



Mark G. Mattern
Grand Commander

129 Doreen Drive
Hummelstown, Pennsylvania 17036
(717) 649-1687
mgmattern@gmail.com

May 26, 2021

From the Desk of the Grand Commander

To: Elected and Appointed Grand Officers; Past Grand Officers; Division Commanders; Officers and Members of the Constituent Commanderies of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania

GENERAL ORDER NUMBER SEVEN

MOVEMENT TO PHASE 2

Sir Knights:

I am directing that on June 1, 2021 the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of PA will move to Phase 2 as directed in Grand Encampment General Order No. 14 – Reopening Templary 2021 - Phased Opening Criteria.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has seen fit to suspend all the Waiver & Release process and procedures for our Blue Lodges effectively immediately. Additionally, the CDC as of May 13th, 2021 has advised that fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear a mask or physically distance in any setting, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

Governor Wolf has advised that effective Monday, May 31, 2021 at 12:01 AM, all COVID-19 restrictions related to gatherings, restaurants, and other businesses will be lifted.

<https://www.governor.pa.gov/covid-19/business-guidance/>

Members who are fully vaccinated are free to meet without their masks **IF** they feel comfortable in doing so. Any member who has NOT been fully vaccinated, must continue to wear their masks.

If a PA Masonic District is not open as of June 1, 2021, then any Commandery located within that district must follow the guidelines for that District or remain virtual.

Likewise, if a Commandery meets in a Masonic Temple that is not open as of June 1, 2021, that Commandery must follow the Masonic Temple guidelines or meet virtually.

Sir Knights, as we continue to work through these challenging times, let us still be vigilant in our safety and that of our Fraters, their ladies, and our families.

I want to be clear – no officer, member, or lady is to be forced to attend an in-person conclave, function or meeting.

This General Order is to be read in full at the next Stated Conclave and all Stated Conclaves prior to the deadline and entered in full in the records.

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania this day, May 26, in the year of our Lord 2021, A.O. 903.

Yours in Templary,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark G. Mattern". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Mark G. Mattern
Grand Commander

Attest:

Douglas M. Rowe
Grand Recorder

Grand Encampment General Order No. 14, Reopening Templary 2021, Phased Opening Criteria

Phased Opening Criteria for Phase Two;

Applications to a Grand or Subordinate Commandery:

1. Stated or Special Conclaves:

All in-person conclaves (stated or special) may resume;
Social distancing and PPE are not required but are recommended, especially for those individuals who consider themselves to be "vulnerable";

Meals or snacks may be served either before or after conclaves;

Ladies' programs are permitted and encouraged to resume. Any lady who considers herself to be "vulnerable" should observe social distancing and PPE protocols;

and

No restrictions on arrival or departure times.

2. Statewide activities:

Battalion, District, Division, etc. meetings may resume, including meals and ladies' programs;
and

Any Sir Knight or lady who considers himself or herself to be "vulnerable" should continue to follow social distancing and PPE protocols.

Drill Team meetings and practices:

All drill team meetings and practices may resume. Any Sir Knight who considers himself to be "vulnerable" should continue to employ PPE protocols.

3. Travel:

All travel for Commandery purposes may resume with no restrictions.

4. Ritual work:

Ritual work associated with the conferral of any of the Commandery Orders on candidates may resume. Some modifications to procedures will doubtless have to be observed. Further recommendations will be forthcoming. Any Sir Knight who considers himself to be "vulnerable" should continue to observe PPE protocols.