

CALIFORNIA KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

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Sir Knight

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California Sir Knights, here's what's going on... A Call for Special Conclave of the Grand Encampment

by SK David W. Studley

This message solicits your opinion about whether to schedule a *Special Conclave of the Grand Commandery of California* on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 or Saturday, December 4, 2021. The Special Conclave is planned to start at 1 p.m. at the Grand York Rite Office, 1123 J. Street, Sacramento, CA. A bag lunch for those who sign up to eat will be provided starting at 11:30 a.m. that morning. Details will follow depending on what date is selected.



Background: This unusual action arises from the desire of many California Sir Knights to review the Decisions and Edicts issued by Sir Knight Michael Burke Johnson, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, following his election at the 68th Triennial and his subsequent action to remove SK David Kussman from the office of Deputy Grand Commander.

The Decisions are available for your review at several sites on the Internet. You may check,

www.knightstemplar.org/downloads/2021/johnson1-4.pdf

or **www.call2conclave.org** (which also mentions SK Kussman's removal and sets forth the Call to Conclave for a special conclave of the Grand Encampment).

As your Grand Commander, I have referred the proposed call to the Jurisprudence Committee. It has concluded that the Call, set forth below, adequately raises all the issues now concerning and affecting California Sir Knights.

The purpose of the California Special Conclave is limited. It will be to

decide whether to join the Call as published, without debating the merits of each of the proposed items. In other words, voting members of the California Grand Commandery will be asked to vote on a single issue only: should the California Grand Commandery assent to the Call to Conclave? Debate on the merits of the individual items will occur at the Grand Encampment session, if a sufficient number of State Grand Commanderies join in the Call.

Issue for Decision: I am asking voting members of the California Grand Commandery (generally, current dais officers and Past Commanders of Constituent Commanderies, and certain others – see, Const., section 35) to consider whether to notice the CA special conclave on Tuesday, 11/9/21 or Saturday, 12/4/21. Both dates are available and both follow the SW Department Conference on October 30 where this issue likely will be discussed. The benefit of November 9 is that the discussion will be fresher in the minds of our Sir Knights; the choice of December 4 might allow more participation by our Sir Knights

because it will occur on a Saturday. My personal preference is to hold the conclave on the November date.

You may make your opinion known on the selection of dates by contacting SK Phil Hardiman, Grand Recorder, at:

sec-rec@yorkriteofcalifornia.org -or- (916) 712-4814

Please reply no later than Friday, October 15th to have your opinions considered.

SK Recorders are asked to share this memorandum with local members as they may deem appropriate.



Courteously,

David W. Studley
Grand Commander



Call to Conclave

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www.call2conclave.org

A Special Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America is hereby called to be convened no later than Sept. 1, 2022, or as reasonably soon after at least nine Grand Commanderies have assented to this Call, at a location convenient for the majority of the membership, for the purposes of:

1. Considering all Edicts and Decisions issued by Sir Knight Michael B. Johnson, Grand Master, in the 69th Triennium for immediate adoption or repeal.
2. Considering mootness of Koon Decision No. 2, 24 May 2010, in light of the passage of Resolution 2021-23 on 17 Aug 2021 and, in the alternative, affirming or repealing Koon Decision No. 2.
3. Considering adoption of Section ___ to the Constitution, Statutes, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States providing for the removal of any elected officer of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.
4. Considering removal of the Grand Master from office.
5. Considering breach of duty of care and breach of the fiduciary duties of honesty and plain dealing that govern appointed committee members.
6. Holding a special election for the Officers of the Grand Encampment.
7. Opening a special meeting of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation for the purposes of a special election for the Foundation's Board of Trustees.

SECTION ____. Removal of an Elected Officer of the Grand Encampment

An elected officer of the Grand Encampment may be removed from Office by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a Conclave of the Grand Encampment. This section is enforceable upon adoption.

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