

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE
CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF GRAND COMMANDERY**

APPROVED AT THE 166TH ANNUAL CONCLAVE, MAY 18, 2020

PROPOSAL 1:

CONSOLIDATION OF COMMANDERIES

REPLACE Section 405 with the following:

Section 405

Consolidation of Commanderies may be initiated in one of two ways.

- (a) The Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery may investigate and may determine to initiate proceedings to consolidate two or more Commanderies. The Grand Commander shall cause a conference to be held by him with the Eminent Commanders of the Commanderies involved. It is recommended that the involved Section Officers and Division Commanders be included in the conference. At the conclusion of the conference, if in the Grand Commander's judgment, the consolidation should be undertaken, he will issue an order directing the merger. His order will include which Commandery or Commanderies are to be merged and into which Commandery. Once the order has been issued, the involved Commanders, Division Commanders and Grand Officers in charge of administering the Sections shall proceed in the same manner as if the Commanderies had voted to merge. The procedures to be followed are set forth below in paragraph (c).
- (b) Two or more Commanderies having concurrent jurisdiction or stationed in adjoining jurisdictions may be consolidated into one Commandery, **provided, that the request to consolidate is presented by the Commanders to the Grand Commander and the Grand Commander grants permission to proceed.** The proposition for such consolidation shall be presented at a Stated Conclave of each Commandery, which propositions shall be acted upon at a subsequent Stated Conclave. Notice thereof shall be mailed or sent electronically to all members of each involved Commandery at least ten days prior to such Conclaves. 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, no further approval from either the Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery is required. They may unite under the Charter of one of the said Commanderies, retaining the Officers thereof, or they may elect new Officers by a proper Dispensation. All Past Commanders in good standing and the

Commanders of the Commandery surrendering its (their) Charter shall become Affiliated Past Commanders of the consolidated Commandery whose Charter is retained and continued. (GE 169) The Consolidation is not effective until such time as the provisions contained in paragraph (c) are completed.

- (c) The Division Commander shall meet with the Commander of each Commandery surrendering its Charter and review the financial records for the preceding six months to ensure that no questionable expenditures were made to deplete the assets of the Commandery. He shall report the results of the review to the Grand Officer in charge of administering his Section.

The Commander of the Commandery retaining its Charter shall report the Consolidation to the Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder.

The Commander of the Commandery surrendering its (their) Charter and its(their) Seal shall deposit the Charter and the Seal with the Grand Recorder.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patrick J. Connor, P.G.C.
Lawrence R. Breletic, P.G.C.
John K. March, P.G.C.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE
CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF GRAND COMMANDERY**

APPROVED AT THE 166TH ANNUAL CONCLAVE, MAY 18, 2020

PROPOSAL #2

DATE OF THE ANNUAL CONCLAVE

CONCLAVES

Section 4

(a) The Stated or Annual Conclave shall be held annually on the fourth Tuesday of, May, and be convened at Nine o'clock A.M., at such place as the Grand Commandery may designate. Two months' notice thereof shall be given by the Grand Recorder. (GE 36 a)

(b) When the next Annual Conclave should be convened, according to Section 4 (a), on the day following Memorial Day, the date of convening may be changed upon the recommendation of the Deputy Grand Commander, after his consultation of the proposed changed of date with the elected Officers of Grand Commandery and the probable next Committee on Annual Conclave, and the approval of such change of date by the Grand Commandery, to a date not more than seven days preceding nor more than seven days following the fourth Tuesday of May.

(c) If at any time the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, the Grand Captain General, the Grand Senior Warden, the Grand Junior Warden, the Grand Treasurer, and the Grand Recorder shall determine that circumstances warrant a change of either date, time or place of the Annual Conclave or the date or time of the Annual Election as fixed by Section 44 of the Constitution and Laws of Grand Commandery, they may approve and authorize such change or changes; provided that the date of the Annual Conclave as changed shall not be more than five days preceding nor more than ten days following the fourth Tuesday of May. Notice of such change shall be given by the Grand Recorder.

Change Section 4(a) to read:

(a) The Stated or Annual Conclave shall be **convened annually in May, on such day, at such time and** in such place as the Grand Commandery may designate. Two months' notice thereof shall be given by the Grand Recorder. (GE 36 a)

(b) **Replace section (b) with section (c), amended as follows:**

(b) If at any time the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, the Grand Captain General, the Grand Senior Warden, the Grand Junior Warden, the Grand Treasurer, and the Grand Recorder shall determine that circumstances warrant a change of either date, time or place of the Annual Conclave or the date or time of the Annual Election as fixed by Section 44 of the Constitution and Laws of Grand Commandery, they may approve and authorize such change or changes; provided that the date of the Annual Conclave ~~as changed~~ shall not **fall on Mother's Day nor Memorial Day**. Notice of such change shall be given by the Grand Recorder.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard F. Muth, DGC
Benjamin A. Beynon, GC
Patrick J. Connor, PGC

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE
CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF GRAND COMMANDERY**

APPROVED AT THE 166TH ANNUAL CONCLAVE, MAY 18, 2020

PROPOSAL #3

Current

Section 245.

The Commander of each Commandery, at the Stated Conclave in April of each year, shall appoint an Auditing Committee of three members of the Commandery, none of whom shall be an elective Officer or Trustee thereof, whose duty it shall be to audit the books and accounts of, and to inspect the property and securities of the Commandery which shall be in the hands of the Treasurer, the Recorder, and the Trustees of the Commandery.

A signed copy of the completed report shall be forwarded to the office of the Grand Recorder no later than the fifteenth day of May following, unless the time be extended by permission of the Grand Commander. The Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander may prescribe the form of such report and the details to be included therein. The Grand Recorder shall send copies of all Audit Reports to the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, and the Grand Officer responsible for the Section wherein the Constituent Commandery is located.

Proposed Change (in italics bold - underlined)

Section 245.

The Commander of each Commandery, at the Stated Conclave in April of each year, shall appoint an Auditing Committee of three members of the Commandery, none of whom shall be an elective Officer or Trustee thereof, whose duty it shall be to audit the books and accounts of, and to inspect the property and securities of the Commandery which shall be in the hands of the Treasurer, the Recorder, and the Trustees of the Commandery.

A signed *paper* copy *or electronic copy* of the completed report shall be forwarded to the office of the Grand Recorder no later than the *thirtieth* day of *June* following, unless the time be extended by permission of the Grand Commander. The Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander may prescribe the form of such report and the details to be included therein. The Grand Recorder shall send copies of all Audit Reports to the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, and the Grand Officer responsible for the Section wherein the Constituent Commandery is located.

Respectfully submitted,
Sean M. Tomasic, GG
Benjamin A. Beynon, GC
Richard F. Muth, DGC
Mark G. Mattern, GCG
Harry J. Smith, GSW
Thomas C. Helm, GJW

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE
CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF GRAND COMMANDERY**

APPROVED AT THE 166TH ANNUAL CONCLAVE, MAY 18, 2020

PROPOSAL #4

Current

Section 136.

The Shoulder Straps of Officers and Past Officers of Grand Commandery shall be as follows: (a) For the Officers during their incumbency in Office: Bright red, silk velvet, two inches wide by four inches long, bordered with one row of either gilt or real gold bullion embroidery, three-eighths of an inch wide. A Templar Cross, one inch square, of either gilt or real gold bullion embroidery in the center of the strap. The initials of the office respectively, to be embroidered in old English characters, of silver bullion, on the lower end of the strap.

(b) For Past Grand Commanders: The same as for Officers of 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, that the initials of the office respectively, to be embroidered in old English characters, of silver bullion, with the initial "P" prefixed to the designation of office. (GE 243)

(d) For Past Division Commanders: Bright Red, one and three-fourths inches wide by four inches long, bordered with one row of No. 26 gold bullion embroidery, three-eighths of an inch in width. In the center, a Passion Cross, with a halo, of silver bullion one and one-half inches in height with cross arm in proportion to the height. In addition, a Past Division Commander is permitted to wear a red fourragere. The design and distribution of the fourragere will be under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery. The fourragere will be worn with the single strand cords under the arm and the braided cord outside the arm.

(e) The Shoulder Straps shall be worn parallel to and at no greater distance than 3/8" from the sleeve seam, with two-thirds of the length of the Shoulder Strap forward of the shoulder seam.

Proposed Change (in italics bold - underlined)

Section 136.

The Shoulder Straps of Officers and Past Officers of Grand Commandery shall be as follows: (a) For the Officers during their incumbency in Office: Bright red, silk velvet, two inches wide by four inches long, bordered with one row of either gilt or real gold bullion embroidery, three-eighths of an inch wide. A Templar Cross, one inch square, of either gilt or real gold bullion embroidery in the center of the strap. The initials of the office respectively, to be embroidered in old English characters, of silver bullion, on the lower end of the strap.

A Division Commander is permitted to wear a red and yellow fourragere. The design and distribution of the fourragere will be under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery. The fourragere will be worn with the single strand cords under the arm and the braided cord outside the arm.

(b) For Past Grand Commanders: The same as for Officers of 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, that the initials of the office respectively, to be embroidered in old English characters, of silver bullion, with the initial "P" prefixed to the designation of office. (GE 243)

Respectfully submitted,

Sean M. Tomasic, GG

Richard F. Muth, DGC

Harry J. Smith, GSW

Benjamin A. Beynon, GC

Mark G. Mattern, GCG

Thomas C. Helm, GJW

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE
CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF GRAND COMMANDERY**

APPROVED AT THE 166TH ANNUAL CONCLAVE, MAY 18, 2020

PROPOSAL #5

SK John K. March, PGC
2300 Laurel Ridge Rd.
Narvon, PA 17555-9740
717-445-5455
travels@ptd.net

To:

S.K. Benjamin A. Beynon, Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, and the Grand Officers, Past Grand Commanders, and all members of the same Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania.

And especially to the Jurisprudence Committee of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania.

PROPOSAL:

To amend section 211 and section 411, subsection (a) 2 of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania to comply with recent changes in the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America concerning the number of Sir Knights needed to form a quorum.

Section 211 now reads:

Section 211. A quorum of a Commandery consists of nine members entitled to vote therein, including an officer authorized to open the same. (GE 66)

Proposed change to read:

Section 211. A quorum of a Commandery consists of not less than five (5) members entitled to vote therein, including an officer authorized to open the same. (GE 66)

Section 411 subsection (a) 2 now reads:

(a) 2. At least nine Knights Templar residing in the proposed Territorial Jurisdiction.

Proposed change to read:

(a) 2. At least nine (9) Knights Templar are needed to open a Commandery. In order to do business, there must be no less than five (5) members entitled to vote therein.

Courteously submitted,
John K. March, PGC
Patrick J. Connor, PGC
Harry J. Smith, EGSW