


TENNESSEE SUPPLEMENT

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Clarence Loyd Crump
Grand Commander



GENERAL ORDER NO. 5

To the Grand Commandery of Tennessee and the Officers and Sir Knights of The Constituent Commanderies:

After careful study of the COVID-19 Pandemic across the entire state of Tennessee and the suggested guidelines of the General Order No. 14 from the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, I am authorizing Commanderies of Tennessee to move into Phase One of the Guidelines of General Order No. 14 of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar. Sections pertaining to Tennessee under Phase One Guidelines are as follows:

1. Stated or Special Conclaves: See common guidelines. In-person conclaves may resume, provided they include utilizing strict social distancing and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE hereafter) protocols (i.e., six-foot physical separation, face covering worn by every Sir Knight in the room and hand sanitizer or washing hands with soap and water utilized by every Sir Knight in the asylum.)
2. Virtual conclaves using conference call and/or video conferencing (Zoom, etc.) The video will only show the dais officers and must conform to the criteria outlined in General Order No. 12 regarding what is allowed.
3. Hybrid conclaves will also be permitted. A hybrid conclave is one where some Sir Knights are in the tiled asylum, and others join virtually. All virtual conclave policies will apply to these meetings. Hybrid conclaves will be opened with the standard short form opening. All in-person conclaves are to have no meals, no formal or informal social events. All travel for Commandery purposes will be at your discretion, following all safety precautions.

There will not be any ritual work under the guidelines of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Tennessee.

In His Service,
Clarence L. Crump
Grand Commander

NOTICE OF ANNUAL YORK RITE SESSIONS and GAND COMMANDERY CONCLAVE

The Presiding Heads of the respective York Rite Bodies are making plans for the annual Communications and Conclave. In order to make the 2021 sessions as convenient as possible on attendees, they are awaiting the decision from the Grand Master regarding the location and status of the annual Grand Lodge Communication. If an in-person Grand Lodge Communication is held, plans are to hold York Rite Communications and Conclave at the same location. In either case the Grand York Rite sessions will be held Tuesday, March 23, as a one-day session with all three Grand Bodies meeting that same day, including the Grand Commandery Conclave.

A full schedule will be provided in next month's supplement, however in brief the plan is to open each session, conduct essential business, elect Officers, then close. Installations will be held following the completion of all three sessions. Information regarding honorary and invitational Bodies will be forthcoming.

There are a few proposals for consideration, which are outlined below. Please feel free to contact any of the Grand Officers if you have questions regarding York Rite Sessions or these Proposals.

PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION AT ANNUAL CONCLAVE

Note: Some of these are Constitutional items, others are Code proposals. Proposal No. 1 will be published in an upcoming supplement.

Proposal No. 2 – to permit Commanderies to use Summer Uniform, and/or Cap and Mantle or Ceremonial Robe, at full-form openings, non-tiled functions, and conferral of the Order of the Temple, provided that during conferral of Order of the Temple that all Officers are dressed in same manner.

Proposal No. 3 – describes manner of Summer Uniform, essentially black pants with short-sleeve white shirt, tie optional at discretion of Senior Officer, with description of appropriate jewels and regalia.

Proposal No. 4 – describes Cap and Mantle, essentially a white mantle worn with black pants, and having a Cross upon it appropriate to the rank of the wearer.

The rationale of the above proposals is to lessen the cost of outfitting new members while conforming to the Statutes of the Grand Encampment. It has been estimated that the above is approximately 20% of the cost of a traditional uniform.

Proposal No. 5 – adoption of the Grand *Encampment's Grand Commandery Knight Templar Meritorious Service Award*, available for each Commandery for one of their members per calendar year. This award is to be based on distinguished service and personal contributions over a period of years. Recipients will receive a medal and lapel pin as shown along with a certificate and letters of explanation and congratulations.

