels composed of strands of black and white silk in equal proportions shall be attached to the base of the crosshead. (1931, page 284)

The Statute fully explains the design requirements. No text may be added anywhere else on the banner. (1916, p 45, No. 16, Mac Arthur)
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The crosshead on staff of the Beauseant includes ball and cross of Salem. Crosshead should be gold or gilt metal. (1940, p 65 & 289, No. 11, Norris)
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UNITED STATES FLAG

Section 240. All Commanderies in the United States of America, including its Territories and Dependencies, shall display a silk regulation Flag of the United States in their respective Asylums to be placed on the dais at the extreme right.

CHAPTER XVII

INSIGNIA OF RANK AND SHOULDER STRAPS

INSIGNIA OF RANK

Section 241. The emblem to be used or worn on the uniforms of the various Officers and Members of the Grand Encampment, Grand Commanderies, Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies to denote the rank of such person in the Order shall be as follows:

- (a) For the Grand Master and Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, the Cross of Salem of a style such that the middle arm of said cross is longer than the upper and lower arms. Each arm is to be equally spaced along the vertical axis of the cross.
 - (b) For all other Officers and past officers of the Grand Encampment, the Patriarchal Cross of a style such that the lower arm of the cross is longer than the upper arm and each arm is to be equally spaced along the vertical axis of the cross.
 - (c) For Past Grand Commanders and the Officers of Grand Commanderies, the Templar Cross.
 - (d) For Past Commanders, Commanders, Generalissimos and Captains General of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies, the shoulder straps hereinafter described and specified.
 - (e) For members of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies, the red Passion Cross.
- (1997 pages 98 – 100)(2015)

The Grand Encampment has exclusive control over insignia of rank. Past Grand Commander jewels may be a Templar Cross and not a Cross of Salem or Patriarchal Cross. (1913, p 43, No. 7, Melish)

The Grand Encampment has exclusive control over insignia of rank. The Patriarchal cross may

only be worn by officers of the Grand Encampment below the rank of Grand Master. Grand and Past Grand Commander jewels cannot be Patriarchal cross. (1916, p 32 & 277, No. 4, p 40, No. 10, Mac Arthur)
The statutes on insignia of rank apply only to items intended for that purpose. The wearing of a watch fob with a Templar cross by a member who is not a Grand Commandery officer is not subject to the laws of the Grand Encampment. (1916, p 41, No. 12, Mac Arthur)
There are no such offices as past Captain General of a Commandery, Past Grand Prelate or Past Grand Recorder. Such persons should wear insignia of rank of highest other position. (1916, p 107 & 366, No. 2 Smith)
The officers of a drill team may not wear the shoulder straps of US Army officers on their Templar uniforms. Neither may they wear shoulder straps with no insignia. They may wear the shoulder straps of an officer of a Commandery while temporarily filling the office in question but no other insignia may be worn. (1925, p 108 & 417, No. 45, Newby)
An enquiry was made regarding the wearing of embroidered stars on the left sleeve of the uniform to designate Zone officers, assistant zone officers and aides. This is not permissible for three reasons. 1) They are not Templar insignia approved by the Grand Encampment, 2) They are not being worn on the left breast as provided in section 257 and 3) They could not be regarded as meritorious jewels or insignia, since they would be worn by administrative officers as a mark of current service only and not for services performed heretofore and now concluded. There is no authority in Templar law for the wearing of any sort of insignia on uniforms by administrative officers during incumbency of the offices. (1955, p. 81 & 199, No. 8, Gordon)

SHOULDER STRAPS

Section 242. The Shoulder Straps of Officers and Past Officers of the Grand Encampment shall be as follows:

- (a) For the Grand Master and Past Grand Masters: Royal Purple silk velvet, two inches wide by four inches long (outside measurements), bordered with two rows of embroidery of No. 26 gold bullion, five-eighths of an inch wide; the Cross of Salem embroidered, of No. 26 gold bullion, outlined in jaceron, in the center, lengthwise; the Cross to be two and one-quarter inches in height; the cross arms to be in proportion to the height of the Cross. Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.
- (b) For all other Grand Encampment Officers during their incumbency in office:
Royal Purple silk velvet, two inches wide by four inches long (outside measurements), bordered with two rows of embroidery of No. 26 gold bullion, one-half of an inch wide; the Patriarchal Cross embroidered, of No. 26 gold bullion, outlined in jaceron, in the center, lengthwise; the Cross to be one and three-quarters inches in height; the cross arms to be in proportion to the height of the Cross. Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.
- (c) For Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Grand Generalissimos, Past Grand Captains General, Past Grand Treasurers, Past Grand Recorders, Past Grand Prelates and Past Department Commanders: The same as for officers of the Grand Encampment and at the foot of the cross, narrow-wise of the strap, the initials of the office respectively shall be embroidered

of silver bullion in old English characters, as follows: P.D.G.M. (Past Deputy Grand Master, P.G.G. (Past Grand Generalissimo), P.G.C.G. (Past Grand Captain General), P.G.T. (Past Grand Treasurer), P.G.R. (Past Grand Recorder), P.G.P (Past Grand Prelate) and P.D.C. (Past Department Commander)
(1979, p. 130-131 & 291-293) (1988 page 145)(1997 pages 98 – 100)(2003 pages 86-87)(2015)

The two rows of embroidery are side by side. (1919, p 47 & 292, No. 8, Smith)

It is not permissible to have shoulder straps with the letter G.T. indicating Grand Trustee. There is no provision for any such variation. (1946, p 61 & 242, No. 1, Orr)

Section 243. The Shoulder Straps of Officers and Past Officers of a Grand Commandery shall be as follows:

(a) For the Officers of a Grand Commandery, during their incumbency in office:

Bright red, silk velvet, two inches wide by four inches long, with one row of gold bullion embroidery, three-eighths of an inch wide; The Templar Cross, one inch square, of gold bullion embroidery in the center of the strap. Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

(b) For Past Grand Commanders:

The same as for Officers of a Grand Commandery except that the color of the Shoulder Strap shall be royal purple.

(c) For Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos and Past Grand Captains General:

The same as for Grand Commandery officers; except with the initials of the office respectively, to be embroidered in Old English characters, of silver bullion, on the lower end of the strap.

(1970, p. 333-334)(1997 pages 98 – 100)(2003 pages 86-87)

There are no such offices as past Captain General of a Commandery, Past Grand Prelate or Past Grand Recorder. Such persons should wear insignia of rank of highest other position. (1916, p 107 & 366, No. 2 Smith)

A Grand Generalissimo of a Grand Commandery, having declined advancement and not having been re-elected as Grand Generalissimo, becomes a Past Grand Generalissimo and retains that rank. His shoulder straps are prescribed in section 243(c) of the Grand Encampment Statutes. (1940, p 70 & 291, No. 37, Norris)

It is not permissible to have shoulder straps with the letter G.T. indicating Grand Trustee. There is no provision for any such variation. (1946, p 61 & 242, No. 1, Orr)

Section 244. The shoulder straps of Officers and Past officers of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies shall be as follows:

(a) For Commanders:

Emerald green silk velvet, one and three-fourths inches wide by four inches long, bordered with one row of embroidery, of gold bullion, three-eighths of an inch wide, the silver Passion Cross with open rays embroidered of silver bullion in the center; Cross to be one and one-

half inches in height; cross arm to be in proportion to height of Cross. Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion. (2018, p. 162-164 & 305)

(b) For Past Commanders:

The same as for Commanders; except that the color of the shoulder strap shall be bright red.

(c) For Generalissimos during incumbency in office:

The same as for Commanders, except that the Square surmounted with the Paschal Lamb, shall be used instead of the Passion Cross.

(d) For Captains General during incumbency in office:

The same as for Commanders except that the Level surmounted with the Cock, shall be used instead of the Passion Cross.

(e) For Captains General who have retired after six full years of service in office, and who have not attained a higher office:

The same as for Captains General except that the color of the shoulder boards shall be bright red. (1967, p. 94-95)

(f) For Prelates during incumbency in office:

The same as for Commanders except that the triple triangle with small Passion Cross in the center shall be used instead of the Passion Cross. (1952, p 615)

(g) For Prelates who have retired after six full years of service in office and who have not attained a higher office: (1952, p 615)

The same as for Prelates, except that the color of the shoulder straps shall be bright red.

(1997 pages 98 – 100)(2003 pages 86-87)

There are no such offices as past Captain General of a Commandery, Past Grand Prelate or Past Grand Recorder. Such persons should wear insignia of rank of highest other position. (1916, p 107 & 366, No. 2 Smith)

The officers of a drill team may not wear the shoulder straps of US Army officers on their Templar uniforms. Neither may they wear shoulder straps with no insignia. They may wear the shoulder straps of an officer of a Commandery while temporarily filling the office in question but no other insignia may be worn. (1925, p 108 & 417, No. 45, Newby)

It is not permissible to have shoulder straps with the letter G.T. indicating Grand Trustee. There is no provision for any such variation. (1946, p 61 & 242, No. 1, Orr)

WEARING OF TEMPLAR CROSS BY PAST GRAND OFFICERS LIMITED

Section 245. Only such Past Grand Officers of Grand Commanderies as are named in subsections (b) and (c) of Section 243 are entitled to wear the Templar Cross.

The statutes on insignia of rank apply only to items intended for that purpose. The wearing of a watch fob with a Templar cross by a member who is not a Grand Commandery officer is not subject to the laws of the Grand Encampment. (1916, p 41, No. 12, Mac Arthur)

OFFICERS TO WEAR INSIGNIA OF RANK AND ALL OTHERS PROHIBITED FROM WEARING SAME

Section 246. All Officers shall wear on their Uniforms the Insignia of Rank, and on their Templar dress coats the Shoulder Straps, to denote the rank attained or office held, and no member shall wear the emblems described in Section 241 or the Shoulder Straps described in Sections 242 to 244 inclusive unless he shall have attained the rank or shall hold the office which the wearing of such emblems or Shoulder Straps denotes.

The Grand Encampment has exclusive control over insignia of rank. Past Grand Commander jewels may be a Templar Cross and not a Cross of Salem or Patriarchal Cross. (1913, p 43, No. 7, Melish)
The Grand Encampment has exclusive control over insignia of rank. The Patriarchal cross may only be worn by officers of the Grand Encampment below the rank of Grand Master. Grand and Past Grand Commander jewels cannot be Patriarchal cross. (1916, p 3 & 277, No. 4, p 40, No. 10, Mac Arthur)
The statutes on insignia of rank apply only to items intended for that purpose. The wearing of a watch fob with a Templar cross by a member who is not a Grand Commandery officer is not subject to the laws of the Grand Encampment. (1916, p 41, No. 12, Mac Arthur)
The Grand Representative of a Grand Commandery near another Grand Commandery is not entitled to wear special shoulder straps. Only the Shoulder straps authorized by Grand Encampment are proper. (1919, p 46 & 292, No. 7, Smith)
The officers of a drill team may not wear the shoulder straps of US Army officers on their Templar uniforms. Neither may they wear shoulder straps with no insignia. They may wear the shoulder straps of an officer of a Commandery while temporarily filling the office in question but no other insignia may be worn. (1925, p 108 & 417, No. 45, Newby)
It is not permissible to have shoulder straps with the letter G.T. indicating Grand Trustee. There is no provision for any such variation. (1946, p 61 & 242, No. 1, Orr)
It is not obligatory that officers' shoulder straps be worn on the fatigue uniform. (1955, p. 103 & 275, No. 25, Gordon)

CHAPTER XVIII

UNIFORMS - OFFICERS OF GRAND ENCAMPMENT

DRESS UNIFORM

Section 247. The Templar Dress Uniform of the Grand Master, Past Grand Master and Officers of Grand Encampment shall be as follows:

(a) For the Grand Master and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Encampment:

Coat

The Templar Dress coat shall be a four-button, double-breasted sack coat, to close with four flat velvet covered buttons, and to be of black clothing material (a ten to ten and one-half ounce tropical of 45% wool and 55% Dacron or a 100% wool tropical worsted is

recommended). The coat shall have no outside pockets, but shall have two lower straight flaps, no openings, stitched on outside edges to give the appearance of pockets. It shall have two inside breast pockets, one on each side. At the wearer's left side, under the simulated pocket flap and at his waist line, a four inch horizontal slit opening with a zipper closing, to allow a sword sling to be worn on a concealed belt or on trouser waist belt. No outside belt to be worn with this uniform, sword scabbard to be supported by two short black leather slings with hook snaps at the bottom and a loop at top to be worn over the trouser belt, or on a concealed sling, through the slit in the coat. Coat to be not less than 3/8 lined with plain black lining material, sleeve lining and armholes piped with lining material. Edges to be single stitched. Length of coat shall be one inch below wearer's crotch line. Coat to have roll collar with peak lapels, three inches wide at the peak. Optionally, on the points of the collar, one-half inch above lapel seam and one-half from the outside edge of the collar, shall be a cross of Salem. The sleeves to be finished with cuffs of black velvet, three and one-half inches deep, with gold bullion of adopted leaf and vine design three-fourths of an inch wide, and spaced three-fourths of an inch from the top edge of the velvet cuff. Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

Shoulder Straps

As prescribed in Section 242 (a).

Sleeve Crosses

No sleeve crosses worn on this uniform. The Cross of Salem is permitted as an alternate to the leaf and vine design.

Trousers

The trousers shall be of the same clothing material as the coat, of standard military cut, and without ornamentation.

Chapeau

A military chapeau, trimmed with black silk velvet binding and with one black and one white ostrich plume of at least ten inches in width and ten plys in thickness. Front and rear peaks of chapeau to extend four and one-fourth inches from the head; side of chapeau to be beveled, being one inch smaller at the top than at the head; diagonally across the peaks, both front and back, a black silk velvet band, one and one-fourth inches wide, edged top and bottom with rope pattern or twist of No. 26 gold bullion embroidery, three-sixteenths of an inch wide between which shall be embroidered in No. 26 and No. 27 gold bullion the leaf and vine design of adopted Grand Encampment pattern. On the left side, a rosette, oval in shape, five inches in height by four inches in width, composed of not less than thirty-three satin points in single fold on top of which so as to display said points to the distance of one-half inch from the edge, is laid one row of pleated black satin ribbon, in folds of from one-

eighth of an inch in width and on top of this laid an oval black silk velvet by two and five-eighth inches width, thus displaying the pleated satin ribbon around the edges of said velvet rosette to a distance of from three-eighths to one-half inch. On the velvet oval shall be the Cross of Salem of royal purple silk velvet, bordered by a single row of No. 26 gold bullion embroidery one-fourth of an inch in width, outlined in jaceron, leaving the velvet exposed in the center to the width of five-sixteenths of an inch. Said Cross to be three inches in height, including embroidery; the cross arms to be in proportion to the height. (No twisted bullion at the several corners of angles of the Cross.) Gilt flat bullion tassel placed between front folds of chapeau. Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

Sword and Scabbard

A sword with metal scabbard, suspended by three metal rings, two at the upper mount and one at the middle mount; a straight cross guard; an appropriate head; a white grip of ivory or other suitable material etched in front with the monogram of the owner and on the opposite side with the Cross of Salem. There shall be four chains from pommel to cross guard. A blade not to exceed nineteen millimeters in width, with a scabbard properly sized to accommodate the same. No emblem other than recognized emblems of the Order are to appear anywhere on the sword. All metal parts of sword except blade to be gold plate.

Shirt

Plain white with turned down collar.

Necktie

Black four-in-hand, without stick pin.

Gloves

Buff colored, of lisle thread or chamoisette.

Hose

Black

Shoes

Black leather.

(b) For all other Officers of the Grand Encampment:

Coat

The Templar Dress coat shall be a three-button, double-breasted sack coat, to close with three flat velvet covered buttons, and to be of black clothing material (a ten to ten and one-half ounce tropical of 45% wool and 55% Dacron or a 100% wool tropical worsted is recommended). The coat shall have no outside pockets, but shall have two lower straight flaps, no openings, stitched on outside edges to give the appearance of pockets and a left breast pocket welt is optional. It shall have two inside breast pockets, one on each side. At the wearer's left side, under the simulated pocket flap and at his waist line, a four inch horizontal slit opening with a zipper closing, to allow a sword sling to be worn on a concealed belt or on trouser waist belt. No outside belt to be worn with this uniform, sword scabbard to be supported by two short black leather slings with hook snaps at the bottom and a loop at top to be worn over the trouser belt, or on a concealed sling, through the slit in the coat. Coat to be not less than 3/8 lined with plain black lining material, sleeve lining and armholes piped with lining material. Edges to be single stitched. Length of coat shall be one inch below wearer's crotch line. Coat to have roll collar with peak lapels, three inches wide at the peak. Optionally, on the points of the collar, one-half inch above lapel seam and one-half from the outside edge of the collar, shall be a Patriarchal Cross. The sleeves to be finished with cuffs of black velvet, three and one-half inches deep with three flat velvet covered black buttons, and a Patriarchal Cross on each cuff. The cross to be centered on the cuff measured from top to bottom and from side to side.

Shoulder Straps

As prescribed in Section 242 (b).

Sleeve Crosses

The emblem on the sleeves shall be the Patriarchal Cross of royal purple silk velvet, bordered with a single row of No. 26 gold bullion embroidery three sixteenths of an inch wide, outlined in jacaron, the Cross to be including embroidery, two inches in height; Cross arms to be in proportion to the height of the cross; the purple silk velvet to show in the center of Cross to the width of three-sixteenths of an inch. (No twisted bullion at the several corners or angles of the cross.) Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

Chapeau

The same as for the Grand Master, except the Patriarchal Cross instead of the Cross of Salem.

Sword and Scabbard

The same as for the Grand Master, except the Patriarchal Cross instead of the Cross of Salem, and only three chains from the pommel to cross guard.

(1967, p. 290)

Balance of Full Dress Uniform

Trousers, shirt, gloves, hose and shoes shall be the same as those of the Grand Master.

(c) For all Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Grand Generalissimos, Past Grand Captains General, Past Grand Treasurers, Past Grand Recorders and Past Department Commanders of the Grand Encampment:

The entire uniform shall be the same as described for all Officers of the Grand Encampment, except the shoulder straps, which shall be as prescribed by Section 242 (c).

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

(1976, p. 219 & 341-346)(1979, p. 130-131 & 291-293) (1988 page 145) (1997 pages 98 – 100)(2003 pages 86-87)(2003 pages 88)(2003 pages 88-89)

Grand Encampment officers may wear the summer uniform appropriate occasions. (2003, p. 29 & 95, No. 2, Jones)

Section 247 A. Officers and past officers of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar shall be permitted to wear a cap and mantle uniform similar to the cap and mantle uniform of a Past Grand Commander as described in section 258 of the statutes except that the insignia of rank on the mantle shall be the Cross of Salem or Patriarchal Cross as appropriate, 12inches high, in purple. The cap shall have a band of appropriate Grand Encampment design and the insignia on the cap shall also be of appropriate style of cross. No other badge or ornamentation may be worn on the mantle except approved designs indicating Grand Encampment awards.

The jewel of Grand Encampment present or past office may be worn on a chain collar of an approved design.

FATIGUE UNIFORM

Section 248. The Fatigue Uniform of the Grand Encampment, Past Grand Masters and Officers of the Grand Encampment.

(a) For the Grand Master and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Encampment:

Coat

The Templar Fatigue coat shall be a three-button, double-breasted sack coat, to close with two buttons and to be of black clothing material (a ten to ten and one-half ounce tropical of 45% wool and 55% Dacron or a 100% wool tropical worsted is recommended). The coat shall be square cut, form fitting, with peak lapel collar, two lower patch pockets, and square flaps. It shall have two inside breast pockets, one on each side. Coat to be not less than ¼ lined with plain black lining material, sleeve lining and armholes piped with lining material. Edges to be single stitched. Shoulder loops of the same material as coat, sewed down flat up to the button. On each shoulder loop embroidered in No. 26 gold bullion a Cross of Salem, of royal purple silk velvet bordered with a single row of No. 26 gold bullion embroidery, three

sixteenth of an inch wide, outlined in jaceron, the Cross to be including embroidery, two inches in height; Cross arms to be in proportion to the height of Cross; center of the Cross between the edges of embroidery to be three sixteenths of an inch wide. (No twisted bullion at the several corners or angles of the Cross). Cross to be located three quarters of an inch from the shoulder seam. The sleeves to be finished with stitching to represent cuffs, three inches deep, parallel with lower edge of sleeve. On cuffs of coat a Cross of Salem same as the shoulder loops, the lower edge of Cross to rest on stitching. There shall be three black buttons on each cuff. All buttons used on coat to be special composition Knight Templar buttons with Cross and Crown in center and the motto of the Order in the circle around the outer edge. Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

Trousers

The trousers shall be of the same clothing material as the coat, of standard military cut, and without ornamentation.

Cap

The cap shall be black and of the Bell Crown or Pershing style. Front strap to be flat and to be of four ligne gold wire lace with two vellums (No. 1962) stitched on leather with two loops of the same pattern of lace; strap attached at the corners of the visor by gold cross and crown Knights Templar buttons. Between the lower welts of the cap, a band of black silk velvet one and one-half inches wide, edged top and bottom with rope pattern or twist of No. 26 gold bullion between which shall be embroidered in No. 26 and No. 27 gold bullion of same pattern as described for peaks of chapeau. Cap to be ventilated by two black enameled eyelets on each side. In the center of the cap in front to be a Cross of Salem of royal purple silk velvet, bordered with one row of No. 26 gold bullion embroidered three-sixteenths of an inch in width, outlined in jaceron; Cross to be including embroidery two inches in height; Cross arms to be in proportion to height of Cross; the purple silk velvet to show in Cross to the width of three-sixteenths of an inch. (No twisted bullion at the several corners or angles of the Cross.) Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion. Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

Balance of Fatigue Uniform

Trousers, shirt, necktie, gloves, hose and shoes shall be the same as those described for the Full Dress Uniform.

(b) For all other Past and Present officers of the Grand Encampment:

Coat

The same as for the Grand Master, except that the Cross on shoulder loops and cuffs shall be

the Patriarchal Cross instead of the Cross of Salem.

Cap

The same as for the Grand Master, except the Patriarchal Cross instead of the Cross of Salem.

Balance of Fatigue Uniform

Trousers, shirt, necktie, gloves, hose and shoes shall be the same as those described for the Full Dress Uniform.

(1979, p. 130-131 & 291-293) (1997 pages 98 – 100)(2003 pages 86-87)

Grand Encampment officers may wear their jewel of office with the fatigue uniform when appropriate. (2003, p. 29 & 95, No. 4, Jones)
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CAPE

Section 249. The Cape may be worn in lieu of an overcoat with either Templar Dress or Fatigue Uniform, as follows:

(a) For the Grand Master and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Encampment:

The cape shall be of black beaver, kersey, or melton, cut three-quarters full, and extending to the ends of the fingers in natural position; box collar one and one-fourth inches stand and two inches fall at back of neck; increasing to two and one-half inches at end of collar; to fasten with a hook and eye at end of collar and closing over breast with four black prunelle buttons size 28, covered by a fly; the corners of collar and cape to be cut square; edges to be finished plain or stitched raw. Lining of cape to be royal purple in color. On the left breast will be worn the Cross of Salem of royal purple silk velvet, the top of the Cross on a level with the arm pit; the right edge of the Cross four inches from edge of the cape. Cross to be six inches in height, with arms thereof in proportion to the height of the Cross. The collar of the cape to be of black silk velvet on which shall be embroidered, on the ends of the collar, the Cross of Salem one inch in height, outlined in jaceron; the cross arms to be in proportion to the height of the Cross; Cross to be of royal purple silk velvet edged with No. 26 gold bullion embroidery. (No twisted bullion at the several corners, or angles, of the Cross.) Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

(b) For all other officers of the Grand Encampment, for Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Grand Generalissimos, Past Grand Captains General, Past Grand Treasurers, Past Grand Recorders, and Past Department Commanders of the Grand Encampment:

Same as for the Grand Master, except that the Cross on the breast of the cape shall be the Patriarchal Cross instead of the Cross of Salem, said Cross to be of royal purple silk velvet,

six inches in height, with arms in proportion to the height of said Cross. Collar crosses to be the Patriarchal Cross of royal purple silk velvet bordered with a row of No. 26 gold bullion embroidery; the Cross to be one inch in height, outlined in jaceron; and the cross arms to be in proportion to the height of the Cross. (No twisted bullion at the several corners or angles of the Cross.) Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion. (1979, p. 130-131 & 291-293) (1997 pages 98 – 100)(2003 pages 86-87)

A cape is not a uniform. (1934, p. 205 and 420, No. 1, Agnew)

CHAPTER XIX

UNIFORMS - SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES

DRESS UNIFORM

Section 250. The Templar Dress uniform of an Officer or Member of a Subordinate Commandery shall be as described in Subsection (a1), (b1), (c1), (d1), (e1), or as described in Subsection (a2), (b2), (c2), (d2), (e2).

A subordinate Commandery must use a uniform as prescribed by the Grand Encampment and has no power to add to or alter such uniform. (1910, p 12 & 246, No. 12, Rugg)
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A Commandery U.D. of the Grand Encampment must use the uniform prescribed by the Grand Encampment. A Grand Commandery has some authority to prescribe the uniform in its own Jurisdiction. (1916, p. 286, No. 15, Mac Arthur, G.M.)

The Grand Master has no authority to change the uniform of a Subordinate Commandery. (1946, p 86 & 242, No. 14, Orr)
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The Grand Master shall see that the uniform of members in subordinate Commanderies is that prescribed by the Grand Encampment. Therefore there is no option in Subordinate Commanderies but rather they must own and possess their own Templar uniforms.
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There is no exception for members of the armed forces. (1955, p. 110 & 277, No. 30, Gordon)

(a1) For Commanders:

Coat

The Templar Dress coat shall be a double-breasted frock coat of black cloth, skirt to extend from two-thirds to three-fourths the distance from hip joint to the bend of the knee; two row of 26 ligne, black ball, uncut velvet buttons on the breast; nine buttons in each row, equal in distance one from the other; the distance between the rows shall be five and one-half inches at the top, and four inches at the bottom, the line of buttons slightly curved, making a distance of about seven inches between the rows at the breast; six buttons (20

ligne) on the back and skirt of the coat (two at the hip and one at the lower edge of each side and one on each side halfway between top and bottom button.) The sleeves to be finished with stitching to represent cuffs, three and one-half inches deep, with three (20 ligne) buttons on each cuff, and with an appropriate Cross in the center of the front of the cuffs, measured from top to bottom and from side to side, with a standing collar one and one-fourth inches in height; to hook in front at seam; corners square, lined with black velvet; the coat to be lined with black throughout.

Shoulder Straps

As prescribed in Section 244 (a).

Sleeve Crosses

The emblem on the coat sleeve shall be the Passion Cross of bright red silk velvet, embroidered on each edge with one row of either No. 26 gilt or real gold bullion embroidery, three-sixteenths of an inch in width, with open rays between the arms of the Cross alternately in either No. 25 and No. 26 gilt or real gold bullion embroidery. The Cross, including embroidery, to be two inches in height; Cross arm to be one and one-third inches long; center of the Cross between edges of embroidery to be three-sixteenths of an inch wide. (No twisted bullion at the several corners or angles of the Cross.) Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

Trousers

The trousers shall be of black broadcloth or doeskin of standard military cut, without ornamentation.

Chapeau

A military chapeau shall be trimmed with black silk velvet binding, and with two black and one white ostrich plume, so arranged that the black plumes shall show at the edges distinctly and the end of the white plume shall not extend beyond the chapeau more than three inches, the length and width to be in proportion to the size of the Sir Knights. Front and rear peaks of chapeau to extend four and one-fourth inches from the head; side of chapeau to be beveled, being an inch smaller at the top than at the head; diagonally across the peaks, both front and back, a band of gold plated wire lace, fifteen lignes wide of vellum pattern (No. 1962); in front a gilt or gold plated tassel, half round in shape with bright bullions and dull head; on the left side a rosette, oval in shape, five inches in height by four inches in width, composed of not less than thirty-three satin points, in single fold, on top of which so as to display said points to the distance of one-half an inch from the edge, is laid one row of pleated satin ribbon, in folds from one-eighth to one-fourth of an inch wide, and on top of this is laid an oval black silk velvet rosette (outlined with gilt jaceron cord), three and one-fourth inches in height by two and five-eighths inches in width, thus displaying the pleated

satin ribbon around the edges of said velvet rosette to a distance of from three-eighths to one-half inch. On the velvet oval shall be the Passion Cross, the upright arm three inches and the transverse arm two inches, of bright red silk velvet, bordered by No. 26 gilt or real gold embroidery one-fourth of an inch wide, leaving the velvet exposed in the center to the width of five-sixteenths of an inch. Said Cross to have at the points of intersection alternate rays of No. 26 and No. 27 gilt or real gold bullion embroidery in open pattern. (No twisted bullion at the several corners of angles of the Cross.) Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

Sword and Scabbard

The sword shall be thirty-four to forty inches in length, inclusive of scabbard, with helmet head at pommel, straight cross guard, metal scabbard, white grip. The scabbard to have three hard metal mountings, two metal rings at upper and one at lower mount. The white grip to be ornamented in front with monogram of owner, and opposite side with the Passion Cross with rays. All metal to be gold plate.

Belt

The belt shall be of black grain leather, one and three-fourths inches wide, mounted with a lace, woven of gold plated wire and black silk, one and five-eighths inches wide with colors in parallel stripes, four of gold and three of black, the black stripes to be of equal width and the gold stripes to be five/thirty-seconds of an inch wide. The belt clasped with gold plated belt plate of pattern hereinafter described, and to have three slings of black grain leather on which to hang the sword, each seven-eighths of an inch wide, two short and one long, upon which shall be mounted a lace of the same material as of the belt, three-fourths of an inch wide, consisting of two stripes of gold, each five thirty-seconds of an inch wide, and one of black. The slings to be suspended by gold plated clasps from a leather strap, fastened to the inside of the belt; each sling to have lengthening buckles and heavy gold plated swivels at the lower ends. On the second sling at the lower edge of the belt to be placed a gold plated rigid sword hook, provided that in Tropical Countries the slings may be of metal of suitable design.

The belt plate shall be rectangular in shape two by three inches in size, of hard metal, with one-eighth inch polished raised beveled edge, without ornamentation whatsoever except the face stippled in vermicelli pattern, dull finish. In the center of the plate shall be the Passion Cross of hard enamel, bright red in color; perpendicular arm of Cross one and one-fourth inches; transverse arm seven-eighths of an inch; said Cross to be with rays between the arms, and over it shall be displayed in semi-circle the words "In Hoc SignoVinces," in black block style letters in relief, with polished face. The plate is to be attached to the belt with a French fastener, and the return end of the belt is to be held in place by a sliding loop of black grain leather, one-half inch in width. The plate shall be devoid of any jeweled ornamentation of any kind whatsoever and no name or inscription shall be placed thereon other than that above described.

Shirt

Plain white.

Shirt Collar

To be of white linen, standing, closed in front and sufficiently high to show one-fourth inch above coat collar.

Gloves

Buff colored, of lisle thread or chamoisette.

Hose

Black.

Shoes

Black leather.

(b1) For Past Commanders:

The entire full dress uniform for Past Commanders shall be the same as that for Commanders, except that the shoulder straps shall be as pre-scribed by Section 244 (b).

(c1) For Generalissimos during incumbency inoffice:

Coat

The same as for Commanders, except the coat shall be single breasted, with nine buttons in front, equal in distances one from the other, four buttons on the skirt and three on each sleeve, same size and pattern as those above described.

Shoulder Straps

As prescribed in Section 244 (c);

Sleeve Crosses

The emblem on the coat sleeves shall be the Passion Cross of bright red silk velvet, embroidered on each edge with on row of No. 26 silver plated bullion embroidery; the Cross of the same dimensions as for Commanders, except it shall have no rays. (No twisted bullion at the several corners or angles of the Cross.)

Chapeau

The same as for Commanders, except that there shall be no tassel or side lace of any kind whatsoever, and on the rosette shall be a bright red silk velvet Passion Cross, bordered with No. 26 silver plated bullion embroidery (outlined with silver jaceron cord) of the same size and dimensions as for Commanders, except that said Cross shall have no rays.

Sword and Scabbard

Same as for Commanders except all metal trimmings shall be silver plate and grip of sword shall be black, without monogram of owner. On the black grip shall be inlaid the Passion Cross of silver or white metal, without rays. There shall be no chain from pommel to Cross guard.

Belt

The same as for Commanders except that mountings shall be silver-plated and the lace on belt body and slings shall have silver plated wire substituted for gold plated wire.

The belt plate shall be the same as for Commanders, except that the plate shall be of white metal or silver plate and the Passion Cross without rays between the arms of the Cross.

Balance of Full Dress Uniform

Trousers, shirt, shirt collar, gloves, hose and shoes shall be the same as those described for Commanders.

(d1) For Captains General during incumbency in office:

The entire full dress uniform for Captains General shall be the same as for Generalissimos except the shoulder straps, which shall be as prescribed by Section 244 (d).

(e1) For Sir Knights and Officers below the rank of Captain General:

The entire full dress uniform for Knights and Officers below the rank of Captain General shall be the same as for Generalissimos, except that the shoulder strap shall be omitted and the following described Baldric worn:

Baldric

The Body of the Baldric shall be four inches in width, the center of white moiré antique or watered material bordered on each side with black velvet one inch in width; over the seam where the velvet joins the white center shall be a single strip of silver lace one-fourth inch wide. On the center and front of the baldric a white metal star of nine points; in the center of the star the Passion Cross without rays, the center of which is lined or filled with bright red velvet, surrounded by the motto, "In Hoc SignoVinces"; said star to be three and three-fourths inches in diameter. The ends of the Baldric shall be held in place by metal clasp or fastener, so that the point of intersection shall be six inches from the lower ends of Baldric; on the outer side, at point of intersection, a white metal plate, in the shape of a Templar Cross. Baldric shall be lined with green throughout its entire width and length. The shoulder seam on the outside of the Baldric shall be covered, on the white center only, with a single strip of silver wire lace one-fourth inch wide. The Baldric shall be worn from the right shoulder to the left hip.

(a2) For Commander:

The uniform shall be a three-button, double-breasted sack coat, to close with three buttons, and to be of black clothing material. (A ten to ten and one-half ounce tropical of 45% wool and 55%Dacron or 100% wool tropical worsted is recommended.) It shall have no outside pockets, but shall have two lower straight flaps, no openings, stitched on outside edges to give the appearance of pockets, and a left breast pocket welt to provide a space for fastening a Commandery jewel of office and/or other permitted Commandery jewels. It shall have two inside breast pockets, one on each side. At wearer's left side, near the simulated pocket flap and his waist line, a four-inch horizontal slit opening with zipper closing, to allow sword belt chains or slings to be worn on concealed belt or on trouser waist belt (see note below). Coat to be not less than 3/8 lined with plain black lining material, sleeve lining to be of either plain black or white lining material, with a shield in each sleeve, and armholes piped with lining material Edges to be single stitched. Length of coat shall be one inch below wearer's crotch line. Coat to have roll collar with peak lapels, three inches wide at peak. On the points of the collar, one-half inch above lapel seam and one-half inch from outside edge of collar, shall be an appropriate cross. The sleeves to be finished with stitching to represent cuffs, three and one-half inches deep, with three buttons on each cuff and with an appropriate cross in the center of the front of the cuffs, measuring from the top to bottom and from side to side. (NOTE) Neither baldric nor outside belt is to be worn with this uniform. Existing belts worn with the long coat dress uniform may be worn under coat by removing long chain, the scabbard to be suspended from the two short chains extending through slit in coat; or from two short slings of black leather with hook snaps at bottom and a loop at top may be worn over trouser belt and through slit in coat to suspend scabbard.

Shoulder Straps

As prescribed in Section 244(a).

Sleeve and Lapel Crosse!

As prescribed in Section 250 (a1).

Trousers

Trousers to be of the same clothing material as coat, of standard military cut, without ornamentation.

Chapeau

As prescribed in Section 250(a1).

Sword and Scabbard

As prescribed in Section 250(a1).

Belt

No belt to be worn with this uniform

Shirt

Plain white with turned down collar

Gloves

As prescribed in Section 250 (a1).

Hose

Black.

Shoes

Black leather.

(b2) For Past Commanders:

The entire Full Uniform for Past Commanders shall be as that for Commanders, except that the shoulder straps shall be prescribed in Section 244 (b).

(c2) For Generalissimos during incumbency in office:

Coat

The same as for Commanders except that the coat shall be single breasted.

Shoulder Straps

As prescribed in Section 244(c).

Balance of Full Dress Uniform

Sleeve and lapel crosses, chapeau, sword and scabbard, belt, trousers, shirt, gloves, hose and shoes shall be as prescribed in Section 250 (c1).

(d2) For Captains General during incumbency in office:

Shoulder Straps

As prescribed in Section 244 (d).

Balance of Full Dress Uniform

The balance of the Full Dress Uniform for a Captain General during incumbency in office shall be as prescribed for Generalissimos during incumbency in office.

(e2) For Sir Knights and Officers below the rank of Captain General:

The entire full dress uniform for Knights and Officers below the rank of Captain General shall be the same as for Generalissimos except that the shoulder straps shall be omitted.

(2003 pages 86-87) (1976, p. 219 & 341-346)

Section 250 A. A subordinate Commandery may use the cap and mantle uniform as an alternative to the standard dress uniform otherwise described in section 250. The cap and mantle shall be of the design described in section 258 pertaining constituent Commanderies. (2015)

FATIGUE UNIFORM

Section 251. The Templar Fatigue Uniform of an Officer or Member of a Subordinate Commandery shall be as follows:

(a) For Commanders:

Coat

The fatigue coat shall be a military blouse of black cloth or serge of dull finish shaped to the figure, and lined with black, to descend in length to the top of the inseam of the trousers; over each hip at the side seam shall be a slit extending on the right side five inches upward

from the bottom of the coat, and on the left side nine inches from the bottom of the coat, or so high as may be necessary to admit of the sword scabbard being hooked up. To be single breasted with a fly front, closed with five plain flat black buttons. A standing collar to hook in front. The collar and edges of the coat, in front, from top to bottom, around the bottom, and around the edges of the slits at the hips (the latter to the height of five inches from the bottom of the coat on both sides) shall be trimmed with lustrous black mohair braid one and one-fourth inches wide, laid on flat. The slits at the hips to be made so as to be held together with buttons, fastened in a fly underneath. The points of collar near the front to be ornamented with the following insignia: a bright red silk Passion Cross, bordered with a single row of gilt or real gold bullion embroidery, Cross with open rays, and to be one inch in height. The emblems on coat sleeves shall be the same as for the Templar dress coat. Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

Trousers

The trousers shall be of black broadcloth or doeskin of standard military cut, without ornamentation.

Cap

The cap shall be a bell crown cap of black silk with three welts; the total depth three and three-eighth inches; diameter across the top, eight and three-quarters inches for a cap of size seven, the top to be one-eighth of an inch larger or smaller for every size above or below size seven. The sides to be made in four pieces; to be one and one-half inches between the upper welts and stiffened with haircloth and wire around the crown. Visor to be of black patent leather one and three-fourths inches deep at the center and of green color underneath; to droop at an angle of forty-five degrees. Front strap to be flat and to be of four ligne gold wire lace with two vellums (No. 1962) stitched on leather with two loops of the same pattern of lace; strap attached at the corners of the visor by gold cross and crown Knights Templar buttons. Between the lower welts of the cap, a band of gold wire lace, 18 lignes wide of two vellums (No. 1962) and on front of cap to be a Passion Cross of bright red silk velvet, embroidered on each edge with one row of No. 26 gilt or real gold bullion embroidery, three-sixteenths of an inch in width with open rays between the arms of the Cross alternately in No. 25 and No. 26 gilt or real gold bullion embroidery. The Cross, including embroidery, to be two inches in height; cross arm to be one and one-third inches long; center of the Cross between edges of embroidery to be three-sixteenths of an inch wide. (No twisted bullion at the several corners or angles of the Cross.) Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

Shirt

White.

Shirt Collar

To be of white linen, standing, closed in front and sufficiently high to show one-fourth inch above coat collar.

Necktie

Black

Gloves

Buff-colored, of lisle thread or chamoisette.

Hose

Black.

Shoes

Black leather.

(b) For Past Commanders:

The entire Fatigue uniform for Past Commanders shall be the same as for Commanders.

(c) For all other Officers and Member:

Coat

The same as for Commanders, except that the ornamentation of the coat collar shall be bordered with silver embroidery and the Passion Cross shall be without rays. The emblems on the coat sleeve shall be the same as for the Templar dress coat except that the Passion Cross shall be of black silk velvet instead of bright red silk velvet.

Cap

Same as for Commanders except that the band shall be of black silk velour with narrow leather strap. The buttons shall be silver-plated. The Cross shall be of the same size as Commanders, except that the embroidery shall be of silver plated bullion, and the Cross shall have no rays.

Balance of Fatigue Uniform

Trousers, shirt, shirt collar, necktie, gloves, hose and shoes shall be the same as those described for Commanders.

SPECIAL PROVISION

(d) Subordinate Commanderies stationed in tropical countries may substitute a suitable white material for coat, trousers, cap, hose and shoes to be used in lieu of black cloth; in all other requirements the Fatigue Uniform shall conform to the foregoing specifications, with the exception of the following: GENERAL: The coat shall be provided with roll collar and straps or loops on the shoulders similar to those used on the U.S. Army Officers white uniform blouses, these straps or loops to be of the same material as the coat, stitched on for a depth of one-and-a-half inches at the outer ends, and secured at the inner ends by cross and crown Templar buttons of finish appropriate to rank of the wearer; white shirt with standard dress type soft collar and black four-in-hand tie to be worn under the coat.

Details:

1. Shoulder straps, as prescribed in Section 244 (a), (b), (c), and (d) and black leather military Sam Browne belts shall be worn by Commanders, Past Commanders, and by Generalissimos and Captains General while in office.

2. Belt, the black leather military Sam Browne belt will be worn by Sir Knights and Officers below the rank of Captain General: the shoulder strap will be passed under the loop on the right shoulder of the coat, and the belt proper will be provided with three black leather slings, two short and one long, on which to hang the sword;

3. Emblems, the Insignia (Passion Crosses) to be worn by Commanders and Past Commanders on the front of the cap and on the collar and sleeves of the coat, shall be of hard metal and bright red enamel, and shall be secured with safety catch pins, as shall similar emblems for all Officers and Sir Knights. The sleeve emblems of all Officers and Sir Knights shall have the Passion Cross of hard metal and bright red enamel. (1937, p 420)

(e) In tropical countries the White Fatigue Uniform as specified in Section 251 (d) may be worn on all Templar occasions. (1937, p 420, 1946, p 508)

Cape

Section 252. The Cape may be worn in lieu of an overcoat with either Templar Dress or Fatigue Uniform as follows:

(a) For Commanders and Past Commanders of Subordinate Commanderies:

The cape shall be of black beaver, kersey, or melton, cut three-quarters full, and extending to the tips of the fingers in natural position; box collar one and one-fourth inches stand and two inches fall at back of neck, increasing to two and one-half inches at the end of collar; to fasten with a hook and eye at end of collar, and closing over breast with four black prunelle buttons, size 28, covered by a fly; the corners of collar and cape to be cut square, edges to be finished plain or stitched raw. Lining of the cape to be bright red in color. On the left breast will be worn the Passion Cross of bright red silk velvet, with red chenille rays; the top

of the Cross to be on a level with the arm pit; the right edge of the Cross four inches from the edge of the cape; Cross to be four inches in height. On the ends of the collar shall be the Passion Cross, with rays, three-fourths of an inch in height, either in gold metal, gilt, or real gold embroidery.

(b) For Sir Knights and officers below the rank of Commander:

The cape shall be the same as above described except that the lining shall be black and the Crosses shall be without rays. The collar Crosses shall be either silver or silver embroidery. (2003 pages 86-87)

CHAPTER XX

PRELATES AND CEREMONIAL ROBES

Prelates' Robes

Section 253. The Regulation Robe of the Prelate of the Grand Encampment, of Grand Commanderies and of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies, shall consist of underrobe, mantle or overrobe, stole and biretta, as follows:

Underrobe

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

Mantle or Overrobe

Shall be made of black material; lined with black; with flowing sleeves; and with a hood at the back, made of black material, lined with white, and trimmed around the edges with a black girdle by means of which the mantle is to fasten in front. The ornamentation, on the left breast, shall be as follows:

(a) For the Prelate of the Grand Encampment:

A Patriarchal Cross seven inches in height, with cross arms in proportion; Cross to be of royal purple material embroidered with gilt bullion; the bullion to be edged on the inside and outsides with gilt jaceron.

(b) For Prelates of Grand Commanderies:

A Templar Cross six inches square; Cross to be of bright red material embroidered with gilt bullion; the bullion to be edged on the inside and outsides with gilt jaceron.

(c) For Prelates of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies:

A Passion Cross seven inches in height, with cross arm in proportion; Cross to be of bright red material embroidered with silver bullion; the bullion to be edged on the inside and

outside with silver jaceron.

Stole

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

For the Prelate of the Grand Encampment:

The Crosses shall be Patriarchal Crosses of royal purple material and raised, thus standing out from the field of the stole. Each Cross to be embroidered with real gold bullion to be edged on the outside with gilt jaceron. The edges of the stole to be trimmed with gilt lace and the fringe to be of gilt. Gold Mylar may be used as an alternate to gold bullion.

For Prelates of Grand Commanderies:

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

For Prelates of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies:

The Crosses shall be Passion Crosses of bright red material, embroidered with silver bullion and edged on the outside with silver jaceron. Crosses to be without rays. The edges of the stole to be trimmed with silver lace and the fringe to be of silver.

Biretta

Shall be of black material with black tassel; on the front shall be the Prelate's Jewel of Office, a triple triangle, in gilt bullion for the Prelate of the Grand Encampment and of Grand Commanderies, and in silver bullion for Prelates of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies. (2003 pages 86-87)

The regulation prelate robe applies to all Commanderies, subordinate and constituent. (1922, p 28 & 282, No. 18, Orr)

In tropical countries Prelate's robes may be made of light material to meet the exigencies of climate. (1940, p. 67 & 277, No. 23, Norris)
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When Worn

Section 254. The Prelate shall wear his Robes of Office while officiating in the conferring of the Orders and may wear them outside the Asylum when attending a Templar funeral or a Templar religious service. At all other times he shall wear the regulation Knight Templar Uniform of his Grand Jurisdiction and the Jewel of his Office.

RED CROSS, KNIGHT OF MALTA AND ORDER OF THE TEMPLE

Section 255. The Ceremonial Robes, dress and equipment of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross and of the Knight of Malta and Order of the Temple shall be as prescribed in the Ritual. (1955, p 469-470)

CHAPTER XXI

UNIFORMS OF GRAND AND CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES

Section 256. Templar uniforms may be worn for all Templar occasions, provided that when appearing in public, the entire Commandery MUST be dressed in like manner – either in Regulation Uniform, Cap and Mantle, Summer Uniform or Ceremonial Uniform. (1940, p 257-315) (1952, p 572-581) (1955, p 463-470) (1979, p. 132-134) (1988 Pages 198-199)(2003 Pages 91-94)(2012)

Section 257. Regulation Uniform

Any Regulation Uniform prescribed by a Grand Commandery shall conform substantially to the traditions and practices of Templary relating to the Uniform of a Knight Templar, as now in general use, and that any Uniform so prescribed shall include a chapeau with plume, substantially conforming to either the military type of chapeau with black or white plume heretofore and now in general use, or substantially conforming to the type of chapeau, including plume, as heretofore and now used by Constituent Commanderies which have used the Uniform of a mounted Commandery, as authorized in Section 227 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

In lieu of the chapeau, a Grand Commandery may adopt a military style black or white dress cap, or black bell crown hat.

A military style black or white dress cap shall be of the following description. For Past Grand Commanders: military style dress cap with black or white top, black band, and black visor with one row of gold oak leaves and acorns, purple Templar Cross 2 ¼ inches square, fixed to the front of the black band and a gold chin strap attached with gold buttons. For Grand Commander: Same as above except red Templar Cross. For Grand Commandery officers: Same as above except plain black visor. For Commanders and Past Commanders: Same as above except with a 1 3/8 x 2-inch red Passion Cross trimmed in gold with rays. For all other Sir Knights: Same as above except using a red Passion Cross trimmed in silver with a silver chin strap attached with silver buttons.

A black bell crown hat shall conform to the designs allowed in section 251, pertaining to Subordinate Commanderies and section 248 pertaining to Grand Encampment with the following specifics. The band shall be of a pattern similar to the slashings allowed on a Chapeau

consistent with the rank of the Sir Knight. For Past Grand Commanders a Purple Templar Cross shall be fixed to the front of the band and a gold chin strap attached with gold buttons. For other Grand Commandery officers: Same as above except red Templar Cross. For Commanders and Past Commanders: Same as above except with a red Passion Cross trimmed in gold with rays. For all other Sir Knights: Same as above except using a red Passion Cross trimmed in silver with a silver or black chin strap attached with silver or black buttons. On bell crown hats the visor shall be plain with no designs or ornamentation.

Insignia of State and letter KT on collar are permissible.

(1940, p 257-315) (1952, p 572-581) (1955, p 463-470) (1979, p. 132-134) (1988 Pages 198-199)(2003 Pages 91-94)(2012)(2015)

Section 258. Cap and Mantle

A. **TEMPLAR MANTLE:** In general, the mantle shall be of the style worn by medieval Templars and by members of the Sovereign Great Priories. It shall consist of white material, with hood, reaching to approximately twelve inches from the floor and ornamented as follows:

1) *For members of the Order below the rank of Commander:* The mantle shall be of white; the hood lined with silky white material; the Passion Cross in bright red, nine inches in height on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with white cords with white tassels.

2) *For Commanders and Past Commanders:* The mantle shall have a single red ribbon, one inch wide, stitched one-half inch from the outer edge; the hood to be lined with similar red material; the Passion Cross in red with gold rays, nine inches in height on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords with red tassels.

3) *For Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers entitled to permanent rank:* The mantle shall have the ribbon of a Past Commander and an additional red ribbon one-half inch wide, stitched one-half inch from said ribbon; the Templar Cross in red, nine inches in height on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords and red tassels.

4) *For the Grand Commander:* The mantle shall have a single red ribbon, two inches wide, stitched one-inch from the outer edge; the hood lined in red with a similar material; the Templar Cross in red, nine inches in height on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords with red tassels.

5) *For Past Grand Commanders:* The mantle shall have a single purple ribbon, one and one-half inches wide, stitched three-quarters of an inch from the outer edge; the hood lined in purple with similar material; and the Templar Cross in purple material on the left breast, nine inches in height; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with purple cords with

purple tassels.

No other ornamentation or Templar jewels or recognitions shall be worn on the mantle except that a jewel of office conforming to official Grand Encampment design may be worn suspended on a chain collar worn on top of mantle. The collar shall be of the following design. For Past Grand Commanders and Grand Commandery officers the collar shall consist of rectangular links that may or may not be attached to a fabric backing of black material and shall rest upon the shoulders. The total circumference of the collar is to be not more than 48 inches. The links shall contain designs appropriate to rank such as purple or red Templar crosses, designs general to Templary such as crosses indicating the orders of Templary, Cross and Crown insignia or designs not indicative of any other degree or body of Freemasonry or other private organization. For Commanders of Commanderies the chain will be a simple gold or silver color chain composed of round or oval links worn around the neck and having no backing. For other officers of a Commandery the chain shall be similar to the commander except that it shall be silver in color.

B. **TEMPLAR CAP:** The Templar cap shall follow the design and specifications of the style worn by the Sovereign Great Priorities, three inches in depth and very slightly flared at the top.

1) *For members of the Order below the rank of Past Grand Commander:* The cap shall be of bright red velvet (or silk) and the cross displayed on the front of the cap shall be appropriate to rank – red Passion Cross for members below the rank of Commander; red Passion Cross with gold rays for Commanders and Past Commanders; and red Templar Cross for all Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers entitled to permanent rank

2) *For Past Grand Commanders:* The cap shall be of purple velvet (or silk) with Purple Templar Cross.

3) *For all ranks:* The Cross shall be two inches high.

C. **COMMANDERY BADGE:** The distinctive badge of a constituent Commandery shall be worn on the right breast of the mantle. The badge will be no less than five inches or more than eight inches high. The badge of the Commandery shall be superimposed upon the Malta Cross, or the Malta Cross shall be incorporated within the Commandery badge. The design shall be approved by the Grand Commandery Committee on Jewels and Uniforms.

D. **SWORD AND SCABBARD:** The sword and scabbard shall conform to the regulations of the Grand Encampment.

E. **SWORD SLING:** The sword shall be suspended, when required to be worn, on a sling to be worn over the right shoulder, of black leather one and one-half inches wide, of tailored or adjustable length according to the height of the Sir Knight, to terminate in two straps to fasten to the two upper rings of the scabbard.

(1940, p 257-315) (1952, p 572-581) (1955, p 463-470) (1979, p. 132-134) (1988 Pages 198-199)(2003 Pages 91-94)(2012)

Section 259. Summer Uniform

Each Grand Commandery may at its discretion adopt the uniform herein described making use of the optional sections as they chooses. The Grand Commander of each jurisdiction may set the dates for the wearing of Summer Uniforms in his jurisdiction. Grand Encampment officers may wear the summer uniform on appropriate occasions. (2021, p unassigned)

Pants: Plain Black as prescribed.

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

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

Sword Belt & Sword: As prescribed. No slings to be used.

Shoes: As prescribed.

Name Badge: The name badge shall be of metal, gold color, 1/2-inch wide by 2 1/2-inch long, with the full name of the wearer in black letters to be worn centered above the wearer's right pocket.

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

Shoulder Insignia: For Grand Commandery Officers: A red Templar Cross surrounded by a gold line, one-inch square, to be worn in the center of each epaulet. For Past Grand Commanders: The same except the color shall be purple. For Past Commanders, Commanders, Generalissimos, and Captains General: A metal bar, 3/4-inch by 1 1/2-inch of green or red color surrounded by a gold or silver line, as appropriate to the office, with appropriate emblems of their rank as currently prescribed to be worn centered on each epaulet. Essentially these are miniatures of currently prescribed shoulder straps in metal, and of similar configuration.

Collar Insignia (optional): For Grand or Past Grand Commandery Officers, shall be 1/2-inch gold cut out letters with the abbreviation of the State as prescribed by the US Postal Service (no periods) to be worn on the wearer's left collar, and 1/2-inch gold "KT" cut out letters (without

periods) on the right collar. For Commanders or Past Commanders, 1/2-inch gold State Abbreviations as above on the left collar with 1/2-inch cut out gold Commandery Number on right collar. Sir Knights below the rank of Commander are the same as for Commanders and Past Commanders, except the color shall be silver. These insignia to be worn centered on the collar and parallel with the top edge and set back 3/4-inch from the leading edge of the collar.

Cap: For Past Grand Commanders: Military style Navel Garrison Cap with white top, black band, and black visor with one row of gold oak leaves and acorns, metal purple Templar Cross, 2 1/4-inch square, fixed to the front of the black band and a gold chin strap attached with gold buttons. For Grand Commanders: Same as above except red Templar Cross. For Grand Commandery Officers: Same as above except plain black visor. For Commanders and Past Commanders: Same as above except with a 1 3/4-inch by 2-inch red metal Passion Cross trimmed in gold with rays. For all other Sir Knights: Same as above except using a red metal passion cross trimmed in silver and a silver chin strap attached with silver buttons. (2003 Pages 91-94)(2012)

260. Ceremonial uniform

In lieu of the regulation Templar uniform, a Constituent Commandery, with approval of the Grand Commandery, may provide and use ceremonial robes conforming to and consistent with the historical traditions and practices of Templary. (2012)

CHAPTER XXII

APRONS

Section 261. It is permissible for Grand Encampment officers and members of Grand, Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies to wear an apron with Templar Uniforms as described in Sections 247, 248, 250, 250a, 251, and 259 as follows:

- A. Traditional Apron. A Traditional Templar Apron shall conform substantially in design to the images below. It shall be trimmed in gold for Sir Knights of the rank of Commander or Past Commander and above, and in silver for Sir Knights below the rank of Commander. A Traditional Templar Apron may only be worn in an asylum or other private setting where only Knights Templar are present.



- B. Contemporary Apron. A Contemporary Templar Apron shall conform substantially in design to the image below. It shall be trimmed in gold for Sir Knights of the rank of Commander or Past Commander and above, and in silver for Sir Knights below the rank of Commander. A Contemporary Templar Apron may be worn in both private and public settings. It is permissible to manufacturer an apron so that it is reversible with the Traditional Apron on one side and the Contemporary Apron on the other.



- C. Grand Encampment Officers may wear such aprons and others, as deemed appropriate, from time to time, by the Grand Master and in accordance with his directions. And
- D. If a Sir Knight appears in uniform in a tyled, Masonic Lodge, he shall wear such apron as in accord with local Masonic custom or approved by the presiding officer.

(2021, p unspecified)

Section 262.

A Grand Commandery may provide for the wearing of a Templar Apron in its uniform regulations similar to those in Sections 261 A, B and C. A Grand Commandery may specify with which of its authorized uniforms a Templar Apron may be worn. (2021, p unspecified)

JEWELS OF OFFICE, EMBLEM OF THE ORDER AND KNIGHT TEMPLAR BUTTON

OFFICERS TO WEAR JEWELS OF OFFICE

Section 300. All Officers of the Grand Encampment, of Grand Commanderies and of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies shall wear the Jewel of their respective office during incumbency in office.

ONLY TEMPLAR JEWELS TO BE WORN

Section 301. Only Templar Jewels are to be worn on the Templar Uniform. Jewels of office, meritorious jewels, badge of Commanderies, Malta and Red Cross jewel may be worn on the left breast, placed in the order named, from the wearer's right to left. (1985, p. 75-80)

<p>Only Templar jewels may be worn on a Templar uniform and it is presumed that a Grand Commandery has ruled correctly on individual jewels unless found otherwise. A Drill Corps badge qualifies as a Templar Jewel. The authority of different Grand Commanderies to govern their jurisdictions permits differences to occur. (1925, p 73 & 402, No. 21, Newby)</p>
<p>Only Templar jewels are to worn on the Templar uniform. A first prize medal awarded by Ohio State University is not a Templar Jewel. (1937, p 27 & 325, No. 9, Agnew)</p>
<p>Only Templar jewels are to worn on the Templar uniform. A Grand Commander is in error to request that Sir Knights where Victory or Official Military Service Badges. (1937, p 28 & 327, No. 11, Agnew,)</p>
<p>An inquiry was made regarding the wearing of embroidered stars on the left sleeve of the uniform to designate Zone officers, assistant zone officers and aides. This is not permissible for three reasons. 1) They are not Templar insignia approved by the Grand Encampment, 2) They are not being worn on the left breast as provided in section 257 and 3) They could not be regarded as meritorious jewels or insignia, since they would be worn by administrative officers as a mark of current service only and not for services performed heretofore and now concluded. There is no authority in Templar law for the wearing of any sort of insignia on uniforms by administrative officers during incumbency of the offices. (1955, p. 81 & 199, No. 8, Gordon)</p>
<p>Asked if it would be permissible to wear a jewel of a Past Commander's Association on a uniform it was ruled that the jewel is permissible and would be classed as Templar Jewels as per Section 257 of the Statutes. (1958, p. 229 & 265, No. 1, DeLamater)</p>
<p>The jewel of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross is permissible to be worn on the Templar uniform. (1958, p. 230 & 267, No. 3, DeLamater)</p>
<p>The York Cross of Honor Jewel is not strictly a Templar jewel and therefore should not be worn on the Templar uniform. (1958, p. 251 & 293, No. 32, DeLamater)</p>
<p>The statutes provide that certain officers may wear a jewel suspended from a cord around the neck, but they do not provide for this kind of jewel. (KYCH) (1961, p. 50, No. 23, Wieber)</p>
<p>The sequence in which jewels may be worn should be as follows: Meritorious Jewels, Badges of Commanderies, Malta Jewel and Red Cross Jewel, placed in order named. (1964, p. 84 & 255, No. 8, Moore)</p>
<p>The jewel of the Knights Crusader, an organization of Past Commanders approved by the Grand Commandery of North Carolina, was a Templar Jewel, and could be worn on the uniform by authorized members as a meritorious jewel because of the required service. (1988, p. 26 & 227, No. 1, Smith)</p>
<p>Regarding drill bars on the Uniform, if they are not classified as meritorious jewels by the Grand Commandery, then they are not authorized to wear. (1988, p. 27 & 227, No. 5, Smith)</p>

JEWELS OF OFFICERS OF GRAND ENCAMPMENT WORN SUSPENDED ON PURPLE CORD

Section 302. The Jewels of Office of the Grand Master and other current Officers of the Grand Encampment shall be worn suspended from a heavy royal purple silk cord with swivel; the cord to have a tassel at the ends to be held together by sliding holders with rosette; the cord to have a total length of sixty-four inches. Each Jewel, except that of a Past Officer, shall have engraved on the reverse side: (name of respective office) Property of Grand Encampment K.T., U.S.A.

(a) The Jewels of the Past Officers of the Grand Encampment shall be worn suspended from a heavy royal purple silk cord with swivel; the cord to have a tassel at the ends to be held together by sliding holders with rosette; the cord to have a total length of sixty-four inches. Each Jewel shall be the property of the recipient. (1979, p. 130-131 & 291-293) (1991 Pages 105-106)

JEWEL OF GRAND MASTER

Section 303. The jewel of the Grand Master shall be a Cross of Salem of fourteen karat yellow gold to weigh full seventy-five dwts.

The background of the front of the Jewel shall be of royal purple hard enamel, set in a frame from the back so that no joints shall show from the outside edge. The frame of the Cross shall be $4 \frac{9}{16}$ inches in length, $\frac{10}{16}$ inch in width, 4 mm. thick with plain border 2 mm. in width raised 1 mm. above the purple background. The middle Cross arm shall be $2 \frac{11}{16}$ inches long, upper and lower cross arms $1 \frac{3}{4}$ inches long. The Jewel over all including the hanger, $5 \frac{1}{2}$ inches long.

The Cross shall be surmounted by a scepter $3 \frac{3}{8}$ inches in length. The diamond circle $1 \frac{1}{8}$ inches in diameter containing twenty-two full cut white diamonds weighing $\frac{10}{100}$ each. In the center of the circle a fluted Templar Cross, in center of which there shall be a full cut white diamond weighting $1 \frac{75}{100}$.

The handle of the scepter shall contain eighteen full cut white diamonds as follows:

5- $\frac{20}{100}$ each

1- $\frac{10}{100}$ each

2- $\frac{9}{100}$ each

3- $\frac{8}{100}$ each

5- $\frac{5}{100}$ each

2- $\frac{2}{100}$ each

Cross swords pierced through the center of the Cross $2 \frac{7}{8}$ inches in length with yellow gold handles and white gold blades.

JEWEL OF PAST GRAND MASTERS

Section 304. The Jewel of a Past Grand Master shall be a Cross of Salem of fourteen karat

yellow gold and weigh full 31 dwts. The background of the front of the Jewel shall be royal purple hard enamel, set in a frame from the back so that no joints may show around the outside edge, and shall have three white diamonds set in the center of the upright piece where the center of the cross arms would be if connected; diamonds to be set in hexagon platinum collar settings, the center setting to be $18/64$ inch, and the upper and lower setting to be $17/64$ inch each. The diamonds shall have an aggregate weight of $175/100$ karats. The Cross to have an engraved raised border on edge of $7/64$ inch and a width of $7/64$ inch. The thickness of the Cross to be $6/64$ inch.

The length upright of the Cross shall be $2\ 11/16$ inches; the long (middle) cross arm shall be $1\ 5/16$ inches; the length of the short (upper and lower) cross arms shall be $1\ 3/16$ inches; the width of the three cross arms (upper, lower, and middle) shall be $7/16$ inches; the thickness of the center of the Cross shall be $6/64$ inches. It is allowed for the jewel to be enlarged to $4\ 1/4$ inches long (high) with all other dimensions increased accordingly. The middle bar would be $3\ 1/8$ inches long, the upper and lower bars $1\ 13/16$ inches long. All would be $5/8$ inch wide. The cross to be made in two pieces. There shall be an engraved sword $2\ 10/16$ inches in length, attached proportionately to the Cross, from the upper right to the lower left of the Jewel. There shall be an engraved scepter $2\ 10/16$ inches attached likewise to the Cross, from the upper left to the lower right of the Jewel; thickness of the sword and scepter to be $5/64$ inch. In the head of the scepter there shall be an engraved Templar Cross. There shall be a white gold Templar Cross in the center of the sword between the arms of the hilt; and a white gold Passion Cross (without rays) on the handle of the sword. There shall be attached to the Jewel a pendant bail $2/64$ inch in thickness. The surface of the reverse side of the Jewel, inside of the border, shall be plain polished and engraved as follows: “_____ (name), Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America (year) to (year).” (2003 pages 87-88)

JEWELS OF OTHER OFFICERS

Section 305. The Jewels of Office of all Officers of the Grand Encampment except that of the Grand Master shall be a Patriarchal Cross of fourteen karat yellow gold to weigh full seventy dwts. The background of the front of the Jewel shall be bright polished, set in a frame from the back so that no joints shall show from the outside edge.

The frame of the Cross to be $4\ 3/8$ inches in length, $10/16$ inch in width, 4 mm. thick, with an engraved raised border 2 mm. wide, raised 1 mm. above background.

The upper Cross arm shall be 2 inches in length; the lower cross arm shall be $2\ 1/2$ inches in length. The Jewel over all including the hanger shall be $5\ 1/4$ inches in length.

The Cross shall be surmounted with the emblem described as follows: (1979, p. 130-131 & 291-293)

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

A scepter 3 3/8 inches in length. The diamond circle top 1 1/8 inches in diameter containing forty-two full cut white diamonds channel set, weighting 2/100 each.

In the center of the circle shall be a fluted Templar Cross, in the center of which shall be a full cut white diamond weighing 25/100.

In the lower tip end of scepter there shall be a full cut white diamond weighing 4/100.

GRAND GENERALISSIMO

A Square of green gold, the outside angle to be 2 1/4 x 1 3/6 inches, upper edge of Square to contain 35 full cut white diamonds weighing 5/100 each, channel set, square to be surmounted by a Paschal Lamb properly modeled in green gold with small ruby eye. Lamb to be 1 1/8 inches in length, 3/4 inch in height. Pennant staff 1 7/16 inches in length.

GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL

A Level surmounted by a Cock. The Level shall be 1 7/8 inches in width at the lower end, 1 3/8 inches in length. Cock shall be 1 inch high, 15/16 inches across center, with small ruby in eye of Cock.

Through center of Level at the lower end of cord in semi-circle shall be a full cut white diamond weighing 25/100 in crown setting. In lower edge of Level there shall be 18 full cut white diamonds weighing 5/100 each, channel set. In semi-circle four full cut white diamonds weighing 3/100 each.

DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS

A Patriarchal Cross suspended from the purple cord described in Section 258, enameled in purple and with suitable ornamentation in its center; and shoulder straps as per Section 242 (b).

(a) The Jewels of Past Grand Treasurers and Past Grand Recorders shall be two and eleven-sixteenths inches in length upright, and proportionately of the same design as that in Section 261 for Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, respectively.

(b) The Past Department Commanders' Jewels will be made the same size and weight as the present Department Commanders' jewel with the letters 'Past' appearing vertically above the upper cross arm and the words 'Department' and 'Commander' appearing horizontally upon the two cross arms, respectively, and shall contain a small Templar Cross superimposed upon the center thereof and this shall be made of gold electroplate on sterling silver or brass. (1988 pages 17-19)

GRAND SENIOR WARDEN

A 1 3/8 inch hollow square, 3 mm. wide with engraved border, in yellow gold. Inside the Square a modeled arm and hand holding a Sword, blade of Sword being of white gold.

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN

A green gold Eagle, with out-spread wings modeled in proper proportions, extreme with 1 3/4 inches, length 1 5/8 inches, with ruby eye.

Eagle holding in its talons a modeled Flaming Sword 1 3/8 inches in length with white gold Blade.

GRAND PRELATE

A Triple Triangle in yellow gold, with engraved border. Each angle of the Triple Triangle to measure 1 3/16 inches. Each Triangle to have in center a Passion Cross 1/2 inch in length enameled in hard red enamel, made in proper proportion. In each corner of each Triangle there shall be an 8/100 full cut white diamond set in cup setting. Between the Triangles a partial Wreath in green gold with ribbon at bottom in yellow gold.

GRAND TREASURER

A circle 1 19/32 inches in diameter 4 mm. in width, square blossom engraving with four full cut white diamonds in cup settings, each weighing 15/100, surmounted by modeled Crossed Keys 2 3/8 inches in length with white gold bits.

GRAND RECORDER

A circle 1 19/32 inches in diameter 4 mm. in width, square blossom engraving with four full cut white diamonds in cup settings, each weighting 15/100, surmounted by modeled Crossed Quill Pens 2 7/8 inches in length.

GRAND STANDARD BEARER

The Banner of the Order, to be white enameled, in the center of which there shall be a blood red Passion Cross. Cross shall be 1 3/16 inches in length with yellow gold border. Length over all shall be 2 1/2 inches, with 1 9/16 inches.

GRAND SWORD BEARER

A hollow Triangle, each angle being 1 7/8 inches, 3 mm. in width, yellow gold engraved border, surmounted by modeled Crossed Swords 2 inches in length with white gold Blades.

GRAND WARDER

A 1 3/8 inch hollow Square 3 mm. wide, of yellow gold, engraved border, surmounted by Crossed Swords 2 inches in length with white gold Blades, the Crossed Swords surmounted by a Trumpet 1 1/8 inches in length with white gold Bell and Mouthpiece.

GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD

A 1 3/8 inch hollow Square 3 mm. wide, engraved border, yellow gold, inside of which there shall be a Sword extending from upper right to lower left corner with white gold Blade.

JEWELS OF OFFICERS OF GRAND COMMANDERIES, AND OF SUBORDINATE AND CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES

Section 306. The emblem on the Jewels of Office of Grand Commanderies and of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies shall be as follows:

(a) The Jewel of Office of Grand Commanders may be worn suspended from a heavy, red, silk cord with swivel; the cord to have a tassel at the ends to be held together by sliding holders with rosette; the cord to have a total length of sixty-four inches. (1967, p. 89-91)

(b) The Jewel of office of Past Grand Commanders may be worn suspended from a heavy, royal purple silk cord with swivel; the cord to have a tassel at the ends to be held together by sliding holders with rosette. (2018, p. 156-162 & 304)

GRAND COMMANDERS AND COMMANDERS

The Passion Cross upon Sun Rays, nine rays between each arm of the Cross, illustrated for detail in Figure 1. The jewel shall be of yellow gold or gold plate. (1949, p 394)

DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDERS

The Passion Cross, without Rays, illustrated for detail in Figure 2.

GRAND GENERALISSIMOS AND GENERALISSIMOS

The Square surmounted by the Paschal Lamb, illustrated for detail in Figure 3.

GRAND CAPTAINS GENERAL AND CAPTAINS GENERAL

The Level surmounted by the Cock, illustrated for detail in Figure 4.

GRAND SENIOR WARDENS AND SENIOR WARDENS

A hollow Square with a Mailed Arm and Hand grasping the Sword of Justice, illustrated for detail in Figure 5.

GRAND JUNIOR WARDENS AND JUNIOR WARDENS

The Eagle, wings spread, holding in its talons a Flaming Sword, illustrated for detail in Figure 6.

GRAND PRELATES AND PRELATES

A Triple Triangle, with a red Passion Cross in the center of each Triangle, illustrated for detail in Figure 7.

GRAND TREASURERS AND TREASURERS

Two Crossed Keys, illustrated for detail in Figure 8,

GRAND RECORDERS AND RECORDERS

Two Crossed Quill Pens, illustrated for detail in Figure 9.

GRAND STANDARD BEARERS AND STANDARD BEARERS

A Masonic Plumb surmounted by the Banner of the Order, illustrated for detail in Figure 10.

GRAND SWORD BEARERS AND SWORD BEARERS

A Triangle with Two Crossed Swords, illustrated for detail in Figure 11.

GRAND WARDERS AND WARDERS

A hollow Square with Crossed Swords and a Trumpet, illustrated for detail in Figure 12.

GRAND SENTINELS OF GRAND COMMANDERIES AND SENTINELS OF SUBORDINATE AND CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES

A hollow Square with a Sword, illustrated for detail in Figure 13.

GUARDS OF SUBORDINATE AND CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES

A hollow Square with a Battle-axe, illustrated for detail in Figure 14.

The jewels of officers of a Commandery should be silver in color except that of the Commander which should be gold. (1916, p 119 & 391, No. 14, Smith)

Grand Commandery officers, other than the Grand Commander, may not wear their jewels suspended from a red cord. (2015, No. 2, Goodwin)

EMBLEM OF THE ORDER

Section 307. The Emblem of the Order shall be the Cross (red Passion) and Crown (gold) illustrated for style and detail in Figure 15.

KNIGHT TEMPLAR BUTTON

Section 308. The Knight Templar Button shall be the Crusader's Cross, over the center of which is a Crown, the whole backed by rays of light, illustrated for style and detail in Figure 16. It shall be enameled as follows:

For Permanent Members of the Grand Encampment:

Purple.

For Grand Commandery Officers, Commanders, Past Commanders, Generalissimos and Captains General of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies:

Red.

(c) For Sir Knights and Officers of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies below the Rank of Captain General:

Green.

The Button shall have a maximum size of five-eighths of an inch at its greatest point.

A Ladies Auxiliary may have made and wear a small pin bearing the Cross and Crown emblem, with the words "Ladies Auxiliary, Knights Templar" on the band encircling the emblem. (1961, p. 46, No. 14, Wieber)

ILLUSTRATIONS OF DETAILS OF COMMANDERY OFFICERS' JEWELS

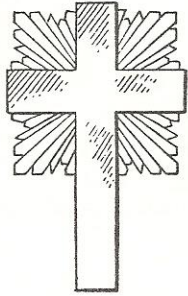


Figure 1

Grand Commanders and Commanders (See Sec. 262)

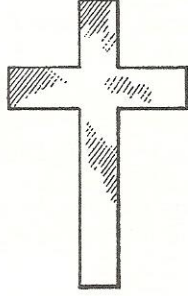


Figure 2

Deputy Grand Commanders (See Sec. 262)

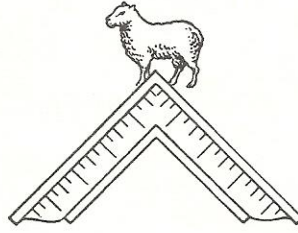


Figure 3

Grand Generalissimos and Generalissimos (See Sec. 262)

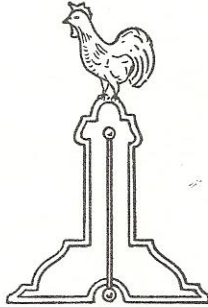


Figure 4

Grand Captains-General and Captains-General (See Sec. 262)

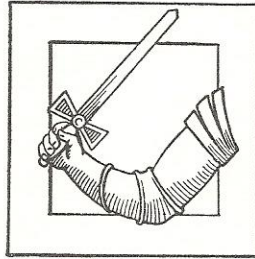


Figure 5

Grand Senior Wardens and Senior Wardens (See Sec. 262)



Figure 6

Grand Junior Wardens and Junior Wardens (See Sec. 262)

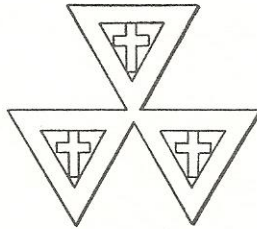


Figure 7

Grand Prelates and Prelates (See Sec. 262)

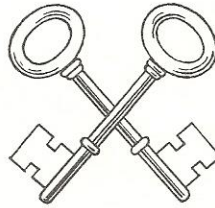


Figure 8

Grand Treasurers and Treasurers (See Sec. 262)



Figure 9
Grand Recorders and
Recorders
(See Sec. 262)

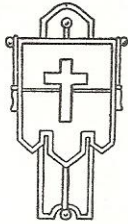


Figure 10
Grand Standard Bearers
and Standard Bearers
(See Sec. 262)

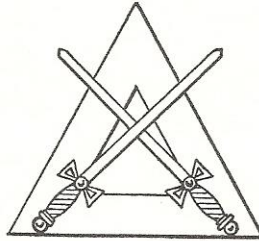


Figure 11
Grand Sword Bearers
and Sword Bearers
(See Sec. 262)

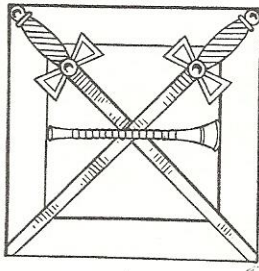


Figure 12
Grand Warders and
Warders
(See Sec. 262)

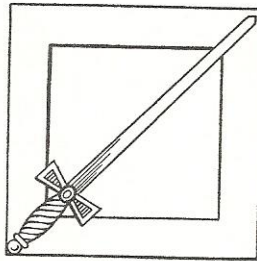


Figure 13
Grand Sentinels
of Grand Com-
manderies and Sentinels
of Subordinate and Con-
stituent Commanderies
(See Sec. 262)



Figure 15
Emblem of the Order
(See Sec. 263)

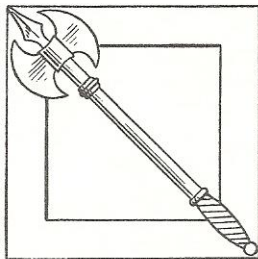


Figure 14
Guards of Subordinate
and Constituent
Commanderies
(See Sec. 262)



Figure 16
Knight Templar Button
(See Sec. 264)

CHAPTER XXIII

REPEALING PROVISION

Section 309. All statutes, laws and regulations heretofore enacted, adopted, or approved, in

conflict herewith, are hereby repealed.

DISCIPLINARY RULES

Consisting of Rules Referred to in Section 209 of the Grand Encampment Statutes

TRIALS AND PUNISHMENTS

OFFENSES

1. Defined: Offenses against Templary committed by members of the Order and cognizable under the law are those specified in this Code.
2. List of:
 - (a) Commission of any felony involving moral turpitude.
 - (b) Other offenses against the laws of the United States or against the laws of any state or territory wherein the particular Commandery affected is located.
 - (c) Infractions of the law of the Grand Encampment or of the Grand Commandery within whose jurisdiction the offense is committed.
 - (d) The doing of any act or the neglect of any duty contrary to or in violation of the obligations or teachings of Templary which would tend to impair its usefulness or to degrade it in the estimation of good people.

JURISDICTION

3. Members: Each Commandery whether duly constituted or working under dispensation has authority to try and punish its members for offenses committed by them without reference to residence or place where the offense was committed, save in cases where a Grand Commandery or the Grand Encampment has exclusive jurisdiction.
4. Others: Each Commandery also has similar jurisdiction.
 - (a) Of offenses committed by non-affiliate or un-affiliate Knights Templar residing in its particular jurisdiction regardless of where the offense was committed.
 - (b) Except as hereinafter provided, of offenses committed within its particular jurisdiction by any Knight Templar of whatever Commandery or wherever residing.
5. Member of another Commandery in same Grand Jurisdiction: If the accused is a member of another Commandery in the same Grand Jurisdiction it is the duty of the Commandery within whose jurisdiction the act complained of was committed to prefer charges and send a duly certified copy thereof by registered mail, receipt requested, to the Recorder of such offender's

Commandery. It is the duty of said latter Commandery to forthwith proceed with the trial thereof and, if it fails for sixty days from the receipt of said charges to so proceed, the Commandery where the act was committed shall have full jurisdiction to proceed with the trial. In such case, upon final judgment the trial Commandery shall send a certified copy thereof to the Recorder of the Commandery wherein membership is held upon whose records entry thereof shall forthwith be made. The judgment shall have the same force and effect as if therein rendered. Notice of such judgment shall be sent to said member at his last known place of residence.

6. Member of a Commandery in another Grand Jurisdiction: If the offense was committed by a member of a Commandery in another Grand Jurisdiction, charges may be preferred and trial held by the Commandery within whose jurisdiction the offense was committed, with the same force and effect as if the offender were a member of such Commandery, provided that upon the filing of charges a duly certified copy thereof shall be sent by registered mail through the office of the Grand Recorder to the Commandery wherein membership is held and upon final judgment a transcript thereof shall be similarly sent to such Commandery on whose records it shall be spread and stand as the judgment of such Commandery. Notice as in paragraph 5 shall be given the offender.

7. Commandery not disclosed: If the offender shall refuse to disclose the name, number and location of his Commandery, or, if upon due investigation, such name, number and location are not discovered, charges may be preferred and he be tried as if a non-affiliate, provided that should his Commandery be later discovered, a duly certified copy of the charges and of final judgment shall be transmitted to the Commandery of membership, on whose records such copies shall be entered and shall stand as the judgment of such Commandery. Notice as in paragraph 5 shall be given the member.

8. Refusal to proceed:

(a) If a Commandery within whose jurisdiction an offense is committed shall refuse or neglect for thirty (30) days to proceed against the offender, and the offender is a member of such Commandery, the Grand Commander may order such Commandery to proceed.

(b) If the offender is not a member of the Commandery within whose jurisdiction the offense is committed, and such Commandery neglects for thirty (30) days, or refuses to prosecute and such neglect or refusal shall come to the attention of the Grand Commander such Grand Commander may either require that Commandery or another to investigate the alleged offense and proceed as the welfare of the Order may require and the judgment of such Commandery shall have the same force and effect as if the offender were a member thereof, provided that a transcript of such judgment shall be forwarded to the Commandery in which membership is held and therein it shall have full force and effect.

(c) In case two or more Commanderies have jurisdiction the Commandery first assuming jurisdiction shall retain it to the exclusion of others and for this purpose jurisdiction shall attach

upon the filing of charges.

INFORMATION, CHARGES

9. Definition: "information" is a written complaint charging an offense under this code. It may set out more than one offense, each one styled a "charge."

10. In writing: The information must be in writing, signed by the accuser, with separately numbered charges, and filed with the Recorder. Each charge must clearly state the facts constituting the offense charged.

11. By whom preferred:

(a) Only Knights Templar in good standing may prefer charges. Membership in the Commandery wherein charges are preferred is not necessary.

(b) The information shall be entitled in the name of the Commandery against the accused. It is made the special duty of the Captain General to prepare and file all information but this provision shall not bar any qualified Knight Templar either on his personal knowledge or communications from others from filing charges.

12. Against whom: Charges may be preferred against any member, but if against a Commander they shall be filed with the Grand Commander. The Grand Commander shall forthwith make or cause to be made, an investigation of the alleged misconduct and if he finds the welfare of the order demands it, he may suspend such officer and place the Commandery in charge of the ranking officer, provided that no such suspension shall be ordered until the alleged offender shall be given an opportunity to be heard in his defense. If the Grand Commander finds the charges insufficient, he may refuse to entertain them and they shall be held dismissed. If he finds them of sufficient gravity to warrant a trial, procedure shall follow as hereinafter set out, provided that nothing herein shall prevent a Commandery, after the term of its Commander has expired, from trying such Past Commander for offenses committed during his incumbency for which he might have been tried had he not been Commander, and provided further that there shall be no second trial for the same offense.

13. Withdrawal of: Charges may be withdrawn by complainant at any time before the taking of testimony begins, provided the Commandery at a stated Conclave by a majority vote of the members present consents thereto.

14. Offense in open Commandery:

(a) Charges Unnecessary. In case an un-Knightly offense is committed in open Commandery, jurisdiction at once attaches regardless of the place of membership of the offender and no formal charge or service of notice is necessary. The Commander shall order the Recorder to enter of record the facts constituting the offense and shall direct the member to show cause

why he should not be punished for such conduct. If no satisfactory showing is made the Commandery shall proceed to punish.

(b) Ballot taken. If a showing is made in excuse or mitigation, the Commandery shall decide by ballot whether or not the showing is sufficient. If the majority vote is "yes" the frater is excused; if "no," punishment shall be imposed.

(c) Punishment: If punishment is to be imposed the rules hereinafter prescribed upon conviction on charges shall be followed, but the summary method herein provided for shall not be resorted to unless it be at the same conclave during which the offense was committed and in the presence of the member charged; however, neglect to follow this summary method is no bar to subsequent charges.

15. Sufficiency of: No information or charge shall be held insufficient because indefinite as to statement of time or place or other matters where on its face it is sufficient to apprise the accused of the true nature of the offense and to serve as a guide in the taking of testimony and the imposition of penalties in case of conviction.

16. Time set to answer: Upon the filing of charges, the Commander shall fix a time for answer thereto which time must be a stated conclave of the Commandery to be held not less than ten days nor more than forty days thereafter.

NOTICE AND SERVICE THEREOF

17. Required: After the information has been filed, the accused must be served with notice thereof, which notice shall contain a copy of the information and shall specify the time fixed as provided in the preceding section;

18. Form of: The notice must be in writing, signed by the Recorder under seal of the Commandery and in form substantially the same as hereinafter set out.

19. Service: Service shall be personal or substituted.

(a) Personal: Personal service is made by delivering to the accused a copy of the notice and must be resorted to if the accused is found within the jurisdiction of the Commandery.

(b) Substituted: In case the accused is not found in the jurisdiction of the Commandery, substitute service may be made by forwarding such notice by registered mail addressed to the accused at his actual or last known place of residence; provided, that if the return receipt shows the genuine signature of the accused, the service shall be deemed personal. In case the accused is not a member of the Commandery in which the information is filed, a copy of the notice shall also be sent to the Recorder of the Commandery in which he holds membership.

(c) By whom: Service by registered mail shall be made by the Recorder, other service by any Knight Templar.

(d) Proof of Service: Proof of service shall be made in one of the following ways:

1. By a certificate endorsed on the back of the notice in substantially the following form:

"I hereby certify that on the day ofA.D.

2..... I delivered to Frater
a notice, of which the within is a true copy.

.....,Recorder (or)
....., Knight Templar."

3. By the written acknowledgement of the accused on the back of a copy of the notice substantially as follows:

"I hereby acknowledge due service of the within notice this.
day ofA. D. 2.....

5.By a certificate endorsed on the back of a copy of the notice in substantially the following form:

"I hereby certify that on theday ofA. D. 2. . . . I forwarded a notice of which the within is a true copy to the accused Frater by registered mail, his personal receipt for which is attached hereto.

.....
Recorder."

6.By a certificate endorsed on the back of the notice in substantially the following form:

"I hereby certify that on theday of A. D. 2. . . . I forwarded a notice of which the within is a true copy to the accused Frater. by registered mail addressed to him at his actual (or last known) place of residence.

.....
Recorder."

20. Jurisdiction attaches: Jurisdiction of the Commandery to try the accused attaches when service has been made as herein provided and proof thereof filed with the Recorder.

21. Recorder defined: The term "Recorder" as herein used means the duly installed Recorder or any frater acting as such by order of the Commander.

22. Residence of accused: The Recorder must exert every effort to ascertain the actual or last

known place of residence but his return as made is conclusive. The phrase "last known place of residence" means the residence last known to the Recorder.

APPEARANCE

23. How: In proceeding upon charges under this Code, the appearance of the accused shall be in one of the following ways:

(a) By his personal presence at the time and place of which he has had notice.

(b) By the presence of any Knight Templar in good standing who files with the Recorder written authority of the accused to appear for him.

(c) By his written appearance filed with the Recorder, before or at the stated conclave at which he is cited to appear.

24. Jurisdiction acquired: An appearance in anyone of the foregoing ways gives the Commandery jurisdiction notwithstanding any defect in or want of service of notice.

25. Personal service: In case of personal service, if the accused fails to appear, such failure shall be deemed an admission of guilt as charged and the Commandery shall proceed to punish as upon a plea of "guilty."

26. Substituted service: In case of substituted service, if the accused fails to appear, the Commander shall appoint some competent frater as counsel for him. It is the duty of such counsel to preserve to the accused every legal and fraternal right under the law. If objections to all charges are not sustained, a plea of "not guilty" must be entered by counsel.

OBJECTION - PLEA

27. Objection or plea: A frater appearing in a proceeding against him for un-Knightly conduct must either object to the charge or charges or plead thereto.

28. Objection defined: An objection is a written statement signed by the accused, his counsel, or by another member of the Commandery impeaching the sufficiency of anyone or more of the charges, specifying which one, or ones, by number, and filed with the Recorder.

29. Disposal of: The Commander shall either sustain or overrule every objection filed. If he finds the charges does not state a triable offense, or that the Commandery has no jurisdiction, he must sustain the objection; otherwise, overrule it. A separate ruling must be made on each objection.

30. Charge dismissed: If an objection is sustained, that particular charge is dismissed unless the complainant shall at once amend it. The same procedure shall follow any amendment.

31. Plea defined: A plea is an answer to the charge or charges. It is either "guilty" or "not guilty." It may be orally stated or be in writing and in either event entered on the records by the Recorder in substantially the following form:

"Now comes the accused, , and to charge No. pleads "not guilty" (or "guilty")."

No particular form is necessary. The plea must immediately follow the overruling of an objection unless by vote of the Commandery time therefore is extended.

32. Plea entered: In case of personal service on, or the appearance of, the accused, if no objections to the charge, or charges, are made, or if made are overruled, the accused must plead to each charge. If he fails to plead, or pleads "guilty", no trial is necessary. The Commander orders the pleas of "guilty" to be entered on the record and punishment follows, as by law provided; however, in fixing punishment matters in mitigation may be considered.

33. Former conviction or acquittal: Former conviction or acquittal of the charge or charges made, need not be specially pleaded. It may be shown under a plea of "not guilty."

ISSUE TAKEN

34. Trial Commandery: If a plea of "not guilty" is entered, the Commander must summon a trial Commandery for the purpose of trying the issue. The conclave shall be special and shall be held not less than ten nor more than thirty days after the plea is filed.

35. Summons: The summons under the seal of the Commandery may be in substantially the following form:

"..... 2....."

"To Frater:

Take notice that a special conclave of

Commandery No. Knights Templar is ordered to convene at its Asylum on the

.....day of, 2..... at o'clockM. to consider and pass upon charge. preferred against a frater at which time and place your attendance is required.

.....,

(seal)

Recorder ."

36. Service of Summons:

(a) The Recorder shall summon all members of the Commandery. Summons may be served personally or by ordinary mail sent to the frater at his last known place of residence.

(b) The return of the Recorder may be in the following form:

"I hereby certify that I summoned the members of Commandery No. Knights Templar to attend the special conclave of said Commandery to be held at its Asylum on the day of 2..... by serving each member personally with a written notice of the time, place and purpose of such conclave or by forwarding such notice by mail set to him at his last known place of residence.

..... ,
Recorder.

The return must be entered on the record.

TESTIMONY

37. How taken: Testimony for use on the trial may be given in open Commandery at the time of the trial or it may be taken in whole or in part before a committee of not more than three Knights Templar appointed by the Commander and in case witnesses cannot be produced in, or are not members of a Commandery, their testimony must be taken before a committee. More than one committee may be appointed.

38. Where taken: When testimony is taken by a committee, the committee shall fix the time and place and give reasonable notice to the prosecutor for the Commandery and to the accused or his counsel and at the time and place designated it is the duty of the respective parties to produce their witnesses.

39. Notice of: The notice may be substantially in the following form:

"..... 2.....

"TO.....

You are fraternally notified that in the matter of charges preferred in Commandery No. ... , Knights Templar, Grand Jurisdiction of , against Frater ,a committee consisting of Sir Knight (or Knights)has been appointed to take testimony touching such charges. The Committee will meet at, on the. day of 2..... ato'clock M. and take the evidence of such persons as may be produced and particularly of those who may not be admitted into the Commandery to testify. You are requested to attend and examine or cross examine such witnesses and also to present any persons particularly those who may not be admitted into the Commandery whose testimony you may desire to have read at the trial. Said hearing will be continued from day to day until all such testimony has been taken, unless otherwise ordered by the committee.

You are further notified that the Commandery will proceed with the trial of the charges preferred at a special conclave to be held at the Asylum of said Commandery at P.M. of theday of A. D. 2..... where and when the evidence taken by the committee and other evidence will be offered. At said trial you are notified to present such

evidence and such witnesses as you may desire who may be entitled to appear in such conclave and whose testimony has not been taken by the committee.

(Seal) ,
Recorder.

Entry of the sending of the notice, when and to whom sent, shall be made upon the record.

40. Rulings on admissibility: Where the committee consists of but one member he shall rule on the admissibility of the evidence presented. When more than one, the Commander in appointing shall name which one shall act as chairman and the chairman shall make the rulings.

41. Objections to evidence: Either party may object at any time to any question or answer, a simple "I object," being sufficient. Where the evidence is clearly inadmissible it should be rejected; if doubtful it should be taken.

42. Reduced to writing: The testimony and objections as made and entered must be reduced to writing as nearly as may be in the language of the witness. As the evidence of each witness is concluded, the record thereof should be signed by him but failure to do so will not exclude it.

43. Who present: During the taking of testimony before a committee only those having a duty to perform in connection therewith shall be present.

44. Evidence:

(a) On the trial of any Knight Templar accused of an offense which is also punishable under the law of the United States or of any State thereof, the record of his conviction in such court, or a certified copy thereof, shall be competent evidence and prima facie proof of guilt, but the evidence shall not be limited thereto.

(b) Former conviction or acquittal:

(1) The proof of former conviction or acquittal of the charge or charges is the record of the proceeding in which such conviction or acquittal was had or a certified transcript thereof. If such record is not obtainable other proof may be given.

(2) When proven, such conviction or acquittal is a bar to further proceedings on the offense or offenses charged.

45. Prosecutor: After an issue is formed, the Commander may appoint any Knight Templar to prosecute the charges and in the absence of any appointment the duty to prosecute shall devolve upon the Captain General. The prosecutor shall, in the discharge of his duties, keep steadily in view the welfare of the Order and the attainment of a just result.

46. Testimony: Testimony given by a Mason shall be on his honor, that by a profane-under oath

administered by some person duly authorized by the civil law of the jurisdiction.

47. Witness Fees: No fees or compensation shall be paid to Knights Templar who are witnesses. Expenses paid by a witness for the Commandery may be paid by the Commandery. As to profanes, each party must procure their attendance as best he can and bear the expense thereof.

48. Number of Conclaves: The trial conclave should be confined to one session if possible. If not, it shall be resumed at a conclave to be held not more than two weeks later. There shall be as many conclaves as may be necessary to complete the trial.

49. Who present: Besides the accused, his counsel, and the prosecutor, none save members of the trying Commandery may be present. It is the duty of every member present when the trial starts to attend each subsequent conclave. None save those present during the entire trial may vote.

50. Leaving conclave forbidden: No member of the Commandery authorized to vote shall be excused from the Asylum by the Commander save for pressing necessity. A mere temporary absence, during which the trial be suspended, is not an absence within the meaning of this section.

51. On what order opened: When the Commandery is convened for trial purposes it shall be opened on the highest Order attained by the accused. The Commander may call some competent frater to preside.

52. Rules for taking testimony: In taking testimony at the trial, the same rules shall prevail as is the case before a committee. The Commander shall rule upon all questions. Testimony taken before a committee shall be read to the Commandery. As to any such testimony, either party may ask its exclusion and such question must be decided by the Commander.

53. Allegations and Proof: If there is a difference between the time or place as alleged and proven, this will not defeat the action, provided it is not so great as to mislead.

54. Accused as witness: The accused may not be called as a witness but may testify in his own behalf. If he elects to testify he may be cross-examined by the prosecutor and such cross examination shall not be limited to the particular evidence given by accused. The Commandery shall be the sole judge of his credibility and of the weight to be given to his evidence.

55. Examinations of witnesses: Legal limitations as to examination of witnesses have no application in Templar trials - when a witness is once introduced either party may seek any information such witness possesses of his own knowledge relative to the charges on trial.

56. Secret work: In case the testimony discloses any part of the esoteric work of the Order, the committee and the Commandery shall omit the same from the record.

57. Argument: After all the testimony is submitted, the prosecutor and the accused or his counsel, or any frater for him, shall be heard if he so desires, the prosecutor opening and closing the argument. The Commandery may limit the time for argument.

58. Deliberation: At the conclusion of the argument the accused, and all non-members of the Commandery shall retire. If the Commandery is not then open on the Order of the Temple, it shall be so opened for deliberation and action. In the course of the deliberation the members may speak and seek such information as they desire, observing therein the will and pleasure of the Commander.

59. Voting:

(a) After due deliberation, the length of which is to be determined by the Commander, the Commander shall submit to the Commandery the following question as to each charge under consideration: "Is the accused guilty or not guilty?" Each member shall then deposit his written ballot with the inscription only, "guilty" or "not guilty." A majority vote of "guilty" shall convict and the fact must be entered on the record in substance as follows:

"The accused is adjudged guilty of the offense charged." or if the information contains more than one charge:

"The accused is adjudged guilty of the offense set out in charge No." giving the number of numbers.

(b) No member present and qualified to vote, save Counsel, shall be excused from voting on the question of guilt or of punishment in the case of conviction.

60. Acquittal: If the vote of "guilty" is less than a majority, the accused is acquitted of the charge on which the vote is taken and entry shall be made of such fact on the record.

61. Punishment: If there is a conviction on one or more of the charges, the Commandery must then proceed to impose punishment as provided in the following sections.

PUNISHMENTS

62. What are: Punishments that may be imposed upon conviction of an unknighly offense are:
Expulsion.
Suspension.
Reprimand.

63. Prescribed: In case the offense charged is a felony, or atheism, the Commander without vote of the Commandery shall declare the offender expelled and order the declaration made of record. This constitutes the sentence and remains in force until restoration as provided in Sec.

206 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

64. By vote: In case no punishment is prescribed in this Code, the Commandery shall, by majority vote, determine what the punishment shall be. The vote thereon shall be by written ballot and for that purpose the Commander shall first inquire; "Shall the accused be expelled?" Those favoring that punishment shall deposit a ballot with the word "yes" only, written thereon, and those opposed the word "no" only, written thereon. If there is a majority for expulsion the Commander shall declare the accused expelled and the fact shall be entered on the record and stand as the judgment of the Commandery. If there is less than a majority for expulsion, the Commander shall in like manner take a vote on the question of suspension, and if there is a majority for suspension the Commander shall declare the accused suspended and the fact shall be entered on the record and stand as the judgment of the Commandery. The sentence of expulsion or suspension remains in force until restoration as provided in Sec. 206 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

65. Reprimand: If there is not a majority for suspension, then, without further action of the Commandery, the Commander shall proceed to administer a reprimand. If the accused is a Knight Templar he shall be forthwith admitted and the reprimand shall be administered at that conclave. If his presence is not then obtainable, the Commander may fix a date, the Recorder shall notify the accused to appear, and on his appearance the reprimand shall be administered, provided, that in a special case the reprimand may be sent to the accused but in such case it shall be read in open Commandery and a copy filed and preserved along the records. In all cases the administration of the reprimand shall be entered on the record.

66. To cover all charges: But one punishment may be imposed under one information; that is, when there is a conviction on two or more charges, the members in voting a punishment must have in view one adequate to cover all offenses of which there is a conviction.

APPEALS

67. From decision of Commander: In proceedings upon charges of un-Knightly conduct, no appeal lies to the Commandery from a decision of the Commander and none to the Grand Commandery save by the accused.

68. Secret work: If on appeal to the Grand Commandery, testimony given under the provisions of Sec. 56 hereof shall be material, any Knight Templar who on the trial below heard the testimony may be a witness before the Grand Commandery or its Committee as to what such testimony was but in no case shall it be reduced to writing.

69. Transcript: If there is an appeal, the Recorder must make out and seal to the Grand Recorder a complete transcript of the proceedings, including all testimony save where it concerns the secret work.

70. No appeal: If there is no appeal and the penalty is not expulsion, no transcript need be sent

to the Grand Recorder. If the penalty is expulsion, the transcript must be sent.

71. Right of appeal: No exceptions need be taken by the accused to any ruling or other proceeding connected with the trial in order to protect his rights. On appeal the entire record may be reviewed and on such review, except where there is substantial prejudice to the rights of the accused, all technicalities, errors and irregularities are to be disregarded; however, the Grand Commandery shall not render a more unfavorable judgment against the accused.

72. Judgment in force: In all cases of conviction and punishment by a Commandery, the judgment shall be in force until reversed, set aside or modified by the Grand Commandery.

73. Time limit for appeal: Appeal must be taken within thirty (30) days after the entry of judgment, by a notice filed with the Recorder of the Commandery wherein the trial was held.

74. Notice of: The notice shall be in writing and insubstantially the following form:

" _____ 20 _____
"To _____, Recorder of _____
Commandery No. _____ Knights Templar.

You are hereby notified that the undersigned appeals to the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of from the judgment of said Commandery against him rendered on the _____ day of _____ 20____ .

_____Appellant."

75. Transcript required:

(a) Upon the filing of the notice of the Recorder shall forthwith prepare and forward to the Grand Recorder a complete transcript of the proceedings and the case shall be disposed of at the succeeding annual conclave, unless continued at the instance of the accused or of the Grand Commandery. There shall not be more than one continuance.

(b) The appeal shall be referred to such committee at the Grand Commandery may designate or to a special, Committee appointed as it may order. The committee shall report its findings and recommendations to the Grand Commandery for its action.

RETRIAL AND REHEARING

76. Reversal: When a judgment is reversed for error in the proceedings of the trial Commandery which is of substantial prejudice to the rights of the accused or for failure of a full and proper transcript, the Grand Commandery may order the case remanded for retrial or for such correction of the transcript as may be necessary.

77. Retrial: If a retrial is ordered the Grand Recorder shall promptly notify the trial

Commandery and attach to the notice a copy of the report adopted by the Grand Commandery. The Commandery shall bring the case on for retrial within such time as the order of reversal may direct or if no time is fixed then within sixty days after receipt of notice of reversal. At such trial the proceedings shall be the same as upon the original trial, save that the charges and pleas made at the original trial shall stand, unless the Grand Commandery shall order such charges amended or altered. If amended or altered the amended or altered charges shall be served on the accused and the Commandery may use all competent testimony introduced at the original trial and such additional testimony as may be competent,

78. Rehearing: After final disposition of any appeal the Grand Commandery may, in furtherance of justice grant a rehearing.

79. Retrial -- substituted service: In case the service is substituted only and there is no appearance by the accused and there is a conviction followed by expulsion or suspension, and the accused shall within six months from the date of conviction appear and ask for a rehearing and take issue on the charge or charges as upon personal service, he shall be entitled to such rehearing, and the law applicable to original hearing shall govern. If on such trial the accused shall be acquitted, the former judgment is thereby vacated and the accused reinstated. If he is convicted and the punishment is different from that imposed at the former trial, then such former judgment shall stand modified to conform to the later judgment. The date of the judgment on either case is that of the former judgment.

80. Right to appeal: After a retrial, as provided in the last preceding section, if the judgment is expulsion or suspension, the accused shall have the same right of appeal as hereinbefore provided in Sec. 67 et seq. saving that the time within which the appeal may be taken shall begin to run from the actual date of the judgment on such retrial.

GRAND COMMANDERY TRIALS AND DISCIPLINE

81. General jurisdiction: The Grand Commandery has jurisdiction for the enforcement of discipline of its own members wherever their residence may be, for un-Knightly offenses where under the law a constituent Commandery has not jurisdiction. It has also jurisdiction of offenses of which constituent Commanderies have jurisdiction but fail through neglect or otherwise to exercise it.

82. Original jurisdiction: The Grand Commandery has original jurisdiction of all controversies between its different Commanderies or between a Commandery and a member of another Commandery.

83. Exclusive jurisdiction: The Grand Commandery has exclusive jurisdiction:

(a) To arraign and try Commanders of constituent Commanderies;

(b) To arraign and try Past Commanders for official misconduct while Commanders;

(c) To arraign and try any elective or appointive officer of the Grand Commandery for un-Knightly offenses;

(d) To arraign and try any Past Officer of the Grand Commandery for official misconduct while in office.

Provided that nothing herein shall prevent a constituent Commandery from trying and punishing any of its Past Commanders or its members who are past holders of any Grand Commandery office for conduct while holding such office for which he might have been prosecuted had he not been such officer.

84. How invoked in controversies between:

(a) Commanderies: Any Commandery desiring to invoke the action of the Grand Commandery with regard to itself and another Commandery in the same jurisdiction may do so by petition setting forth the facts and the relief it asks. The petition shall be signed by the Commander and the Recorder, or by a committee appointed by the Commander. It must be filed with the Grand Commander and a copy thereof sent to the Commandery complained of and a certificate of such sending filed with the Grand Commander. Upon such filing, the Grand Commandery has jurisdiction, and the Grand Commander may then refer the matter to an appropriate standing committee or to a special committee appointed by him.

The committee may conduct such hearings as it deems necessary to do complete justice between the Commanderies, of which hearings both parties shall be given notice. The report of the committee shall be presented to the Grand Commandery at its next annual conclave, when the Grand Commandery shall take such action as it deems just to both parties.

(b) Commandery and member of another Commandery: Similar action shall be taken in case of a controversy between a Commandery and a member of another Commandery of the jurisdiction.

85. (a) Where Commanderies lack jurisdiction: In all cases of complaint of un-Knightly conduct against members of the Grand Commandery or against members of the Order over which no constituent Commandery has jurisdiction, such complaint shall be by information and charges, the same (with copy for the accused) to be filed with the Grand Commander who shall notify the accused and furnish him with a copy of the information and thereafter the Grand Commandery has jurisdiction. Objection and pleas shall be made similarly as in case of constituent Commandery trial, the Grand Commander fixing the time therefore and ruling on all objections filed. If the service is personal and the accused fails to object or plead within the time fixed, or enters a plea of "guilty," then the same presumptions and consequences and procedure are to follow in the Grand Commandery, whether it is assembled in conclave or is in adjournment, as is the case in Commandery procedure, modified by the Grand Commander as

to time and place.

(b) Where Commanderies fail to act:

(1) In cases where Commanderies have jurisdiction to enforce discipline and fail to do so, action of the Grand Commandery may be involved upon complaint of any Knight Templar, provided he states that charges have been filed in the constituent Commandery having jurisdiction and that such Commandery has failed for sixty (60) days to act thereon.

(2) The Grand Commander on such filing shall personally or by representative named by him investigate such complaint and if he finds it groundless or not of importance, he shall dismiss it, but if he finds merit therein, he shall direct the Commandery to proceed and may send a representative to take charge of the proceedings to the end that there may be a full and fair investigation, justice done to the accused and the dignity of the Order maintained, or he may transfer the entire case to the Grand Commandery for trial and therein the same rules as to procedure shall apply as in constituent Commandery trials saving as to times and places which shall be fixed by the Grand Commander.

86. Discipline in Grand Commandery: In matter of discipline of members of the Grand Commandery for un-Knightly conduct at a stated or special conclave, the Grand Commandery may proceed forthwith to try and punish the offender.

87. Expulsion or suspension: Where the Grand Commandery has jurisdiction and expels or suspends a Knight Templar, such expulsion or suspension shall be from all the rights and privileges of Templary, unless otherwise expressed. Reinstatement in such a case must be on written petition and by a two-thirds vote of the Grand Commandery. A Knight Templar thus reinstated is not thereby restored to membership in any particular Commandery but has the standing of a demitted member, provided that if the offender is not a Knight Templar he shall have but the right granted by Sec. 195 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment,

88. Technicalities: In case a right of action or inquiry in a Grand Commandery is given, such action or inquiry shall not be dismissed for the reason that no particular form or method of procedure is provided by this code but the form or method shall be discretionary with the Grand Commander who shall ever have in view the attainment of just results and the maintenance of the dignity of the Order, it being the intention that the provisions of the law in their essence and spirit shall be observed and that technical deviations therefrom, not prejudicial to or in violation of an absolute right, shall not defeat the application of the law nor avoid the penalty for its infraction. A Grand Commandery may grant a re-hearing as in cases of appeal.

89. Other proceedings: As to instituting other proceedings in the Grand Commandery, instructions are not deemed necessary. After proceedings are instituted the powers of the Grand Commandery are so ample and discretionary that no definite rules of procedure need be given.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST COMMANDERIES

90. Grand Commandery Review: In case a Knight Templar is aggrieved by the action of a Commandery, whether such action is by a vote of the Commandery or by a ruling by the Commander, he may petition the Grand Commandery for a review thereof. During an adjournment of the Grand Commandery the complaint shall be presented to the Grand Commander who may institute an inquiry and report thereon, or refer the complaint to the Grand Commandery. In all cases a copy of the complaint shall be furnished the constituent Commandery.

91. Commandery deserving discipline:

(a) It is competent for any affiliated Knight Templar to complain in writing to the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander that a Commandery of the jurisdiction is deserving of discipline for reasons known to the law, stating the reasons in a general way. If the complaint is to the Grand Commandery, it may act thereon as it deems just. If filed with the Grand Commander during an adjournment of the Grand Commandery, and he deems the complaint deserving of consideration, he shall notify the Commandery of the complaint, and by committee or otherwise may make inquiry into the facts and present the same to the Grand Commandery for its action.

(b) In such proceeding the Grand Commandery need not be confined to the facts stated in the complaint.

APPEALS TO THE GRAND MASTER

92. In a trial conducted by the Grand Commandery, the accused shall have the privilege of appealing to the Grand Master. (1961, p. 229 - 233)

TIME LIMIT FOR APPEAL

93. An appeal to the Grand Master must be taken within thirty (30) days after the entry of judgment, by a notice filed with the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery wherein the trial was held. (1961, p. 229 - 233)

NOTICE OF APPEAL

94. The notice of appeal shall be in writing and in the form set out in Section 74 of the Disciplinary Rules. (1961, p. 229 - 233)

TRANSCRIPT REQUIRED

95. Upon the filing of the notice the Grand Recorder shall, within thirty (30) days from the date received, prepare and forward to the Grand Master a complete transcript of the proceedings, including all pleadings and the evidence heard on the trial. (1961, p. 229 - 233)

JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND MASTER

96. The Grand Master shall review the entire record, but his action shall be limited to affirming the judgment of the Grand Commandery or reversing the judgment and ordering a new trial. However, in proper cases, the Grand Master may exercise his executive clemency. (1961, p. 229 - 233)

EXPLANATORY

97. Terms construed:

(a) Wherever in this Code the term "Templar," "Knight Templar" or "Member" is used it shall, in proper case, be held to describe one who is a Companion of the Red Cross, merely, or a Knight of Malta.

(b) The word "Commandery" as used in this Code, describes both a Constituent Commandery and a Subordinate Commandery.

(c) The words "Grand Commander," and "Grand Recorder" apply, in proper case to like officers in the Grand Encampment and the words "Grand Commandery" to "Grand Encampment.."

(d) Where, in this Code, the word "Commander" is used, it shall be construed as applying to the presiding officer.

(e) Whenever under the provisions of this Code, a notice is required to be given to, copies sent to, or communications to be had with, a frater accused of un-Knightly conduct, such notice, copy or communications shall be sent by registered mail with return receipt requested. The returned receipt shall be prima facie evidence of such mailing, save as otherwise in this Code provided.

(f) A "non-affiliate" is a Knight Templar whose membership in a recognized Commandery has been severed by demission there-from.

An "unaffiliate" is a Knight Templar whose membership in a recognized Commandery has been otherwise severed.

(g) A "sojourner" as the word is used in this Code, is a Knight Templar who is within the territorial jurisdiction of a Commandery but whose residence and Commandery, if any, are elsewhere. It also refers to "unaffiliates" and "non-affiliates" temporarily residing in the jurisdiction of any Commandery.

REPEAL

98. The Disciplinary Rules heretofore in force are hereby repealed, provided that any trial or similar proceedings now instituted or instituted prior to January 1st, 1941 shall be continued to final judgment under said Rules and provided that such repeal and the going into effect of this Code shall take effect January 1st, 1941.

SUGGESTED FORMS

Charges Against a Frater

_____ Commandery, No. _____, Knights

Templar:

To the Commander and members of _____ Commandery

No. _____ Knights Templar of (Jurisdiction) _____

I accuse Sir Knights _____, a member of _____ Commandery, No. _____, Knights Templar of _____ (or a Companion of the Red Cross of Knight of Malta or an non-affiliate or an unaffiliate or a frater whose Commandery membership is unknown) of un-Knightly conduct as follows:

That the said frater on or about the _____ day of _____ 20__ at or near (state offense clearly and if there are different charges they should be separately numbered as Charge No. 1, etc.)

* * * * *

_____, 20____

Captain General (for a Knight Templar, a member) of _____ Commandery No. _____ Knights Templar located at _____.

Notice of Information

TO SIR KNIGHT (or companion or Knight of Malta): _____

You are hereby notified that at a stated conclave of _____ Commandery, No. _____, Knights Templar of the Jurisdictions of _____ held at _____ on the _____ day of A. D. 20__, an information, a true copy of which is hereto attached, was filed charging you with un-Knightly conduct.

You are required to respond thereto on or before the day of _____ 20__ by filing with the undersigned any objection you may have to the sufficiency of the charge or charges. If

you have no such objections, then within the same time you must plead to each charge with a plea of "not guilty" or "guilty" of the offense charged.

You are further notified that at the next stated conclave of said Commandery to be held on the _____ day of _____ 20____, the said Commandery will take full and complete jurisdiction of all matters connected with said charges.

You are further notified to appear at said time in person or by any Knight Templar in good standing as counsel for you or by your written communication and make defense to said charges if you so desire.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Commandery this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Recorder
(Seal)

Return
Same as set out in Sec. 19, d, 1,2,3, and 4.

STANDING RESOLUTIONS

1937

GRAND COMMANDERY PROCEEDINGS TO BE FURNISHED GRAND ENCAMPMENT OFFICERS

"Be It Resolved, That each Grand Jurisdiction under supervision of the Grand Encampment be required to send a copy of the proceedings of its annual Conclave to each Grand Encampment officer ." (1937, p. 163).

1946

RESOLUTION - DEMITS

WHEREAS, as a result of wars, insurrections, civil strife and similar catastrophes, Subordinate Commanderies located beyond the continental limits of the United States may not be able to hold stated conclaves and to function in a normal manner: and

WHEREAS, during such a period members thereof may desire to demit therefrom, and affiliate with a Commandery located at or near their permanent homes in the United States, but are unable to do so because of the inability of their Mother Commandery to furnish the desired demit;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Right Eminent Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States shall issue a demit to such member, when the member's dues are paid up in the Commandery and the member will furnish the Grand Recorder with a certificate to the effect that his dues are fully paid up in all prerequisite bodies and that he is not under charges in any of them, under circumstances similar to those prescribed in Section 194, Statutes of the Grand Encampment, or "Continuous Affiliation." (1946, p. 312-313).

1949

COMMITTEE ON DRILL REGULATIONS

"Resolved, that the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States of America, adopt as the official salute and courtesies to the Flag of the United States of America, within the Asylum of a Commandery of Knights Templar, and also in public, the following salutes and procedure:

1. A Knight Templar in full Templar uniform with sword should on all occasions salute the Flag with sword. (Commanders use officer's salute. Sir Knights use the present swords.) (1997 pages 75 - 76)
2. A Knight Templar in full Templar uniform, without sword, should right-hand salute in usual manner. (Chapeau on head.)

3. A Knight Templar in fatigue uniform, with a military style cap, should right-hand salute. (Cap on head.)
4. In Asylum, a Knight Templar in civilian clothes should right-hand salute." (1949, p. 368).
5. The Prelate, if in robes, will place his right hand over his heart. (1997 pages 75 - 76)

MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE

"Resolution adopted requiring that the medium of exchange used by Subordinate Commanderies in payment of per capita tax and other fees which may be due to the Grand Encampment shall be assessed and paid only in United States Dollars or the equivalent." (1949, p. 405).

NOTICE OF RESOLUTIONS

"Recommendation of Finance Committee that, so far as possible, any person or committee expecting to offer any resolution pertaining to money, appear before the Finance Committee, and advise the Committee of the intended resolution during the first day's session; adopted." (1949, p. 606).

1952

Abstract or Summary of Proceedings of Grand Commandery to be forwarded by Grand Recorder within thirty days after conclave to Official Reviewer

RESOLVED, that the Grand Recorder of every Grand Commandery be, and he is hereby, required to forward to the Official Reviewer of the Grand Encampment, within thirty (30) days after the close of the Annual. Conclave, or other Conclave, of his Grand Commandery, an abstract or summary of the proceedings of such Conclave, outlining all actions and events which will be of interest for publication in the next issue of the Grand Encampment Review. (1952, p. 535).

1958

DUES, FEES, ASSESSMENTS TO BE PAID IN UNITED STATES DOLLARS

Resolved, that the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, insofar as any of its Constituent or Subordinate Commanderies are concerned, fix the United States of America monetary basis as the basis upon which said Commanderies or Grand Commanderies pay their dues, fees, or assessments to the Grand Encampment. (1958, p. 487).

1967

DISPLAY OF THE HOLY BIBLE

The Holy Bible shall be displayed at all Conclaves of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Commanderies and all Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies on a stand, pedestal" or small altar in front of the Prelate's station on the floor of the Asylum, to the left (south) of the United States flag; it shall be placed with the top to the east, opened to the Gospel of St. Mathew, Chapter XXVIII, with a small wooden passion cross displayed thereon. Two crossed swords may also be displayed thereon.

It is to be opened by the Grand Prelate or Prelate, immediately after the Conclave is declared convened or opened; and closed by the Grand Prelate or Prelate when the Conclave is declared adjourned or closed.

The altar shall be covered with a black or white cloth cover; on the front of which a red Passion Cross may be embroidered. (1967, p. 245).

1967

KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE

"NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, That the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., adopt the policy and hereby directs that the Knight Templar Magazine be mailed monthly to each Knight Templar in good standing;

"Furthermore, for such purpose, all officers of the Grand Encampment and of its Grand Commanderies, Constituent Commanderies, and Subordinate Commanderies are hereby directed, through the offices of the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Recorders of Grand Commanderies, and the Recorders of Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies, to prepare a complete and current list of the names and addresses of all such Knights Templar", and to revise an correct said list each month by information from and through such offices; and

"Further, the Committee on Finance of the Grand Encampment is hereby directed to provide in its 1967-1970 budget for triennium expenditures for the cost to the Grand Encampment of preparing, editing, printing and mailing said magazine each month to all Knights Templar, and the Committee on Finance is further directed to provide for such expenditures in its proposal for per capita dues to be levied upon Grand and Subordinate Commanderies under the jurisdiction of Grand Encampment, so that mailing of the Knight Templar Magazine to every Knight Templar, as provided and directed by this resolution, shall begin with the issue of July 1969, provided, however, that Grand Commanderies may, by special arrangement and advance payment, provided for mailing to all members under their jurisdiction at an earlier date.

Due the high cost of postage, envelopes and sorting needed to mail to members outside the zip code areas of the United States Postal Services, be it therefore resolved that Sir Knights wishing

to receive the magazine outside the zip code areas will need to pay a surcharge of \$15 per year. (Amended 2003 page 85)

1970

GRAND CHAPTER, GRAND COUNCIL

"That the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America does hereby extend a cordial invitation to the Grand Chapter or Grand Chapter and Grand Council of any jurisdiction to become a part of Grand Encampment and subject to its laws and disciplines, with incumbent dais officers and past officers becoming voting members of Grand Encampment."

"Providing also that after a Grand Chapter or Grand Chapter and Grand Council have come under Grand Encampment, their present and past local officers shall be members of the Grand Commandery."

1973

CHANGE IN THE RITUAL

"Resolved that the chronological dramatization of the ritual known as 'The Word,' copyrighted by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, be made available as optional ritual for the Degrees and orders of the Capitular, Cryptic and Chivalric bodies identified as the York Rite of Freemasonry for York Rite Festivals and/or similar conferral events for York Rite classes of candidates."

1982

DISPLAY OF HOLY BIBLE

The voters approved an amendment to the first paragraph of the Standing Resolution passed on this subject in 1967. The first paragraph now reads:

The Holy Bible shall be displayed at all Conclaves of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Commanderies and all Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies, on a stand, pedestal, or small altar in front of the Prelate's station on the floor of the Asylum, to the left (South) of the United States flag; it shall be placed with the top to the east, opened to the Gospel of St. Matthew, Chapter XXVIII, with a small wooden passion cross displayed on the right and square and compasses displayed on the left thereon. Two crossed swords may also be displayed thereon. (1982, p. 144-148)

1985

CHANGE IN THE RITUAL

RITUAL CHANGE FOR OPTIONAL USE -- In the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, some Sir Knights feel that the deliberation of the Jewish Council could be made more meaningful by a greater participation of the Council members; if used on an optional basis, it shall never be read.

OPTIONAL RITUAL MAY BE ORDERED FROM THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OFFICE.

1997

ARCH OF STEEL

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America through its Grand Commanderies or Subordinate Commanderies may extend to all Grand Masters or their personal representatives an Arch of Steel and the Public Grand Honors of Masonry. (Page 39 – 40)

2018

Resolved, that the Right Eminent Grand Recorder, in association with the committee on Ritualistic Matters, be directed to reprint and republish the Master Ritual correcting any minor scrivener's errors. This reprint will replace the 1976 Master Ritual and the 1979 coded ritual as the Official Ritual of the Grand Encampment.

The passage of this standing resolution will result in no changes in the wording of our "Ritual" but will change the distribution of the Master Ritual as previously specified in the 1976 Standing Resolution and allow each Sir Knight to possess a full, plain language Ritual.

This supersedes standing resolutions from 1976 and 1979 regarding ritual distribution and those resolutions are therefore no longer included in this document.

HISTORICAL MEMORANDA OF FORMER DIGESTS OF DECISIONS

Prior to the Grand Mastership of William B. Hubbard (1847-1859) there were very few decisions on Templar law published.

In 1854 Grand Master Hubbard published a digest of his decisions up to 1853. Since then other digests have been published, each endeavoring to bring up to date the rulings on Templar law.

The decisions of Grand Master Hubbard (1847-1859), French (1859- 1865), Palmer (1865 - 1868), and Gardner (1868 - 1871) were compiled in the appendix to the Proceedings of 1871. In 1871 a committee was appointed to compile a digest of all published decisions of the Grand Encampment and of its Grand Masters. In 1874 this committee, instead of reporting a digest of decisions, presented a code of statutes manifestly based upon the decisions of previous Grand Masters. This was a code reduced to statutes of Templar law. It was not a digest. (See 1874 Appendix)

This code was adopted and in 1883 a supplement to the above covering 1874, 1877, 1880 and 1893 was made in the form of a digest by Josiah H. Drummond of Maine. (1883 Appendix; 1886 Appendix republished; 1889 republished)

In 1898 the Grand Encampment adopted a complete revision of its Constitution, code of statutes, etc. (See 1898 Appendix)

In 1910 the Grand Encampment adopted a new Constitution and Laws, comprising three hundred and eleven sections, and repealed all laws theretofore enacted and not-enacted. (1910 Appendix) This included disciplinary rules, installations, and other forms.

In a 1919 Appendix there was published in the proceedings an index of the decisions of Grand Masters Melish, MacArthur and Smith, and in 1922 a similar index was published with the decisions of Grand Master Orr. (1922 Appendix) These indexes were indexes and not digests stating the point decided.

In 1923 Past Grand Master Newby published a Digest of Decisions rendered since 1910. Grand Master Newby reaffirmed the actions of 1910 that all decisions previously adopted had been repealed.

In 1934 the Grand Encampment completely revised the Constitution and enacted that "all statutes, laws and regulations heretofore enacted , adopted or approved in conflict herewith are hereby repealed" This differed from the new Constitution and Statutes of 1910 in that it did not repeal unchanged prior law. The 1910 enactment did expressly repeal previous law.

In 1941 Sir Knight Fred C. Wright of Minnesota, then Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota, prepared a digest of decisions from 1910 to and including 1940.

After completing his term of office as Grand Master, Mark Norris started research into a compilation of the laws and history of the Grand Encampment. Unfortunately he was stricken with illness in 1942 prior to completing or shaping the material into any definite form.

In 1945 Grand Master Orr assigned Jewel Lightfoot, Past Grand Commander of Texas, the responsibility for a digest. That digest was completed in 1946. Unfortunately Past Grand Commander Lightfoot disregarded the explicit actions of the 1910 Conclave as well as subsequent reaffirmations in 1919, 1922, 1923 and 1941 digests as well as a number of decisions made early in the twentieth century. The nature of the error was to disregard the explicit repeal of the pre - 1910 laws. Consequently many repealed decisions were included in the digest.

During the term of Grand Master Roy Riegle a request was made of Harrison Hartline, Past Grand Commander of Pennsylvania to update the 1946 digest of decisions. This was completed and published in 1977. That publication was based on the 1946 digest and decisions after that date.

In 1988 an updated digest based upon the 1977 digest and subsequent decisions was prepared by Charles Neumann, Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment.

In 2008 Duane L. Vaught, Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment was assigned to update the digest. Unlike previous digests this update was combined with an update of the Constitution and Statutes. In this presentation the documents were combined so that a single source would provide all relevant Templar law on each matter. This update was issued in electronic form for the first time. It was issued in a series of updates each of which constituted a work in progress. These were issued in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011. All of these constituted works in progress and none were entirely final in presentation.

The 2011 edition was updated in 2012 following that years' triennial conclave. Updated editions were issued in 2013, 2016, 2018, 2019 and 2022.

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS NOT INCLUDED IN ANNOTATED DOCUMENT

All decisions of the Grand Masters previous to 1910 were expressly abolished by action of the 1910 triennial conclave which replaced all existing Constitution, Statutes, Disciplinary Code and Decisions with a new set of legislation intended to combine in a single document all existing law.

Except as listed below decisions approved in 1910 have been included in this document with the knowledge that they might not have been contemplated in the new laws enacted in 1910. They are therefore subject to debate regarding their applicability.

The following decisions have been omitted for the reasons stated.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Grand Master</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reason for omission</u>
1910	101	1	Rugg	Physical Defect	Law changed 1949
1910	102	2	Rugg	Order of Temple	Ritual interpretation
1910	102	3	Rugg	Required all orders be conferred	Question regarding law previous to 1910
1910	104	5	Rugg	Use of Patriarchal Cross	Question regarding law previous to 1910
1910	104	6	Rugg	Affiliated PC	Recodified 2012
1910	106	10	Rugg	Life membership rights	Recodified 2012
1910	107	13	Rugg	Territorial Jurisdiction	Question regarding law previous to 1910
1910	107	14	Rugg	Residence	Opinion given but not decision
1910	108 & 248	16	Rugg	Grand Commander Status	Repealed 2021
1910	109	18	Rugg	Must receive Order of Malta	Question regarding law previous to 1910
1910	110	20	Rugg	Residence	Law subsequently changed
1913	48	11	Melish	Grand Commandery can give Grand Commander authority to relocate Commandery	Recodified 2012
1913	49	13	Melish	Conditional demits	Law later changed
1913	55	18	Melish	Decline to act in advance of appeal	No decision
1913	62	22	Melish	Receive petition and ballot in same night	Law later changed
1913	62	23	Melish	Relocate Commandery	Decision overruled

1916	30	2	MacArthur	Reinstatement NPD	Law later changed
1916	31	3	MacArthur	Change conclave date	Law changed 1991
1916	34	14	MacArthur	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1916	46	18	MacArthur	Degree teams	Question not answered
1916	47	19	MacArthur	Physical defect	Law changed 1949
1916	47	20	MacArthur	Consent for new Commandery UD	Law later changed
1916	105	1	Smith	Restoration	Law changed 1922
1916	107	3	Smith	Unfermented wine	Ritual decision
1916	108	4	Smith	Multiple candidates for Red Cross	Ritual decision
1916	109	5	Smith	Handling relic	Ritual decision
1916	115	9	Smith	Conferring Malta	Ritual decision
1916	118	13	Smith	Assessments same standing as dues	Recodified 2012
1916	120	15	Smith	Terminology Constituent Subordinate	Law later changed
1916	120	16	Smith	Prelates robes	Question regarding law previous to 1910
1916	121	17	Smith	Life membership for PC	Recodified 2012
1919	41	2	Smith	Concurrent jurisdiction	Recodified 2012
1919	289	3	Smith	Prohibition	Recodified 2012
1919	45	5	Smith	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1919	46	6	Smith	Display of Bible	Ritual decision
1919	47	9	Smith	Physical defect	Law changed 1949
1919	48	10	Smith	Formation of triangle	Ritual decision
1919	49	13	Smith	Pass in Malta	Ritual decision
1919	50	15	Smith	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1919	50	16	Smith	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1919	56	23	Smith	Question correct words	Ritual decision
1919	57	25	Smith	Proper Salute	Not a question of law
1919	41	2	Smith	Concurrent jurisdiction	Recodified 2012
1919	58	27	Smith	Life membership fee discrimination	Decision overruled
1919	61	31	Smith	Suspension and restoration	Law later changed
1919	67	37	Smith	Improper Knighting	Law later changed
1919	39	39	Smith	Wearing Jewels	Question custom not law
1919	70	42 Q4	Smith	PC membership in a different Grand Commandery	Recodified 2012
1919	72	45	Smith	Saluting officers	Question custom not law
1919	72	46	Smith	Move meeting location	Law later changed

1919	72	47	Smith	Subdividing a Commandery	No opinion issued
1922	20	2	Orr	Relocate Commandery	Recodified 2012
1922	21	4	Orr	Move meeting location	Law later changed
1922	21	4	Orr	Physical defect	Law changed 1949
1922	24	7	Orr	Dual membership	Law later changed
1922	25	10	Orr	Petitions voted upon as a Group	Law later changed
1922	21	11-A	Orr	Relocate Commandery	Decision overruled
1922	21	11-B	Orr	Physical defect	Law changed 1949
1922	28	16	Orr	Eliminate Baldric	Decision overruled
1922	28	17	Orr	Charge to the Flag	Ritual later changed
1922	30	21	Orr	Petitions voted upon as a Group	Law later changed
1922	22	22	Orr	Charge to the Flag	Ritual later changed
1922	32	23	Orr	Deceased Grand Commander as member of Grand Encampment	Law later changed
1922	33	25	Orr	Grand Commandery Uniform Authority	Recodified 2012
1925	52	1	Newby	Color of Stationary	Rescinded 2009
1926	55	5	Newby	Grand Commandery Uniform Authority	Recodified 2012
1925	56	6	Newby	Form of address	Law later changed
1925	64	13 parts3 &4	Newby	Conditional demits & Certificates of good standing	Decision overruled
1925	57	7	Newby	Concurrent Jurisdiction	Recodified 2012
1925	59	9	Newby	Suspension from Lodge or Chapter	Law changed 1988
1925	60	10	Newby	Dues to apply equally	Recodified 2012
1925	65	14	Newby	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1925	66	15	Newby	Uniform required	Law changed 1949
1925	71	19	Newby	General Grand Chapter	No decision made
1925	73	21 part 1	Newby	Communication with Grand Master	Decision overruled
1925	79	23	Newby	Physical defect	Law changed 1949
1925	82	25	Newby	Baldric required in subordinate Commandery	Uniform later changed
1925	83	26	Newby	Suspension from Lodge or Chapter	Law changed 1988

1925	84	27	Newby	Remitting dues of PCs	Recodified 2012
1925	90	32	Newby	No honorary titles	Law later changed
1925	91	33	Newby	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1925	92	34	Newby	Life memberships	Law changed 1934 see 1958 p. 273
1925	93 & 412	35	Newby	Public Appearances	Law change 2021
1925	95	36	Newby	Petition Collective Ballot	Law changed 1952
1925	413	36A	Newby	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1925	100	38	Newby	Suspension from Lodge or Chapter	Law changed 1988
1925	102	39	Newby	Restoration	Law later changed
1925	104	40	Newby	No dues while suspended	Recodified 2012
1925	104	40 part	Newby	Restoration	Law later changed Overruled in part
1925	104	41	Newby	Disciplinary code evidence	Law later changed
1925	106	43	Newby	Form of address	Law later changed
1925	108	44	Newby	NPD suspensions of life member	Recodified 2012
1928	53	4	Vallery	Suspension from Lodge or Chapter	Law changed 1988
1928	54	5	Vallery	Public Appearances in own asylum	Decision overruled
1928	60	8	Vallery	Flag ceremony	Ritual later changed
1928	60	9	Vallery	Public Appearances at Beauceant Installation	Law changed 1970
1928	62	11	Vallery	Ritual	Ritual decision
1928	64	12	Vallery	Uniform required	Law changed 1949
1931	75	1	Sharp	Uniform required	Law changed 1949
1931	76	2	Sharp	Foreign Visitors	Law changed 1931
1931	77	3	Sharp	Commandery vacancy in office	Law later changed
1931	79	5	Sharp	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1931	12	12	Sharp	Regular member also honorary member	Recodified 2012
1931	83	11	Sharp	Honorary life membership	Recodified 2012
1934	166	1	Weidner	Officer succession & Past rank	Law later changed
1934	167	2	Weidner	Remitting Educational assessment	Obsolete special situation

1934	167	3	Weidner	Remitting Educational assessment	Obsolete special situation
1934	167	4	Weidner	Remitting Educational assessment	Obsolete special situation
1934	170	7	Weidner	Suspension from Lodge or Chapter	Law changed 1988, decision deleted 2015
1934	173	8	Weidner	Physical defect	Law changed 1949
1934	174	9	Weidner	Salutes & Ritual	Ritual Decision
1934	205	2	Agnew	Uncover when passing through lines	Ritual Decision
1934	208	5	Agnew	Ritual question	Ritual Decision
1934	208	6	Agnew	Drill competition complaints	No decision rendered
1934	216	8	Agnew	Life memberships and Grand Encampment per capita	Recodified 2012
1934	216	34	Agnew	Life memberships	Law changed 1934 see 1958 p. 273
1937	25	4	Agnew	Design of paraphernalia	Relates to ritual not laws
1937	25	6	Agnew	Commander relocates outside of jurisdiction	Law changed 1940
1937	26	7	Agnew	Uniform required	Law changed 1949
1937	26	8	Agnew	Triangle	Ritual Decision
1937	29	12	Agnew	Publishing photographs of Sir Knights is Red Cross and Malta costume	Opinion given in negative and no permission given. However no decision of law rendered
1937	30	13	Agnew	Uniform required	Law changed 1949
1937	32	15	Agnew	Public Appearances	Law Changed 1970 - Decision abolished 2012
1937	32	16	Agnew	Correct execution of drill movement	Drill interpretation
1937	38	22	Agnew	Display of Bible at conclaves	Rescinded by 2015 Goodwin decision
1937	38	23	Agnew	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1937	339	24	Agnew	Uniform required	Law changed 1949
1940	63	1	Norris	Public Appearances	Law Changed 1970 - Decision abolished 2012
1940	63	2	Norris	Uniform required	Law changed 1949
1940	64	7	Norris	Education Foundation gifts	Rescinded by 2009 Koon decision
1940	64	8	Norris	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1940	66	16	Norris	Commander relocates	Law changed 1940

				outside of jurisdiction	
1940	66	17	Norris	Public Appearances other than religious and funeral	Law changed 1970
1940	68	30	Norris	Uniform required	Law changed 1949
1940	71	38	Norris	Physical defect	Law changed 1949
1940	66	20	Norris	Grand Commandery Uniform Authority	Recodified 2012
1943	27	1	Pollard	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1943	27 & 368	3	Pollard	Public Appearances	Law change 2021
1946	62	2	Orr	Public Appearances	Law Changed 1970 - Decision abolished 2012
1946	64	3	Orr	Uniform required	Law changed 1949
1946	68	6	Orr	Commandery Jurisdiction	Rescinded by 2009 Koon decision
1946	69	7	Orr	Special conclave to ballot on petitions	Law latter changed
1946	71	8	Orr	Wavier of jurisdiction	Rescinded by 2015 Goodwin decision
1946	75	9	Orr	No honorary titles	Law later changed
1946	79	10	Orr	Uniform required	Law changed 1949
1946	81	11	Orr	Uniform required	Law changed 1949
1946	82	12	Orr	Proxy voting	Rescinded by 2009 Koon decision
1946	92	16	Orr	Delegation of authority for territorial jurisdiction	Recodified 2012
1949	74	3	Rice	Visitation by demitted Sir Knight	Decision overruled
1949	79	7	Rice	Physical defect	Law changed 1949
1949	82	10	Rice	Charitable assessments	Recodified 2012
1952	65	6	Gaylord	No Classifications of membership with different dues	Recodified 2012
1952	71	9	Gaylord	Chapeau required	Decision overruled
1952	75	10	Gaylord	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1952	78 & 233	14	Gaylord	Grand Commander Status	Repealed 2021
1952	80	17	Gaylord	Petition Collective Ballot	Decision overruled
1952	257	18	Gaylord	Public appearance at Masonic event	Law changed 1970

1952	85	20	Gaylord	Status of officers of 44th triennial after change in elected line	Law later changed
1952	86	22	Gaylord	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1952	86	23	Gaylord	Change conclave date	Law changed 1991
1952	92	29	Gaylord	Long missing members	Rescinded by 2009 Koon decision
1955	74	1	Gordon	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1955	79	6	Gordon	Number of rituals to be issued	Interpretation of obsolete standing resolution
1955	90	16	Gordon	Precedence of rank in introductions	Not an interpretation of law
1955	91	17-B	Gordon	Ability of Grand Commander to bar installation	Disapproved as being in conflict with Orr decision 24 in 1922
1955	92	18-1	Gordon	Grand Commandery Uniform Authority	Recodified 2012
1955	92	18-2	Gordon	May dispense with baldric	Rescinded by 2009 Koon decision
1955	92	18-4	Gordon	Officers required to own a uniform	Law later changed
1955	94	19	Gordon	Arch of steel for Grand Master	Superseded by standing resolution in 1997
1955	97	21	Gordon	KYCH jewel permissible	Decision overruled
1955	99	23	Gordon	Educational foundation	Obsolete due to law change
1958	229	2	DeLamater	PGC uniform optional for Department Commanders but not allowed for Past officers	Law later changed
1958	230	4	DeLamater	Number of rituals to be issued	Interpretation of obsolete standing resolution
1958	233	8	DeLamater	Conferring the order of Malta on a Knight Templar member of a Preceptory	No decision rendered
1958	234	10	DeLamater	Gold plated recorder Jewel	Decision overruled
1958	238	13	DeLamater	Public Appearances	Recodified 2012
1958	239	14	DeLamater	Life membership minimum conditions	Recodified 2012

1958	240	15	DeLamater	Dispensation for out of state meeting	Recodified 2012
1958	242	17	DeLamater	Initials of office required on Grand Commandery shoulder straps	Law latter changed
1958	244	20	DeLamater	Members of Preceptory that does not require Lodges or Chapter or Red Cross	Sections 225 & 226 repealed.
1958	245	22	DeLamater	Members of Preceptory that does not require Lodges or Chapter or Red Cross	Sections 225 & 226 repealed.
1958	247	25	DeLamater	Members of Preceptory that does not require Lodges or Chapter or Red Cross	Sections 225 & 226 repealed.
1958	247	26	DeLamater	Members of Preceptory that does not require Lodges or Chapter or Red Cross	Sections 225 & 226 repealed.
1958	248	27	DeLamater	Dispensation for a Sunday cornerstone ceremony	The question presented was not answered
1958	251 & 293	31	DeLamater	Public Appearances	Law change 2021
1958	252	34	DeLamater	Application after Suspension for unknighly conduct	Law changed
1958	253	35	DeLamater	Limited number of rituals issued	Law later changed
1958	253	36	DeLamater	Grand Master changed trail sentence	Law changed 1961
1958	254	38	DeLamater	Effective date of Eye Foundation assessment	Law later changed
1958	257	42	DeLamater	Duel membership in constituent Commandery and Foreign Preceptory	Section 191(a) added 1958
1958	257	43	DeLamater	Members of Preceptory that does not require Lodges or Chapter or Red Cross	Sections 225 & 226 repealed.

1961	39	2	Wieber	Duel membership with Priory	Rescinded by 2009 Koon decision
1961	39	3	Wieber	Grand Encampment seal on dues cards	Rescinded by 2015 Goodwin decision
1961	41	8	Wieber	Multiple candidates for 5th libation	Ritual decision
1961	44	11	Wieber	Grand Master changed trail sentence	Law changed 1961
1961	46	15	Wieber	Baldric lecture not mandatory	Rescinded by 2009 Koon decision
1961	49	21	Wieber	Multiple candidates for Order of the Temple	Ritual decision
1961	52	27	Wieber	Continued membership in Council not required	Law later changed
1961	52	28a	Wieber	No life memberships in subordinate Commanderies	Recodified 2012
1961	53	29	Wieber	Life membership requirements	Recodified 2012
1961	54	31	Wieber	No inactive membership	Recodified 2012
1964	82	4	Moore	Honorary member as officer	Recodified 2012
1964	82	5	Moore	Honorary member as officer	Recodified 2012
1964	83	7	Moore	Amend charter as to location	Recodified 2012
1967	151	5	Brucker	Correction of triennial record	Not a decision as to law
1967	153	11	Brucker	Past rank post death	Law changed 2021
1967	154	14 part 5	Brucker	Dual membership notation on dues cards	Suggestion not a decision
1967	154	14 part 3	Brucker	PC membership in a different Grand Commandery	Recodified 2012
1970	538	6	Crofts	Proper version of Bible	Ritual decision
1979	30	1	Avery	Life memberships of PCs	Recodified 2012
1985	30	1	Dull	Cap & Mantle Ceremonial robes	Superseded 1988
1988	27	8	Smith	Amend charter as to location	Recodified 2012
1994	23	N/A	Thornley	College of Honors	Program not a decision
2000	XX	XX	Ward	Summer uniform	Recodified 2012
2000	74	N/A	Ward	College of Honors	Program not a decision

2003	29	N/A	Jones	College of Honors	Program not a decision
2003	29 & 95	1	Jones	Grand Encampment cap and mantle uniform	Superseded 2015
2003	29 & 95	3	Jones	Summer Uniform	Superseded 2021
2006	69	1	Fischer	Summer Uniform	Rescinded by 2009 Koon decision
2006	69	2	Fischer	White hat vs. Chapeau	Rescinded by 2009 Koon decision
2006	69	4	Fischer	Suspension for Non-payment of dues	Expired August 2006
2009	78	5	Koon	Special Commanderies and Constitution	Rescinded by 2018 Vaught decision
2015		8	Goodwin	Combining of funds	Rescinded by 2018 Vaught decision
2015		9	Goodwin	Committee terms	Rescinded by 2018 Vaught decision
2018		7	Vaught	PGC rank	Not approved

Outline of Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment

This outline of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment has been prepared at the request of members who desire some form of reference method for printed copies of these laws. This outline is included for that purpose of convenience and is not authoritative in any way.

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