

KANSAS TOPICS

SK Wayne D. Drake

V.: E.: Deputy Grand Commander



Greetings Sir Knights of Kansas!

And So It Begins

Well May is here. The question in my mind, and my hope, is that by now I will have been elected and installed as your Right Eminent Grand Commander, and I will be most grateful and happy to the serve the Knights Templar of Kansas.

These are very trying times, none of which the most of us have ever seen. Many businesses closed and people laid off. I do not know how our year will play out, but I am hoping that this too shall pass. For now, I just want all of you to be safe, and take care of yourselves and your families. That being said, at the time of this writing, there is a terrible pandemic, Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, spreading across the Unites States which also includes the state of Kansas. Some are not surviving. In fact, again at this writing, the Governor of Kansas has just issued a statewide stay at home order for 30 days, for all except essential jobs and personnel that perform in those jobs. Prior to this order, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Kansas issued an edict cancelling all Masonic functions in Kansas (which will be quoted in part, below.)

“The Council of Administration and I have been closely monitoring the situation in our country, our state, and our local communities regarding the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Your Grand Lodge leadership has received many communications from brothers who are genuinely concerned about how this national crisis will impact our organization.

Be advised that through the edict attached I am suspending all in person Masonic Meetings and Degree Work as well as all Masonic Community Events, including meetings at lodge halls by appendant and concordant bodies, until further notice. The edict does not include masonic funeral rites although coordination with the family should be taken to limit attendance to no more than the required participants. As this crisis persists in our state or if there are additional orders from governing authorities, your Grand Lodge leadership will reevaluate the situation and make further decisions.

Please visit the following web site and observe the guidelines from the CDC. These can significantly mitigate some of the common risk factors.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> and our state and local officials.

- *Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds*
- *Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or use the inside of your elbow*
- *Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands*
- *Limit close contact with others as much as possible (about 6 feet)*
- *Most importantly, if you are sick or not feeling well, please stay at home*

Our fraternity and our communities are going through a very difficult time. Throughout our long history, Masonry has endured many hardships, some of which were even greater than todays. With patience and love for each other and our families we will get through this crisis together and as result we will be an even stronger brotherhood.

May God bless and portect each of you and your families, may brotherly love prevail, and may every moral and social virtue cement us.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
//signed//

*M.: W.: Anthony W. (Tony) Borum, Grand Master
A.F.& A.M. of Kansas*

God bless you all,

Wayne D. Drake

Very Eminent Deputy Commander
Knights Templar of Kansas

