

THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS
OF
THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
OF PENNSYLVANIA
2026



THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE GRAND RECORDER

PHILADELPHIA, PA

MAY 31, A.D. 2026, A.O. 908

I certify that the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, as hereinafter contained, is a true and correct copy of such Constitution and Laws. It contains all amendments to the previous issue of 1970 as approved by the Grand Commandery at the Annual Conclaves held from 1971 through 2026.

Mark G. Mattern, PGC

Grand Recorder



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DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

Adopted by the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania in Annual Conclave, May 27, A.D. 1970, A.O. 852.

The Order of Knights Templar is a charitable, benevolent, educational, and religious society. Its membership is confined to Freemasons who are firm believers in the Christian religion. Its principles are proclaimed as widely as men will hear. Its only secrets are in its methods of recognition and symbolic instruction.

It is charitable in that it is not organized for profit and none of its income inures to the benefit of any individual, but all is devoted to the promotion of the welfare and happiness of mankind.

It is benevolent in that it teaches and exemplifies altruism as a duty.

It is educational in that it teaches by prescribed ceremonials a system of morality and brotherhood based upon the Holy Bible.

It is religious in that it teaches Christianity, the Holy Bible is always present in its Asylums, reverence for God is ever present in its ceremonial, and to its members are constantly addressed lessons of morality; yet it is not sectarian or theological.

It is a social organization only so far as it furnishes additional inducement that men may forgather in numbers, thereby providing more material for its primary work of education, of worship, and of charity.

Through the improvement and strengthening of the character of the individual man, Templary seeks to improve the community. Thus, it impresses upon its members the principles of personal righteousness and personal responsibility, enlightens them as to those things which make for human welfare, and inspires them with that feeling of charity, or good will, toward all mankind, which will move them to translate principle and conviction into action.

To that end, it teaches and stands for the worship of God; truth and justice; fraternity and philanthropy; enlightenment and orderly liberty, civil, religious and intellectual. It charges each of its members to be true and loyal to the government of the country to which he owes allegiance and to be obedient to the law of any State in which he may be.

It believes that the attainment of these objectives is best accomplished by laying a broad basis of principle upon which men of every race, country, sect, and opinion may unite rather than by setting up a restricted platform upon which only those of certain races, creeds and opinions can assemble.

Believing these things, this Grand Commandery affirms its continued adherence to that ancient and approved rule of Freemasonry which forbids the discussion in Masonic meetings, of creeds, politics, or other topics likely to excite personal animosities. It further affirms its conviction that it is not only contrary to the fundamental principles of Freemasonry and of Templary, but dangerous to its unity, strength, usefulness, and welfare, for Masonic Bodies to take action or attempt to exercise pressure or influence for or against any legislation, or in any way to attempt to procure the election or appointment of government officials, or to influence them, whether or not members of the Fraternity, in the performance of their official duties. The true Freemason and Templar will act in civil life according to his individual judgment and the dictates of his conscience.

CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF PENNSYLVANIA

PREAMBLE

We, the Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, in order to secure unity in our proceedings and deliberations and establish uniform laws for the government of our Grand Commandery and its Constituent Commanderies, do ordain and establish this Constitution, which with our Laws and Regulations and with the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America shall govern our affairs.

PART I

THE GRAND COMMANDERY

NAME

Section 1.

This body shall be designated and known as "The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania." (GE 1) Note-The name and title, "The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar Pennsylvania", was registered in the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, July 25, 1923, under provisions of the Act of May 16, 1923, P.L. 24.

TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION

Section 2.

The territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery is the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
(GE 34)

MEMBERSHIP

Section 3.

Its members are and shall be:

(a) 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, the Grand Recorder, the Grand Standard Bearer, the Grand Sword Bearer, the Grand Warder, the Grand

Sentinel, and the Division Commanders, so long as they shall remain members of its Constituent Commanderies;

(b) All its Past Grand Commanders, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos, and Past Grand Captains General, so long as they shall remain members of its Constituent Commanderies;

(c) The Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General of each of its Constituent Commanderies;

(d) Each Past Commander of its Constituent Commanderies and all such Past Commanders as may have demitted from other jurisdictions and have been elected to membership by the Grand Commandery, so long as they shall remain members of its Constituent Commanderies;

(e) All Knight Templar of other Grand Commanderies who have been elected honorary members. Such membership shall not confer the right to vote. (GE 35)

(f) The membership cannot be enlarged or restricted from that prescribed above. (GE 127)

(g) A member of Grand Commandery forfeits all rights of membership by being unaffiliated with a Commandery during such period of unaffiliation. (GE 128)

(h) A member of Grand Commandery does not forfeit any of the rights of membership by moving out of the Jurisdiction, provided he maintains membership in a Commandery within the Jurisdiction. (GE 129)

CONCLAVES

Section 4.

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

(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 shall not fall on Mother's Day nor Memorial Day. Notice of such a change shall be given by the Grand Recorder. (Amended 5/18/2020)

Section 5.

Special Conclaves may be called by the Grand Commander, and he shall call such conclave upon the written request of the majority of the Commanderies. No business shall be transacted at a Special Conclave save that specified by the Grand Commander and/or set out in the call for such Conclave. (GE 36 b) If a Special Conclave is called, at least fifteen days' notice thereof, setting forth the time and place of holding the same, and the business to be transacted thereat, shall be given by the Grand Recorder.

Section 6.

(a) Notice of the Annual Conclave shall be sent to each Officer and Past Officer of the Grand Commandery and to the Commander and the Recorder of each Constituent commandery. Notice of change in the place of meeting of the Annual Conclave and of Special Conclaves shall be sent to each Officer and Past Officer of the Grand Commandery; and to all other members of the Grand Commandery, through the Recorders of Constituent Commanderies; unless such notice is included in the notice of the Annual Conclave.

(b) The hour stated in the notice or call shall be either Eastern Standard Time or Eastern Daylight Time, whichever is in common usage in the community in which the Annual or Special Conclave is held and shall be so designated in the notice or call for the Conclave.

(c) Virtual – In the event of extraordinary circumstances, a Grand Commandery may conduct an Annual Conclave or Special Conclave by electronic means. A virtual meeting shall be held by means of teleconference or webcast, provided that the necessary facilities are widely available to the members of the Grand Commandery, and the Annual Conclave shall be conducted in full compliance with the requirements of Sections 37 through 39 of the GE Constitution. No ritual shall be performed, and no Orders shall be conferred during any such virtual Conclave.

Section 7.

A quorum of the Grand Commandery consists of nine members entitled to vote therein, including an officer authorized to convene the same; provided three or more Constituent Commanderies are represented. (GE 37)

CONDUCT OF CONCLAVES

Section 8.

At the Conclaves of the Grand Commandery, the Officers and members thereof shall be admitted only in uniform, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Commandery.

Section 9.

The order of business shall be as directed by the Grand Commander.

Section 10.

When any resolution or motion shall be offered or made, and seconded, it shall be stated by the presiding officer. Pending its consideration, a motion may be made to amend, stating in what particular it is proposed to amend it; and an amendment to the amendment may be moved, but, until the disposal of such amendment, no further amendment shall be in order.

Section 11.

After a vote upon any amendment shall have been taken, it shall not be in order to introduce the same subject under color of a new amendment or as an amendment to a pending amendment.

Section 12.

After a vote shall have been taken upon all the amendments that may have been considered, the vote shall be taken upon the resolution or motion as it may then be, including the amendments that have been adopted. Pending the consideration of such resolution or motion, no motion shall be in order except to lay on the table, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a certain time, or to commit, all of which shall be determined without debate.

Section 13.

A motion to amend, to postpone, or to commit, may be laid upon the table without removing the pending resolution or motion before the Grand Commandery. No other dilatory or evasive motion shall be permitted.

Section 14.

Each Sir Knight as he rises to speak shall address the presiding officer. He shall not be interrupted, nor call to order, except by or through the presiding officer. When so called to order, he shall resume his seat, but after being informed of his default, he may be then permitted to proceed in his address.

Section 15.

No Sir Knight shall be allowed to speak more than twice upon any subject under discussion, except by special permission of the presiding officer. (GE 90)

Section 16.

A Sir Knight is twice called to order at the same Conclave and again offends, the presiding officer may direct him to leave the room and see that the direction is enforced before continuing the business of the Grand Commandery.

Section 17.

When the presiding officer wishes the debate to close, he rises, and that ends the discussion.

Section 18.

Each member present in person or by proxy shall be entitled to one vote, except that the presiding officer shall vote only in case of a tie, when he shall decide the issue. Unless otherwise provided by Grand Encampment law, all questions submitted shall be decided by a majority vote of the members present. (GE 38)

Section 19.

During the Conclave an appeal lies to the Grand Commandery from a decision of the Grand Commander save on points of order. At all other times the decision of the Grand Commander shall have full force and effect, but they must be reviewed by the Grand Commandery at its next Annual Conclave. If such decisions involve the construction of the Laws of the Grand Encampment or of the Laws of the Grand Commandery, an appeal lies to the Grand Commandery. (GE 39)

Section 20.

The presiding officer decides all questions of order, and no appeal from his decision can be taken.

Section 21.

What is known as Parliamentary Law, or conventional systems for regulating the proceedings of deliberative bodies shall not apply to Grand Commandery.

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM**Section 22.**

Each of the following members of the Grand Commandery shall report to the Committee on Mileage and Per Diem in the city where the Annual Conclave is held as set forth in the notice or call for the Conclave. If he shall so report, he shall be entitled to receive fifty cents (.50 ¢, rev. 2026) for each mile, computed from the place of the Asylum of the Commandery of which he is a member to and from the place of the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, and eighty-five dollars (\$85.00, rev. 2026) for each day actually spent at such Conclaves, not to exceed two days beginning on the day that the Grand Commandery convenes, but such Mileage and Per Diem shall be paid to him in but one capacity at any Conclave:

Officers of the Grand Commandery

Trustees of the Grand Commandery

Marshal of the Grand Commandery

Herald of the Grand Commandery

Past Grand Commanders

Assistant(s) to the Grand Recorder

Associate Grand Prelate(s) (Rev. 2006)

Members of the Committee on Finance

Members of the Committee on Mileage and Per Diem

Members of the Committee on Credentials

Directors of the Educational Foundation

Chairmen of the Standing Committees

Acting Chairman of the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, if the Chairman is absent.

Division Commanders

Inspector General (Rev. 2006)

Editor of the Pennsylvania Knights Templar Magazine

Commanders, provided, that if the Commander of a Commandery is absent, the Generalissimo shall be entitled, and if the Commander and Generalissimo are absent, the Captain General shall be entitled to receive the mileage and per diem which such Commander would receive if present.

PROXIES

Section 23.

Each member of the Grand Commandery present, in person or by proxy, shall be entitled to one vote. Commanders, Generalissimos, and Captains General may vote in the Grand Commandery by proxy, such proxy being at the time of service a member of the same Commandery at his principal and producing a properly authenticated certificate of his appointment. (GE 40)

POWERS AND DUTIES

Section 24.

The Grand Commandery has the following powers and prerogatives, but the enumeration shall not be construed as a limitation thereof:

(a) It shall review at its Annual Conclave all reports of its Officers and may review the proceedings of its Constituent Commanderies; (GE 41 a)

(b) It may adopt such Constitution, Laws, Rules, and Regulations as are not inconsistent with the laws of the Grand Encampment and as it may deem necessary for the good of the Order; (GE 41 b)

(c) It shall, within its jurisdiction, have exclusive power, with or without the consent of existing Commanderies, to form new Commanderies and to fix the fee, therefore. The fee shall not be less than One Hundred Dollars and shall be paid in advance; (GE 41 c)

(d) It may prescribe Regulations for the government of its Constituent Commanderies and may revoke any Charter. It may approve or order the relocation or consolidation of any of its Constituent Commanderies. It shall consider at each Annual Conclave the condition as to proper and adequate location of Constituent Commanderies as related to residential and Masonic membership changes. (GE 41 d)

(e) It may require its several Constituent Commanderies to pay such portion as it may deem proper of the sums received by them for conferring the Orders, and in addition such sum annually from each member of such Commanderies as it may deem necessary for the support of the Grand Commandery; (GE 41 e)

(f) It shall examine all accounts of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, the Trustees of the Grand Commandery, the Directors of the Educational Foundation, and all such Officers and Committees as shall have charge of or handle any of its moneys or property; supervise the state and condition of its finances, and of the finances of the Educational Foundation, and adopt such measures in relation thereto as it may deem necessary to increase, secure and preserve the same and to insure the utmost punctuality on the part of every accounting officer in the safekeeping and delivery of the funds and property of the Grand Commandery and of the Educational Foundation: (GE 41 f)

(g) It may fix the territorial limits of its Constituent Commanderies and set all controversies that may arise among them; (GE 41 g)

(h) It shall, on or before July 1st of each year, pay to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment such an amount as may be prescribed by the Grand Encampment as dues for each member of its constituent Commanderies, as shown by the returns of the Grand Commandery at its Annual Conclave next before July 1st; (GE 41h)

(i) It may prescribe a uniform code of By-Laws for the government of its Constituent Commanderies and a uniform method for the keeping of their minutes and records; (GE 131)

(j) It shall consider and do all matters and things pertaining to Templary which it shall deem for the good, wellbeing and perpetuation thereof.

REGULATIONS AND DECISIONS

Section 25.

The Grand Commandery is governed by its constitution and Laws and by the Regulations adopted by it and the Decisions of the Grand Commander, not in conflict with the Constitution, Statutes or Rituals of the Grand Encampment.

Section 26.

(a) Such regulations consist of the resolutions adopted by the Grand and have the force of law until the next Annual Conclave.

(b) Recommendations made by the Grand Commander in his annual report shall not be adopted at the same Annual Conclave but shall be referred to Standing and/or Special Committees for study. The Committees shall report their findings and recommendations at the next Annual Conclave. If the reports of the Committees are adopted the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence shall prepare the proper amendments to the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of Grand Commandery, embodying the approved recommendations, for consideration at the following Annual Conclave.

(c) General Orders of the Grand Commander have the force of law until the next Annual Conclave. Newly elected Grand Commanders must enumerate the part or parts of previous General Orders they wish to include in their General Order. General Orders of the Grand commander shall not be in conflict with the Constitution, Statutes or Rituals of the Grand Encampment, nor with the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery.

Section 27.

(a) The Decisions of the Grand Commander have the force of law until the next Annual Conclave, unless reversed or altered by himself or future Grand Commander, at which remain in force and should be listed in the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery. The latest Decisions of the Grand Commander on any subject operates as a revocation of all earlier Decisions which may be inconsistent therewith. (GE 39)

(b) A Decision, or an order, of a Grand Commander which has been reversed by the Grand Commandery shall not be reissued by his successor(s) in office during the next triennium, However, if a reissue is considered necessary during the triennium it may be reissued after approval by the Deputy

Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, the Grand Captain General, the Grand Recorder, and the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence. The announcement of such Decision, or order, shall include the notation that the required approval has been received previous to its issuance.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Section 28

The revenue of the Grand Commandery shall be derived from the following sources:

- (a) For every Dispensation or Charter for a new Commandery, to be paid before the same is issued, and no charge to be made for Charter when preceded by Dispensation, One Hundred Dollars;
- (b) For every Companion receiving the Order of the Red Cross, Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00); (Amended 5/23/2016)
- (c) For annual dues for each member of a Commandery, other than honorary members, Sixteen Dollars, and no cents (\$16.00); (Amended 5/18/2012)
- (d) The interest on deposits and investments;
- (e) The money required to be collected for the dues and assessments of the Grand Encampment. (GE 41)

Section 29.

Fees and dues are payable by Commanderies under Dispensations as well as those Chartered. A rebate upon the fees and dues, or either, for any Templar year, may be granted by the Grand Commandery.

Section 30.

All moneys of the Grand Commandery which shall come into the hands of the Grand Treasurer shall be deposited by him in such depository or depositories as shall be designated by the Committee on Finance and approved by the Grand Commandery and shall be disbursed only on orders signed by the Grand Commander, or the Deputy Grand Commander in case of emergency, the Grand Recorder or the Acting Grand Recorder and the Grand Treasurer or the Acting Grand Treasurer.

Section 31.

No order against moneys deposited by the Grand Treasurer or Acting Grand Treasurer, except for dues and assessments of the Grand Encampment or as provided for in Section 32, shall issue unless the Grand Commandery shall have made an appropriation to cover the same.

Section 32.

In cases of emergency or necessity, orders approved by the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, and the Chairman of the Committee on Finance may be drawn on the general funds of the Grand Commandery to an amount not exceeding One Thousand Dollars in the aggregate in anyone Templar year.

AUDITING of ACCOUNTS

Section 33.

The books and accounts of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, the assistant or Assistants to the Grand Recorder the Trustees of the Grand Commandery, the Directors of the Educational Foundation, and of all such Officers and Committees as shall have charge of or handle any moneys or property of the Grand Commandery shall be audited at least once in each year by the Committee on Finance or by such accountant or accountants as it shall, with the approval of the Grand Commander, employ for the purpose.

The Grand Commander shall have power to enforce the delivery of the books and accounts, vouchers and papers of such Officers, Trustees, Directors, and Committees, and of the property, securities and investments in their possession or custody, to the Committee on Finance or to such accountant or accountants for the purpose of such audit. The Committee on Finance shall furnish a copy of all audits, either by the Committee on Finance or by such accountant or accountants as the Committee on Finance shall employ for such purpose, to the Grand Commander and to the Deputy Grand Commander. A copy of all audits shall accompany the report of the Committee on Finance and these copies are to be filed in the Grand Recorder's office.

For accounting purposes, the fiscal year of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania shall be from June 1 to May 31. (Amended 5/18/2012)

The fiscal year of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation shall be from January 1st to December 31st.

PERMANENT FUND

Section 34.

In order to ensure stability and perpetuity to the Grand Commandery, there shall be established a Permanent Fund, which shall be invested by the Trustees of the Grand Commandery. There shall be set aside for this purpose all securities, investments, and property constituting the principal of the Permanent Fund now in the hands of the Trustees of the Grand Commandery; all moneys and property which may accrue to the Grand Commandery by donation, gift, devise or otherwise for this purpose; and all such sums as the Grand Commandery may by resolution apply to this purpose.

The Trustees shall determine annually, as of January 1st, the earnings income from the investments of the Permanent Fund accumulating in the preceding year ending December 31st. Thereafter, as soon as possible, pay over to the Grand Recorder such amounts as required by the General Fund Annual Budget of the Grand Commandery for income from the Permanent Fund. The unused balance of the earnings income is to remain in the control of the Trustees of the Permanent Fund for rollover into whatever investment is currently employed.

Section 35.

The principal of the Permanent Fund shall not be diminished, except by resolution of the Grand Commandery at an Annual or a Special Conclave, provided, however, that the proposed resolution shall be included in the notice or Call of such Conclave or that at 'least fifteen days' notice of the proposed resolution be otherwise given.

ENDOWMENT FUND AND HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE FUND

Section 36.

To ensure stability and perpetuity of the General Fund of the Grand Commandery, there will be established an ENDOWMENT FUND that the Trustees of the Grand Commandery will invest. There will be set aside for this purpose, all securities, investments, and property constituting the principle of the Endowment Fund now in the hands of the Trustees of the Grand Commandery, all money and property that may accrue to the Grand Commandery by donation, gifts, wills and bequests or devise otherwise for the purpose, and all such sums as the Grand Commandery may, by resolution, apply to this purpose.

The interest income from the Endowment Fund may be used for support of the General Fund Budget and Grand Commandery Programs only in accordance with the following table:

1. When the principal of the Endowment Fund reaches \$250,000, based on its market value, 25% of the earnings income generated may be transferred for support.
2. When the principal of the Endowment Fund reaches \$500,000, based on its market value, 50% of the earnings income generated may be transferred for support.
3. When the principal of the Endowment Fund reaches \$750,000, based on its market value, 75% of the earnings income generated may be transferred for support.
4. When the principal of the Endowment Fund reaches \$1,000,000, based on its market value, 90% of the earnings income generated may be transferred for support. (Rev. 2004)

The Trustees of the Endowment Fund shall determine annually, as of March 1st, the earnings income from the investments of the Endowment Fund accumulating in the preceding year ending February 28th and therefore pay over such amount as designated by the above table, to the Grand Recorder for deposit in the General Fund of the Grand Commandery. The unused balance of the earned income is to remain in the control of the Trustees of the Grand Commandery for rollover into whatever investment plan is currently employed.

The principle of the Endowment Fund may never be utilized for support of the General Fund Budget or Grand Commandery programs. Should the Grand Commandery cease to exist, the principal of this fund will be returned to the Constituent Commanderies (or their successors through consolidation), in proportion to their contributions.

Neither the Board of Trustees nor any member will receive any pecuniary compensation or remuneration for services in the investment or management of the Endowment Fund.

The Board of Trustees shall render to the Grand Commandery at every Annual Conclave, and more often if requested by the Grand Commander, a true and correct account, in detail, of all of the receipts and disbursements, with a descriptive inventory covering all of the investments and funds and will submit the books for examination by the Committee on Finance.

Section 36.1

In order to ensure the perpetuity of funds that will be available to send clergy to the Holy Land, there shall be established a **Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund**.

All money and property which may accrue by donation, gift, or devise for this purpose, will be administered and invested by the three (3) Trustees of the Endowment Fund. The Trustees shall administer the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund for the purpose for which it was created and no other.

1. 20% of the earned income must revert to the principal.
2. 80% of the earned income will be turned over to the Grand Recorder to send clergy to the Holy Land.

3. The earned income not used will be placed in an account with the Grand Treasurer earmarked Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund.

The Trustees of the Endowment Fund shall render to the Grand Commandery at every Annual Conclave, and more often if requested by the Grand Commander, a true and correct account of the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund, in detail, of all the receipts and disbursements, with a descriptive inventory covering all of the investments and funds and will submit the records for examination by the Committee on Finance. (Added 5/19/2018)

SEAL

Section 37.

The Seal of the Grand Commandery shall be circular in form, the circumference being in the form of a rope, within which shall be a circle in the form of a beaded chain, between which circles shall be the words "The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania". Within the inner circle shall be a Templar Cross and under the cross shall be the date "May 12, 1797." The seal can be used in Traditional or Modern form as pictured.

Traditional



Modern



Section 38.

The Seal of the Grand Commandery shall be affixed to all Charters and Dispensations to form a Commandery, to certificates given by the Grand Recorder, and to such other papers as Templar Law requires or the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander directs. (GE 52 d)

APPEALS

Section 39.

An Appeal may be taken to the Grand Encampment from any decision or action of the Grand Commandery on question arising as to the construction or effect of the Constitution, Statutes or Rituals of the Grand Encampment. (GE 42)

OFFICERS

Section 40.

The Officers of the Grand Commandery shall be:

A Grand Commander,
A Deputy Grand Commander,
A Grand Generalissimo,
A Grand Captain General,
A Grand Senior Warden,
A Grand Junior Warden,
A Grand Prelate,
A Grand Treasurer,
A Grand Recorder,
A Grand Standard Bearer,
A Grand Sword Bearer,
A Grand Warder,
A Grand Sentinel
Division Commanders

The first nine of whom, except the Grand Prelate, shall be elected, and the last five of whom, together with the Grand Prelate, shall be appointed by the Grand Commander. No Grand Commander shall have any constitutional officers other than those enumerated in this section. (GE 43)

Section 41.

The Grand Commander may, in his discretion, appoint from among the members of the Grand Commandery, a Marshal of the Grand Commandery, a Herald of the Grand Commandery, and such number of Administrative Officers as the good of the Order may require. The Administrative Officers, hereafter known as Division Commanders, will be installed, will have rank and may, after serving for a period of three years or more, retire from office, being entitled only to the honors of the office. (GE 43)

The Grand Commander may appoint personal aides from among the members of the Commandery. Such aides are not officers of the Grand Commandery and are not entitled to rank or tenure. Personal aides shall be permitted during their term of office to wear (i) the Templar Cross and (ii) a white 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. (Amended 5/19/2018)

TERM OF OFFICE

Section 42.

Elected Officers of the Grand Commandery shall hold office until their successors shall have been duly elected and installed. The Grand Prelate shall hold office during the Grand Commandery year or during the pleasure of the Grand Commander. The Grand Commandery may provide that other appointive constitutional officer shall be appointed to serve during the full Grand Commandery year or only during the Annual Conclave. (GE44)

ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE

Section 43.

No Knight Templar shall be eligible to any Office in the Grand Commandery, except that of Grand Prelate, unless he shall be at the time a member thereof. The Grand Prelate shall be a member of a Commandery in this jurisdiction. (GE 45)

ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

Section 44.

The Election of Officers of the Grand Commandery shall be held at the Annual Conclave. Officers not elected shall be appointed by the Grand Commander-elect before his installation.

Section 45.

The Election of Officers shall be by nomination and ballot. (GE 136). Only those nominated shall be eligible for election.

The procedure shall be as follows:

(a) On the day of convening of the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, the Grand Commander shall call for nominations of Officers and Trustees to be elected.

(b) Only actual candidates for Office shall be nominated and the nominator shall have the approval of the Sir Knight he intends to nominate before making the nomination.

(c) No Sir Knight shall be permitted longer than two minutes to place a name in nomination or to second a nomination. Only one second for a nominee shall be permitted.

(d) Before the convening of Grand Commandery, a candidate for office should give the Grand Commander the name of the Sir Knights who will place his name in nomination and second that nomination.

(e) If only one Sir Knight is nominated for an Office, the Grand Recorder, or a Sir Knight so designated by motion, shall cast a unanimous ballot and the Grand Commander shall declare the Sir Knight elected to that office.

(f) If there are two or more Sir Knights nominated for an Office there shall be an election for this Office by individual ballot. A majority of the whole number of votes cast shall be necessary for a choice. If on the first ballot no choice is made, a second ballot shall be had. If on the second ballot no choice is made, a third ballot shall be had which shall be confined to the two highest of those voted for, or when such instances occur, to the one who has a plurality, and the other two or more of the next highest on the return who shall have an equal number of votes. If on the third ballot no choice is made, the balloting shall be continued in the same manner until one of the candidates voted for shall receive a majority of the whole number of votes cast. Neither a blank ballot nor a ballot voted in error shall be counted as a vote cast.

Section 46.

The procedure of conducting an election by individual ballot shall be as follows:

(a) Each Sir Knight entitled to vote, including proxy votes, shall register with the Committee on Credentials at a place designated by the Grand Commander. The Committee shall accept registration on the day of convening of Grand Commandery from 8: 30 A.M. to 12:00 noon. An additional period of time to register, on the day preceding the convening of Grand Commandery, may be specified by the Grand Commander and without advance notice.

(b) Each Sir Knight upon registering with the Committee on Credentials shall receive an official ballot or proxy ballot, to which he is entitled, to cast at the election. Only official ballots for the office shall be counted by the tellers appointed to conduct the election. The tellers for each contested office shall be appointed following the completion of the nominations. The Chairman of each group of tellers shall select additional Sir Knights, approved by the Grand Commander, when two or more ballot boxes for an office are used. The appointed tellers shall have their respective ballot boxes open, at a place and time selected by the Grand Commander and announced by him on the convening day and they shall accept official ballots after that time. The tellers shall not count any votes until the Grand Commander shall have ascertained that all ballots have been cast and shall have directed them to proceed with finalizing their count.

(c) The official ballot shall contain individual ballots for each of the Offices and Trustees, also two or more alternate ballots for use when a Sir Knight does not receive a majority of the votes as required for election. Should additional ballots be needed for an election, the Grand Commander shall designate a ballot for an uncontested office as the official ballot for the contested office. Only the designated ballot for an office shall be counted as a vote cast.

Section 47.

The Grand Commander may permit non-members of Grand Commandery to be present during the Election of Officers.

VOW OF OFFICE

Section 48.

Each Officer of the Grand Commandery, before entering the exercise of the duties of his office, shall take the following vow, viz:

"I (A. B.), do promise and vow that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, and the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of this Grand Commandery, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which I have been chosen to the best of my ability." (GE 46)

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Section 49.

The Installation of Officers of the Grand Commandery shall be held as soon thereafter as the adjournment of Grand Commandery will permit.

Section 50.

All Officers of Grand Commandery shall be installed into office in a formal ceremony for such purpose. Such installation may be conducted at a Public Ceremony. The incoming Grand Commander, as soon as he is elected, shall be charged with the responsibility of making suitable arrangements therefore, and for the appointment of the Installing Officer, Marshal, and Prelate for such ceremony. (GE 145 a)

Section 51.

The Officers of the Grand Commandery may be installed by the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Generalissimo, or the Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment; by the Grand Commander or a Past Grand Commander; or in their absence by a Past Commander. (GE 141)

Section 52.

Any Officer of the Grand Commandery who cannot be present at the regular installation may be installed by taking the oath of office in any Commandery, or in cases of emergency by taking such oath before a Past Commander of a Constituent Commandery. Such obligations shall be certified to the Grand Recorder within ten days. (GE 142)

Section 53.

It is not necessary for a re-elected Officer to be installed, as he holds over by virtue of his former election and installation until his successor is installed. (GE 146)

DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICERS

Section 54.

The powers and duties of the Officers of the Grand Commandery shall be such as appertain to their respective stations, conforming as nearly as may be to those of the corresponding Officers of the Grand Encampment. The Grand Commandery may require other services and the Grand Commander may

assign to his subordinate Officers duties conformable to Templar law and usage. In addition to these general powers and duties certain specific ones are herein after set out for specific Officers. The enumeration of such specific powers shall not be deemed to be a limitation thereof. (GE 47)

THE GRAND COMMANDER

Section 55.

The Grand Commander shall have the following specific powers and duties:

(a) To maintain a watchful supervision, over all Commanderies in this jurisdiction and to see that the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment, and the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery are duly and promptly observed; (GE 48 a)

(b) To preside at all Conclaves of the Grand Commandery;

(c) To appoint all Committees and all Officers not made elective, and to fill all vacancies, such appointments to serve during his pleasure or until their successors have been elected or appointed and installed; (GE 48 b)

(d) To grant, during any recess of the Grand Commandery, Dispensations for the formation of new Commanderies; but no such Dispensation shall be issued unless the following requirements are met:

1. A petition by nine or more duly qualified Knights Templar;

2. The consent and recommendation of the nearest Commandery in this jurisdiction, provided that if the new Commandery is to be located in a city having more than one Commandery, two of such Commanderies must consent and recommend, and provided further that if the Commanderies in such city have concurrent jurisdiction, then all the Commanderies therein stationed must consent and recommend. A dispensation when issued shall be in force until the next Annual Conclave of Grand Commandery; (GE 48 c)

(e) During a recess of the Grand Commandery to arrest the Charter or Dispensation of a Commandery, or to place a Commandery under Probation under such conditions as he shall determine until the next Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery. Also, to suspend from his office any Officer of the Grand Commandery or of a Constituent Commandery, but in no case shall such suspension affect the standing in the Order of such Officer or his membership in the Grand Commandery or in the Commandery. The Grand Commander shall report any such action, in full, at the next Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery for its final action; (GE 48 d)

(f) To visit and preside in any Commandery in this jurisdiction and to give such instructions and directions as the good of the Order may require, always adhering to the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment and the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery; (GE 48 e)

(g) To grant Dispensations to Commanderies:

1. To hold Special Conclaves for the conferring of the Orders at places within their jurisdiction other than those named in their Charters. (GE 48 f 1)

2. To permit them to receive petitions and ballot there on at the same Stated Conclave or at Special Conclaves after such notice as he may deem proper. (GE 48 f 2)

3. In the event the Asylum of the Commandery has been destroyed or damaged to such an extent as to render it unfit for occupancy, to hold Stated Conclaves at a place within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania other than that named in the Charter, for the purpose of temporarily or permanently removing the Asylum of the Commandery, pursuant to the provisions of Section 359 of the Constitution and Laws of Grand Commandery. (GE 48 f-3)

4. To appear in public in Full Templar Uniform. (GE 214)

5. To hold a special election for officers. (GE 76)

(h) To appoint Past Grand Commanders, Officers of the Grand Commandery, or Past Commanders of Constituent Commanderies to represent the Grand Commandery within sister jurisdictions, such appointee to be known as "Grand Representative" and to serve at the pleasure of the Grand Commander or until a successor is appointed; (GE 48 g)

(i) To submit, at least five days before the Annual Conclave, a copy of his report to each member of the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers and to each member of the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence a copy of those parts of his report which relate to Decisions, Dispensations and other acts involving the construction, interpretation, or application of Templar Laws;

(j) To cause to be executed and delivered to the proper custodian, the official bonds of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, the Assistant or Assistants to the Grand Recorder, the Trustees of the Grand Commandery, and the Chairman and the Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Educational Foundation, and to see that the same are duly renewed when and as they shall severally expire;

(k) To require reports from and to summon before him, the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, the Trustees of the Grand Commandery, the Directors of the Educational Foundation, and all Officers and Committees who may have charge of or handle any moneys or property of the Grand Commandery, with their books and accounts, vouchers and papers, and the property in their possession or custody, and to audit or cause the same to be audited;

(l) To have and use a Seal to attest his official acts. Such Seal shall be circular in form, the outer circumference being in the form of a rope, within which shall be a circle in the form of a beaded chain. Between which circles in the Traditional seal shall be the words "R. E. Grand Commander of Knights Templar". Within the inner circle shall be a Templar Cross under which shall be the words "of Pennsylvania". Between which circles in the Modern seal shall be the words "Right Eminent Grand Commandery of Knights Templar". Within the inner circle shall be a Templar Cross and under the cross shall be the date "May 12, 1797." The seal can be used in Traditional or Modern form as pictured.

Traditional



Modern



(m) To conduct Official Visitations for the purpose of inspection or evaluation of each Constituent Commandery in his jurisdiction, either personally or by his Personal Representative, and to report the same, together with any recommendations he may have, at the next Conclave of the Grand Commandery. (GE 48 h)

(n) The Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery may investigate and may determine to initiate proceedings to consolidate two or more Commanderies if in their judgement it should be undertaken. He shall cause a conference to be held by him with the Eminent Commanders of the Commanderies involved. Two or more Commanderies have concurrent jurisdiction or stationed in adjoining jurisdictions may be consolidated into one Commandery, provided that the proposition for such consolidation shall be presented at a Stated Conclave of each Commandery, which proposition shall be acted upon at a subsequent Stated Conclave. Notice thereof shall be mailed to all Members of each Commandery involved at least ten days prior to such Conclave. A consolidation shall not be affected 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 may unite under the Charter of one of said Commanderies, retaining the Officers thereof, or they may elect new Officers by a proper Dispensation. The Charter or Charters surrendered must be deposited with the Grand Recorder. (GE 169)

(o) To report at the Annual Conclave his official doings during the preceding year.

(p) To approve of the selection by the Trustees of the Grand Commandery of the investment department of a qualified financial institution to review all investments of the Trustees of the Grand Commandery. He shall in his annual report make note that this has been accomplished, and any recommendations made by the investment department of the financial institution shall be made a part of the annual report. (GE 81)

(q) To group the Constituent Commanderies into Divisions and shall appoint for each Division, a Division Commander.

(r) To group the Divisions into geographical sections and shall assign an elected Grand Officer for each geographical section.

(s) To meet quarterly, or as often as he shall deem necessary, with the Elected Grand Officers to administrate, implement and review the programs of the Grand Commandery, and at his discretion approve expense remunerations.

Section 56.

A Grand Commander cannot levy an assessment upon the Commanderies to raise funds for any purpose.

Section 57.

In the event of a vacancy arising through death, resignation, or otherwise, in the office of Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Assistant to the Grand Recorder, or Trustees of the Grand Commandery, the Grand Commander shall audit or cause to be audited the books and accounts of and the securities and investments held by such officer and shall transmit a copy of the report of such audit to the successor of such officer.

THE DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER

Section 58.

The Deputy Grand Commander in the event of the absence of the Grand Commander or his inability to perform the duties of his office, shall act as Grand Commander. In the event of the death, permanent removal from the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery precluding the performance of the duties of his office, or the permanent disability of the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander shall succeed to the office and be regularly installed. The Deputy Grand Commander shall be assigned the administration of a geographical section of the jurisdiction. He shall administer the programs of the Grand Commandery and the Grand Commander and be responsible for the implementation of the objectives. At all other times, he shall perform such duties as may be assigned him by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander. (GE 49)

THE GRAND GENERALISSIMO AND THE GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL

Section 59.

In case of the temporary absence or disability of their respective superiors, the Grand Generalissimo and the Grand Captain General shall perform the duties of their respective superiors. In case of the advancement, death, permanent removal from the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery precluding the performance of the duties of office, or the permanent disability of their respective superiors, the Grand Generalissimo and the Grand Captain General shall severally succeed to the office of such superiors and be installed therein. (GE-50) The Grand Generalissimo and the Grand Captain General shall each be assigned the administration of a geographical section of the jurisdiction. They shall administer the programs of the Grand Commandery and the Grand Commander and be responsible for the implementation of the objectives. They shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander, and such as are traditionally appropriate to their respective stations.

PAST GRAND COMMANDER ASSUMES THE DUTIES OF GRAND COMMANDER

Section 60.

In the event of the absence, death or disability of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General, the Junior Past Grand Commander according to service if not incapacitated, and if incapacitated, the next Junior Past Grand Commander, shall assume the office and discharge the duties of Grand Commander. (GE 53)

THE GRAND SENIOR WARDEN AND THE GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN

Section 61.

The Grand Senior Warden and the Grand Junior Warden shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander, and such as are traditionally appropriate to their respective stations. The Grand Senior and the Grand Junior Warden shall each be assigned the administration of a geographical section of the jurisdiction. They shall administer the programs of the Grand Commandery and the Grand Commander and be responsible for the implementation of the objectives.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH of GRAND OFFICERS

Section 62.

Each elected Officer of Grand Commandery within three months following his first installation as an elected Officer shall furnish a biographical sketch of his life. The Grand Recorder will provide a form for this purpose and after its completion it shall be filed with the Grand Recorder for preservation and reference. If the newly elected officer fails to furnish the biographical sketch within three months, the Grand Recorder shall inform the Grand Commander. If it has not been furnished by the next Annual Conclave of Grand Commandery the Grand Recorder shall inform the Grand Commandery of the neglect.

It is the duty of each Past Officer of Grand Commandery to keep the Grand Recorder informed of any changes in the biographical sketch.

VISITATION EXPENSE of OFFICERS

Section 63.

The Grand Commander shall be given expense money up to the amount appropriated for this purpose, in installments, to help defray the expenses encountered in his visitations to Commanderies and/or Divisions.

Section 64.

The Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, the Grand Captain General, the Grand Senior Warden, and the Grand Junior Warden shall be given expense money up to the amount appropriated for this purpose to help defray the expenses encountered in their visitations to Commanderies and/or Divisions.

THE GRAND TREASURER

Section 65.

The Grand Treasurer shall perform such duties as are prescribed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, and the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery: (GE 51)

(a) He shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, give bond with surety in the form, manner and amount as shall be designated by the Committee on Finance and approved by the Grand Commandery.

(b) He shall receive all moneys paid to him by the Grand Recorder, give his receipt therefore, and deposit the same in the name of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, in such depository or depositories as shall be designated by the Finance Committee and approved by the Grand Commandery. He shall keep proper books and accounts and shall pay out no moneys except on orders drawn pursuant to Sections 30, 31 and 32 of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania.

(c) He shall submit his books and accounts, vouchers and papers for audit when required by the Committee on Finance or by the Grand Commander.

(d) He shall report at the Annual Conclave, and whenever else required by the Grand Commander, a statement of his accounts and the condition of the treasury.

(e) At the expiration of his term of office he shall deliver to his successor, upon the certificate of the Grand Commander that such successor is duly qualified to receive the same, all moneys, books, accounts, papers, and other property pertaining to his office, or otherwise belonging to the Grand Commandery, in his hands or under his control.

Section 66.

For his services, the Grand Treasurer shall receive such compensation as the Grand Commandery may determine.

THE GRAND RECORDER

Section 67.

The Grand Recorder shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment and the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery:

(a) He shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, give bond with surety in the form, manner and amount as shall be designated by the Committee on Finance and approved by the Grand Commandery.

(b) He shall keep a true record of the proceedings of the Grand Commandery, of the returns of Commanderies, and of all transactions of his office.

(c) He shall give notice of the Annual and Special Conclaves of the Grand Commandery and of the meetings of the Stated Conference; and shall issue to the Officers and members of the Grand

Commandery, and to the Commanderies, such orders, directions and notices as the Grand Commander shall direct.

(d) He shall cause the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment and the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery to be carefully bound up in a book with a sufficient number of blank leaves on which he shall enter in their proper places and under their proper headings all amendments or alter that may be made therein.

(e) He shall keep true and correct accounts between the Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery, and between the Grand Commandery and the Commanderies under its jurisdiction.

(f) He shall collect, receive, and account for all money due the Grand Commandery and pay over the same to the Grand Treasurer forthwith, taking his receipt, therefore.

(g) He shall keep a register of each Commandery, showing the Officers, Past Officers, and members of each; also, of the Orders conferred, restorations to good Templar standing, admissions to membership, rejections, deaths, resignations, suspensions, and expulsions; and if monthly returns are not received by him from any Commandery within ten days after its Stated Conclave, he shall report the fact to the Grand Commander.

(h) He shall prepare, cause to be printed, and distribute at the Annual Conclave, a roll of the members of the Grand Commandery for the assistance of the Committee on Credentials.

(i) He shall report at the Annual Conclave, and whenever else required by the Grand Commander, a statement of his accounts; and shall also report at the Annual Conclave an abstract of the returns of Commanderies showing their elected Officers, their membership and gains therein and the losses from, the amounts paid by and due from each Commandery, and such other matters as he shall deem for the good of the Order and as the Grand Commander shall direct.

(j) He shall prepare and cause to be printed, under the direction of the Printing and Publishing Committee, the Proceedings of the Annual Conclave and shall distribute copies of such Proceedings as the Grand Commandery shall prescribe.

(k) He shall transmit to the Recorder of each Commandery the names of all Knights Templar expelled from Commanderies; shall furnish to each Recorder the necessary blanks for monthly returns and for inquiries; and shall examine the records of the Grand Commandery and reply to all inquiries respecting petitions for the Orders and for membership as promptly as possible.

(l) He shall submit his books and accounts, vouchers and papers for audit when required by the Committee on Finance or by the Grand Commander.

(m) At the expiration of his term of office he shall deliver to his successor, upon the certificate of the Grand Commander that such successor is duly qualified to receive the same, all books, accounts, papers and other property pertaining to his office or otherwise belonging to the Grand Commandery, in his hands or under his control.

(n) He may appoint an Assistant or Assistants, subject to the approval of the Grand Commandery, which shall determine his or their compensation. Each of such Assistants shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, give bond with surety in the form, manner and amount as shall be designated by the Committee on Finance and approved by the Grand Commandery.

(o) He shall communicate annually to the Grand Master, the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, and to the Grand Recorders of each of the other Grand Commanderies, the Roll of Officers of the Grand Commandery and such other matters as may give information on the condition of the Order in the jurisdiction or may conduce to the general good of the Order. (GE 52 a)

(p) He shall forward to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, on or before the first day of July of each year, the Annual Returns and dues of the Grand Commandery. (GE 52 b)

(q) He shall transmit annually to the Grand Master and the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment copies of all printed Proceedings and of the Laws adopted by the Grand Commandery. (GE 52 c)

(r) He shall have charge of the Seal of the Grand Commandery and attest all papers requiring the same. (GE 52 d)

(s) He shall send promptly to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment two copies of appointment and notice of death of members of the Grand Encampment which may occur within this jurisdiction, giving the date of birth and of death, together with the character of his official and other service. (GE 52 e)

(t) He shall perform such other duties as shall be prescribed by the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery. (GE 52 f)

(u) He shall annually file the Grand Commandery taxes following the appropriate format and timeliness governed by the taxing body's rules and regulations. (Amended 5/23/2016)

Section 68.

For his services, the Grand Recorder shall receive such compensation as the Grand Commandery may determine.

THE APPOINTED OFFICERS

Section 69.

The duties of the remaining Officers, as well as those above specified, shall be such as are traditionally appropriate to their respective stations, or as shall be assigned to them by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander. (GE 30)

THE MARSHAL OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY AND THE HERALD OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY

Section 70.

The duties of the Marshal of the Grand Commandery and the Herald of the Grand Commandery shall be such as are traditionally appropriate or shall be assigned to them by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander.

DIVISION COMMANDERS

Section 71.

The Status and Duties of the Division Commander are:

- (a) He shall be under the immediate direction of and shall report to the Elected Grand officer assigned to his Section.
- (b) He shall assist the Grand Commander in the administration and implementation of the programs of the Grand Commander and the Grand Commandery in his Division. He shall be responsible for the implementation of their objectives, specifically an ongoing membership program and to assure that the spiritual aspect of Templary is exercised.
- (c) He shall attend and assist at all visits of the Grand Commander or his personal representative to the Commanderies within his Division.
- (d) He shall visit each Commandery within his Division for the purpose of instruction or special business and to frequent other activities.
- (e) He shall be responsible for conducting a School of Instruction within the Division. He shall check the correctness of Ritualistic procedures, the proper wearing of the uniform and jewels, the arrangements of the Asylum, the general deportment of the Officers and attest to the Grand Commander as to the proficiency of all Commandery Line Officers prior to their advancement to any elective station. (Rev. 2016)
- (f) He shall report on the status of the Division annually or when directed and shall undertake specialized projects or perform such duties as may be assigned.
- (g) He shall attend the Annual Conclave, take his assigned station therein and receive payment of mileage and per diem as prescribed by Grand Commandery. (GE 29 a)

Section 72.

Division Commanders are Officers of Grand Commandery. They are entitled to wear the Templar Cross. They are entitled to wear the tassel and shoulder straps of a Grand Officer during their term of appointment.

TRUSTEES OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY

Section 73.

Three members of the Grand Commandery shall be elected by the Grand Commandery at the Annual Conclave and shall be designated as Trustees of the Grand Commandery. One member shall be elected for one year, one for two years, and one for three years, and at every Annual Conclave thereafter there shall be elected one member for a term of three years to take the place of the member whose term expires on that date. Nothing precludes re-election for the member whose term expires.

Section 74.

In case of death, resignation, permanent removal from the jurisdiction precluding the performance of the duties of a Trustee, or the permanent disability of a Trustee, the Grand Commander shall appoint a

member of Grand Commandery to fill the vacancy until the next Annual Conclave. If the term has not been completed at that time, an election shall be had to fill the unexpired term.

Section 75.

The Trustees of the Grand Commandery shall, before entering upon their duties, give bond with surety in the form, manner and amount prescribed by the Committee on Finance and approved by the Grand Commandery.

Section 76.

The Trustees of the Grand Commandery shall have charge of all real estate, securities and investments of the Grand Commandery and of the Permanent Fund thereof, and all moneys placed in their hands for investment; collect the income and interest thereof, and pay over such income and interest received during the Grand Commandery's fiscal year, including that derived from real estate, to the Grand Recorder on or before the last day of said fiscal year. The amount transferred shall be no more than that approved in the budget adopted by the Grand Commandery. The balance, if any, shall be retained in the Trustees cash account for use in the next fiscal accounting period. Income and interest monies, received by the Trustees, may be invested, by direct deposit or electronic fund deposit, held in a savings account or money market cash account, in a Banking, Savings and Loan Institution, or other Financial Management Institution, until the time of the annual transfer to the Grand Recorder or other such time as the Grand Commander may direct. All such income or interest monies so received and deposited, along with any interest earned on them, thereafter, must be reported in the Trustees Annual Report to the Grand Commandery.

If payment to the Grand Recorder is made by a paper transaction, the Grand Recorder shall issue a paper receipt, therefore. If payment is made by an electronic funds transfer, the notations of a fund transfer appearing on the monthly institutional statements of the Trustees and of the Grand Recorder shall fulfill the requirement for a receipt.

Section 77.

The Trustees of the Grand Commandery shall deposit all moneys received by them for investment and from the proceeds of investments and all income received by them, in such depository or depositories as shall be designated by the Committee on Finance and approved by the Grand Commandery. They shall keep proper books and accounts and shall pay out no money except: (a.) on orders signed by at least two of the Trustees or (b.) by an electronic transfer approved by at least two of the Trustees. The date, amount, and names of the approving Trustees for electronics transfers shall be made a part of the Trustees Annual Report to the Grand Commandery.

Section 78.

The Trustees of the Grand Commandery shall open a book(s), and keep separate accounts or records of each bequest, donation of money, securities, or other property, real or personal, giving date, name of testator or donor and for what special purpose, if any conditions are named.

Section 79.

All investments and deposits made by the Trustees of the Grand Commandery and title to all real estate taken by them shall be in the name of the Trustees of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania.

Section 80.

All investments of the Trustees of the Grand Commandery made during the previous Templar year shall be approved by the Grand Commandery at its Annual Conclave.

Section 81.

All investments of the Trustees of the Grand Commandery shall be reviewed each year by the investment department of a qualified financial institution selected by the Trustees and approved by the Grand Commander. The Grand Commander shall in his annual report make notation that this has been accomplished, and any recommendations made by the investment department of the financial institution shall be made a part of the annual report of the Grand Commander.

Section 82.

The Trustees of the Grand Commandery shall make no investments except in such securities as are or may be designated by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the investment of trust funds. No investment shall be made in mortgages or property owned by any of the Trustees or in which any of the Trustees has an interest.

Section 83.

Investments in securities that are not sanctioned by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the investment of trust funds, or those approved by the Grand Commandery at the Annual Conclave, or those approved by the Committee on Finance and the Grand Commander between Annual Conclaves of the Grand Commandery, must be converted by sale or exchange into such securities as are sanctioned by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the investment of trust funds or those approved by the Grand Commandery at the Annual Conclave. All investments which require the approval of the Grand Commandery shall be approved each year.

Section 84.

The Trustees of the Grand Commandery shall report at the Annual Conclave a full and complete account of their receipts and disbursements and of the real estate, securities, investments and other property in their hands, and shall make such other reports as the Grand Commander shall direct. They shall submit their books and accounts, vouchers and papers, and the securities and investments in their possession or custody, for audit once each year and when required by the Committee on Finance or by the Grand Commander.

A copy of the audit shall accompany their annual report and be filed in the office of the Grand Recorder.

Section 85.

The Trustees of the Grand Commandery shall have power to sell, convey, or lease any real estate which shall be held by them, and to execute and deliver all deeds and other instruments of writing which shall be necessary or advisable for the proposed sale, conveyance, or lease; and to sell, assign and transfer any stocks, bonds, debentures, rights or other securities or investments held by them; and to enter into any composition, compromise, or plan of reorganization with respect to the same.

Section 86.

The Trustees of the Grand Commandery must act as a body, and they shall select one of their number to act as Chairman. No single Trustee has the right, nor shall he be permitted, to invest money, sell or exchange securities, or do any other business requiring discretion. Every such act must be authorized by all the Trustees, or by a majority at a meeting called for the purpose of which each Trustee had sufficient notice.

Section 87.

The requirements of Sections 82 and 83 must be strictly adhered to with but one exception, viz., nothing in any of the foregoing sections shall interfere with provisions in any will, or in any deed of gift under which Grand Commandery shall receive a legacy or gift, in any specific securities, or directing the continuance of any investment which is the subject of the trust, or which requires the interest to be added to the principal for a period of time.

Section 88.

Nothing in any of the foregoing sections shall be construed as to prevent or prohibit the Trustees of the Grand Commandery, with the approval of the Grand Commandery, or the approval of the Committee on Finance and the Grand Commander and the Deputy Grand Commander and the Grand Treasurer, from entering into a contract or contracts on behalf of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania with any qualified bank or trust company for the custody and servicing of the investments of any part or all of the funds given over to the Trustees for investment, and for investment advisory service in connection therewith, with but one exception, viz., nothing shall interfere with the provisions listed in Section 87. Any, and all such contracts must be approved at the Annual Conclave of Grand Commandery. The bank or trust company shall receive the usual fee charged for such service. The Trustees, however, shall continue to make their annual report as required in Section 84.

Section 89.

A quorum of the Trustees of the Grand Commandery consists of a majority of the Trustees.

THE STATED CONFERENCE

Section 90.

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, the Grand Recorder, the Past Grand Commanders, the Chairman of the Committee on Finance, the Chairman of the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence and the Chairman of the Trustees of the Grand Commandery shall constitute a body designated and known as the Stated Conference. The Grand Commander may invite such other officers and members of the Grand Commandery to attend the Stated Conference as he shall determine. (GE 114 1/2 a)

Section 91.

The Stated Conference shall meet at such a time and at such a place as the Grand Commander shall direct. Notice of the meeting or meetings shall be given by the Grand Recorder to the members of

the Conference at least ten days before the date thereof. The Stated Conference may be held either in person or by video conference at the discretion of the Grand Commander. (rev. 2025)

Section 92.

The Stated Conference shall consider all matters pertaining to the good the Order and of the Grand Commandery, make such recommendations in relation thereto as it shall determine, and have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery.

Section 93.

Expenses, approved by the Grand Commander, shall be allowed members of the Stated Conference for attendance.

THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Section 94.

The Educational Foundation of the Grand Encampment, created at the Conclave in 1922 by transferring One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) from the Permanent Fund of the Grand Encampment as an endowment and augmented by the assessment of One Dollar (\$1.00) on each member of the Order, part of which was to be endowment and part to be used by the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies for loans to deserving students, the whole fund arising from the assessments equal to Nine Dollars (\$9.00) for each member having been returned to the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies for administration and use by them, constitutes a Permanent Fund for the purpose for which it was created and no others, and shall be continued under the supervision of the Educational Foundation Committee of the Grand Encampment, provided, that no transfer of such funds from one jurisdiction to another shall be made without the consent of the Grand or Subordinate Commandery upon which the request is made, and provided further, that the interest only, arising from the Permanent Fund, whether in the hands of the Educational Foundation Committee of the Grand Encampment or under the management of bodies of Grand or Subordinate Commanderies may be used for student grants, under such rules and regulations as the Educational Foundation Committee of the Grand Encampment may prescribe.(GE 18)

Section 95.

The Educational Foundation shall be designated as the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, Division of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, and shall be administered by a committee of five (5) members, who shall be appointed by the Grand Commander for five (5) years following the expiration of the terms of the present members. All vacancies among the members arising through death, resignation or otherwise shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term. No Grand Commander shall have power to remove any member who shall have been appointed by a preceding Grand Commander, except for cause.

Section 96.

The Committee shall meet annually, after the close of the Annual Conclave and under the direction of the Grand Commander, to elect a Chairman for the ensuing year. The Grand Recorder shall serve as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee but shall not be a member of the committee.

Section 97.

Members and employees of the Committee responsible for or handling any of the Foundation funds shall be bonded by an accredited surety company in an adequate amount recommended by the Committee on Finance and approved by the Grand Commandery. All such bonds shall cover the Educational Foundation Committee, Division of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, and shall issue in favor of said Division as Agent for the Trustee. All surety bonds or evidence of such bond shall be deposited with the Grand Recorder of Grand Encampment for safekeeping.

Section 98.

The Committee shall administer the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, Division of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, for the purposes for which it was created and no others, under such rules and regulations as it shall from time to time adopt with the approval of the Grand Commandery and not inconsistent with the Regulations and Standard Practices of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

Section 99.

All moneys of the Foundation which shall come into the hands of the Committee or the officers thereof shall be deposited in the name of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, Division of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, in such depository or depositories as shall be designated and approved by the Committee and disbursed only on by the Committee, and disbursed only on checks signed by the Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer or any two of them if so authorized by action of the Committee.

Section 100.

All investments of the Educational Foundation made during the previous Templar year shall be approved by the Grand Commandery at its Annual Conclave.

Section 101.

All investments of the Educational Foundation shall be reviewed each year by the investment department of a qualified financial institution selected by the Educational Foundation Committee and approved by the Grand Commandery. The Grand Commander shall in his annual report make notation that this has been accomplished, and any recommendations made by the investment department of the financial institution shall be made a part of the Grand Commander's annual report.

Section 102.

The Committee shall have power to invest so much of the moneys coming into its hands as in its opinion shall not be necessary for the immediate purposes of the Foundation; collect the income and interest thereon and deposit such income in a properly designated depository; and when deemed expedient by the Committee, to sell, convey or dispose of any securities or investments held by them. No investments shall be made by the Committee except in such securities as are or may be designated by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the investment of trust funds; nor shall an investment be made in any security owned by any members of the Committee or in which any member of the Committee has an interest.

Accrued interest and the brokerage of any securities in which said money is invested shall be paid out of income.

Section 103.

The Committee shall report its operations to the Grand Commandery at the Annual Conclave and shall make such report to the Grand Encampment as shall be required, and such other reports as the Grand Commander shall direct.

Section 104.

The Secretary/Treasurer of the Committee or the Detail Officer employed by the Committee shall keep proper books and accounts and shall submit his (their) books and accounts, vouchers and papers, and the securities and investments in his (their) hands for audit once each year and when required by the Committee on Finance or by the Grand Commander. A copy of the audit shall accompany the annual report and be filed in the office of the Grand Recorder.

Section 105.

A quorum of the Educational Foundation Committee consists of a majority of the Committee.

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Section 106.

The Standing Committees of the Grand Commandery shall be:

- (a) A Committee on Templar Jurisprudence;
- (b) A Committee on Finance;
- (c) A Committee on Doings of Grand Officers;
- (d) A Committee on Necrology;
- (e) A Committee on Tactics and Drill
- (f) A Committee on Credentials;
- (g) A Committee on By-Laws;
- (h) A Committee on Mileage and Per Diem;
- (i) A Committee on Printing and Publishing;
- (j) A Committee on Annual Conclave;
- (k) A Committee on Religious Activities
- (l) A Committee on Membership.

Each of these Committees shall consist of five members, except where a larger or lesser number is specified or where the Division Commanders as a group are part of the Committee. They shall perform such duties as the constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery may prescribe. (GE 130)

Section 107.

Each Standing Committee shall meet at the call of the Chairman of the Committee, and at such time and place as shall be prescribed in the call. (GE 96)

Section 108.

The Committee on Templar Jurisprudence shall consider all propositions to revise, alter, or amend the Constitution or Laws of the Grand Commandery, and all other matters arising on questions of Templar Law and usage which shall be submitted to it by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander and shall recommend such action with respect thereto as it shall deem proper. (GE 97)

Section 109.

The Committee on Finance shall audit or cause to be audited by Certified Public Accountants the books and accounts of and the securities, investments and other property of the Grand Commandery and of the Educational Foundation, in the possession or custody of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, the Trustees of the Grand Commandery, the Educational Foundation Committee, and all such Officers and Committees as shall have charge of or handle any moneys or property of the Grand Commandery and shall make a full report thereof at the Annual Conclave, and whenever else required by the Grand Commander. All audits not made a part of other reports shall be made a part of the report of the Committee on Finance and filed in the office of the Grand Recorder.

It shall report at the Annual Conclave an estimate of the receipts and expenditures of the Grand Commandery and shall recommend the necessary appropriations for the Templar year.

It shall examine, and make such recommendations as it shall deem proper, with respect to the annual reports of the several Commanderies.

All applications by Commanderies for remission of fees or dues shall be referred to it for report and recommendation.

The members of the Committee on Finance shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred by them in attending meetings of the Committee at other times than at the Annual Conclave. (GE 98)

Section 110.

The Committee on Doings of Grand Officers shall receive and examine the reports of the Grand Commander and of the other Grand Officers with the documents referred to therein and shall recommend such action with respect thereto as it shall deem proper.

Section 111.

The Committee on Necrology shall prepare and report a suitable memorial to deceased members of the Grand Commandery and deceased Knights Templar of distinction from other jurisdictions. (GE 102)

Section 112.

The Committee on Tactics and Drill shall consist of five or more members and shall consider all questions relating to tactics and drill which shall deem proper on which shall be referred to it by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander. It shall encourage proficiency in drill in the several Commanderies and to this end, shall have power to conduct exhibition drills at the Annual Conclave and

make awards for excellence therein. It shall make such recommendations as it shall deem proper for the carrying out of its duties. (GE 105)

Section 113.

The Committee on Credentials shall consist of three members and shall register and report the names of the members of the Grand Commandery who shall be present at the Annual and Special Conclaves and the name of each member who shall be present by proxy, with the names of such proxies, and shall perform such other duties as the Grand Commander may direct to comply with Section 46 of the Constitution and Laws of Grand Commandery. (GE108)

Section 114.

The Committee on By-Laws shall examine all proposed By- Laws and proposed amendments to By-Laws which shall be submitted by Commanderies, shall ascertain that Section 205 of the Constitution and Laws of Grand Commandery has been complied with, and shall recommend to the Grand Commander and/or the Grand Commandery such action with respect thereto as it shall deem proper.

Section 115.

The Committee on Mileage and Per Diem shall consist of three members and shall ascertain and report at the Annual Conclave the names of such members and proxies for members of the Grand Commandery who are entitled to mileage and per diem, and the amounts to which each is entitled, and shall draw orders on the Grand Treasurer for such amounts. Such orders shall be signed by at least two members of the Committee and by the Grand Commander.

Section 116.

The Committee on Printing and Publishing shall consist of the retiring Grand Commander, the Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder. It shall determine, unless otherwise directed by the Grand Commandery, what portion of the proceedings shall be printed, and supervise the publication. It shall also attend to all printing for or on account of the Grand Commandery.

An official document of the Grand Commandery is a document approved by the Grand Commandery. Such document must bear the name and seal of the Grand Commandery, title and subject, author or authors, date approved by Grand Commandery and the date of release.

Section 117.

The Committee on the Annual Conclave shall consist of three or more members and shall make suitable arrangements for the Annual Conclave of Grand Commandery. The Chairman, or members of his various sub-committees, shall perform such other duties in connection with the arrangements for the Annual Conclave as the Grand Commander may request.

Section 117.1

The committee on Annual Conclave shall be given money up to the amount appropriated for the purpose at the previous Annual Conclave to help defray the Annual Conclave expenses. The Committee upon request and the approval of the Grand Commander shall be given one half of the amount appropriated, but not before April 1st, and the full amount appropriated to be in the hands of the Committee by May 15th.

Section 117.2

Any Committee on Annual Conclave funds received from Grand Commandery and not expended shall be returned to Grand Commandery.

Section 117.3

The Divine Service offering shall not be used for Conclave expenses. If the Divine Service is held in a Church, the offering shall be given to that Church. If the Divine Service is not held in a Church, the offering shall be given to a Church, to the Educational Foundation, or to the Eye Foundation as the Committee on Annual Conclave and the retiring Grand Commander may decide.

Section 118.

The Committee on Religious Activities shall consist of five or more members and the Grand Prelate, ex-officio, and shall initiate and give active leadership to programs that will place proper emphasis upon our individual Christian responsibilities, as well as to religious obligations of Templary. (GE 101)

Section 119.

The Committee on Membership shall consist of five or more members and shall consider all matters affecting membership and shall recommend appropriate programs and procedures to strengthen the membership of our Order. All matters which it may consider or deem necessary or advisable with reference to membership shall be included in their annual report. (GE 106 b)

Sections 120 thru 124

Reserved for possible future standing committees.

Section 125.

Each Standing Committee shall make a report at the Annual Conclave and at such other times as the Grand Commander may require.

Section 126.

The Grand Commander may in his discretion appoint such special Committees, with such numbers as he shall determine, and with such duties as he shall prescribe. Every such Committee shall make such reports as the Grand Commander may require. Neither chairmen nor the members of Special Committees shall be entitled to Mileage or Per Diem unless the Grand Commandery by resolution shall so provide.

Section 127.

A quorum of the Standing or Special Committees of the Grand Commandery consists of a majority of the members of such Committee.

PRECEDENCE OF RANK

Section 128.

The precedence of rank shall be as follows:

The Grand Commander,
The Deputy Grand Commander,
The Grand Generalissimo,
The Grand Captain General,
The Past Grand Commanders according to seniority of service,
The Grand Senior Warden,
The Grand Junior Warden,
The Grand Prelate,
The Grand Treasurer,
The Grand Recorder,
The Trustees of the Grand Commandery,
The Grand Standard Bearer,
The Grand Sword Bearer,
The Grand Warder,
The Grand Sentinel,
The Marshal of the Grand Commandery,
The Herald of the Grand Commandery,
The Division Commanders to take precedence among themselves in ceremonies and formations as the Grand Commander on such occasions shall direct. (GE 53)

TITLES of GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS

Section 129.

The honorary title of the Grand Commander is "Right Eminent", and his Official title is "Grand Commander." The honorary title of the Deputy Grand Commander is "Very Eminent", and his official title is "Deputy Grand Commander". The honorary title of the remaining officers of the Grand Commandery is "Eminent". The honorary title shall be used when an Officer is addressed and shall immediately precede the official title, thus:

"Right Eminent Grand Commander, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Eminent Grand Senior Warden". When referring to an officer, the honorary title shall immediately follow the name, thus: "Sir Knight Errol V. Hawksley, Right Eminent Grand Commander; Sir Knight William E. Clepper, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander; Sir Knight John M. Lewis, Eminent Grand Senior Warden". The official title shall be used by an officer only when necessary to designate his rank or official station, thus: "I am Sir Knight Albert L. Kappeler Jr., Grand Generalissimo." (GE 54)

The honorary title of a Past Grand Commander is "Right Eminent." The honorary title should be used when he is addressed and shall immediately precede the official title (Past Grand Commander), thus: "Right Eminent Past Grand Commander".

RESIGNATION

Section 130.

Any Officer of Grand Commandery may resign his office by filing a written resignation with the Grand Recorder, save that the Resignation of the Grand Recorder shall be filed with the Grand Commander. (GE 233)

FILLING VACANCIES

Section 131.

(a) A vacancy in any office of the Grand Commandery created by resignation shall be filled as prescribed in Sections 58 and 59 of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery as to the offices therein mentioned; as to all other offices, by appointment by the Grand Commander.

(b) A vacancy in the office of Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden or Grand Junior Warden shall be filled by appointment by the Grand Commander to serve during his pleasure or until their successors have been elected and installed.

(c) If the Grand Senior Warden or the Grand Junior Warden (or both) is (are) to be advanced in the line, he (they) must first resign from the office to which they had been elected.

(d) Sir Knights appointed to the offices of Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden or Grand Junior Warden shall not be installed until elected; either at a special or a regular election.

(e) Sir Knights appointed to the offices of Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder, Grand Sentinel or Division Commander shall be installed. (GE 234, page 54 digest of approved decisions of the Grand Masters, 1946)

DISCIPLINARY RULES

Section 132.

All charges which shall be brought against a Sir Knight in the Grand Commandery shall be proceeded with, and trial thereof shall be conducted, in accordance with the Disciplinary Rules adopted by the Grand Encampment. (GE 209)

(See separate section of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment for a listing of offenses, jurisdiction, information, charges, notice and service thereof, appearance, objection-plea, issue taken, testimony, punishments, appeals, retrial, and rehearing, etc.)

RETENTION OF RANK

Section 133.

One who has filled by installation and term of service, the office of Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General or Division Commander, shall retain the title of the highest office attained by him in the Grand Commandery, with the word "Past" immediately preceding and qualifying the official title. Past rank is limited to the offices named in this section. Provided that an Officer who is installed and thereafter dies during his term of office shall be entitled to be considered as having filled his term of office. (GE 235)

Section 134.

A member resigning from any of the offices enumerated in Section 133 shall retain the title of the highest office attained by him in which he served a full term and shall not retain the title of the office occupied by him at the time of his resignation. (GE 236).

HONORARY TITLES

Section 135.

Honorary titles may be conferred upon Sir Knights who have rendered long, outstanding, and distinguished service in the cause of Templary in conformity with the provisions hereof. No titles of office, whether active or honorary, shall be conferred by the Grand Commandery except the title of active officers named in, or authorized by, the constitution of the Grand Encampment, or honorary titles authorized in this section, as follows:

- (a) Honorary Past Grand Commander, Grand Treasurer Emeritus, Grand Recorder Emeritus, and Grand Prelate Emeritus upon written approval of the Grand Master of Grand Encampment;
- (b) The holder of such honorary title shall have no right, by virtue of such honorary title, to exercise any of the functions or powers of the office as to which he holds an honorary title, nor shall he by virtue of such honorary title wear the jewel of the office to which such title pertains. The holder of such honorary title, however, shall be privileged to wear the uniform and shoulder straps of the office to which such honorary title applies, and there may be conferred upon him a jewel and shoulder straps appropriate to his honorary title, provided that such jewel and shoulder straps must bear a specific notation that the title which it represents is honorary only.
- (c) Such honorary titles shall not be conferred upon any Sir Knight other than a member of this Grand Commandery.
- (d) The precedence of rank for holders of such honorary titles shall be in the order of seniority appropriate to the office for which honorary title is applicable, except that:
 - (1) The holder of the title of a past officer by virtue of service shall take precedence over the holder of an honorary title, and provided further;
 - (2) The Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, the Grand Captain General, and all Past Grand Commanders shall take precedence over all holders of honorary titles. (GE 237 a)

SHOULDER STRAPS OF OFFICERS AND PAST OFFICERS

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. (Amended 5/18/2020)

(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 rays 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. (Amended 5/16/2020)

(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.

WEARING OF TEMPLAR CROSS BY PAST GRAND OFFICERS LIMITED

Section 137.

Past Grand Commanders, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos and Past Grand Captains General are the only Past Grand Commandery Officers entitled to wear the Templar Cross. (GE 245)

OFFICERS TO WEAR INSIGNIA OF RANK
ALL OTHERS PROHIBITED FROM WEARING SAME

Section 138.

All Officers shall wear on their uniform the Insignia of Rank, and on their Templar dress coats the Shoulder Straps, to denote the Rank attained or office held. No member shall wear the Templar Cross or the Shoulder. Straps with the Templar Cross unless he shall have attained the Rank or shall hold the office that the wearing of such emblems or Shoulder Straps denotes. See Sections 505, 506 and 507. (GE 246)

DISPLAY OF THE HOLY BIBLE

Section 139.

The Holy Bible shall be displayed at all Conclaves of the Grand Commandery, on a stand, pedestal or altar, in front of the Grand Prelate's station, on the floor of the Asylum, to the left (South) of the United States flag; it shall be placed with the top to the East opened to the Gospel of St. Matthew, Chapter 28, with a small wooden Passion Cross displayed on the right and the square and compasses on the left thereon. Two crossed swords will also be displayed thereon. It is to be opened by the Grand Prelate immediately after the Conclave is declared convened; and closed by the Grand Prelate when the Conclave is declared adjourned.

The altar shall be covered with a black or white cloth cover; on the front of which a red Passion Cross may be embroidered. (Standing resolution adopted by GE 1967)

GRAND STANDARD

Section 140.

The Grand Standard is of white woolen or silk material five feet in height and three feet in width, made tripartite at the bottom, fastened at the top to the cross bar by nine rings; in the center of the field a blood red Passion Cross, over which is the motto, "In Hoc Signo Vincens"; and under "Non Nobis Domine, Non Nobis, Sed Nomini Tuo Da Gloriam." The Cross to be three feet in height and the upright bar to be six inches in width. On top of the staff a gilded globe or ball four inches in diameter, surmounted by the Cross of Salem, twelve inches in height--the Cross to be crimson, edged with gold. (GE 238)

BEAUSEANT

Section 141.

The Beauseant of the Order shall be of silk, in two stripes of equal width running horizontally, the upper stripe black and the lower stripe white, six feet by and three feet six inches on the staff; swallow-tailed one third its length; the edges of the flag shall be plain, without fringe. The name of the Commandery shall be placed upon its upper stripe and its location on the lower stripe, the

lettering being in contrasting colors to the field. The staff shall be nine feet in length, including the crosshead, which shall be of gold or gilt metal, consisting of a ball surmounted by the Cross of Salem. Cords and tassels composed of strands of black and white silk in equal proportions shall be attached to the base of the crosshead. (GE 239)

UNITED STATES FLAG

Section 142.

The Grand Commandery shall display a silk regulation Flag of the United States at all sessions of every Conclave, to be placed on the dais at the extreme right. (GE 240)

ARCH OF STEEL

Section 143.

The Grand Master of Grand Encampment, his representatives, Past Grand Masters of Grand Encampment, the Grand Commander, his representatives, and Past Grand Commanders are the only Sir Knights to be received under the Arch of Steel. Additionally, all incumbent Grand Masters of Masons or their Personal Representatives, regardless of their status as a Sir Knight, are to be received under an Arch of Steel and accorded the Public Grand Honors of Masonry. (GE Drill Regulations and Standing Resolution of 08/97)

RECEPTION OF OFFICERS

Section 144.

A Grand Commandery may prescribe the Ceremony for the Reception of its Officers by its Constituent Commanderies. (GE 132)

CONTINUANCE OF GRAND COMMANDERY

Section 145.

A Grand Commandery once formed continues as long as it has Three Commanderies; when the number of its Commanderies is less than three, it becomes extinct, and its property and effects vests in the Grand Encampment. (GE 125)

DISSOLUTION OF GRAND COMMANDERY

Section 146.

If a Grand Commandery should dissolve, its Commanderies become at once Subordinate Commanderies. (GE 126)

Sections 147 through 169 - Reserved for future use.

MEMBERSHIP OF GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Section 170.

The membership of Grand Encampment is as follows: Its members are and shall be:

- (a) All Past Grand Commanders of Grand Commanderies;
- (b) The Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, and the Grand Captain General of each of the Grand Commanderies;
- (c) The Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of each of the Subordinate Commanderies;
- (d) The Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment;
- (e) All Knights Templar from other sovereign Grand Jurisdictions who, at any Triennial Conclave, have been elected honorary members. Such an election, however, shall not confer the right to vote. (GE 2)

Section 171.

"Permanent Members" of the Grand Encampment are properly affiliated Past Grand Commanders.

"Representative Members" of the Grand Encampment are those Knights Templar who, by virtue of the offices which they hold at the time, are entitled to seats in the Grand Encampment.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION OF GRAND ENCAMPMENT BY WHOM OFFERED

Section 172.

Amendment (s) to the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar may be proposed by a member of the Grand Encampment.

A Grand Commandery, as such, is not a member of the Grand Encampment and it cannot propose amendments. (See GE 85 for procedure)

GRAND ENCAMPMENT JURISDICTION AND POWER

Section 173.

Grand Encampment has supreme legislative, judicial and executive power and jurisdiction over the Orders of Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar within the United States of America and geographical regions over which the United States exercises jurisdiction. It has sole and exclusive power and authority to formulate and promulgate the Rituals covering the Rites, ceremonies and secret work pertaining to the several Orders to be used within its Jurisdiction. It has exclusive right to control and regulate the "Insignia of Rank", "Shoulder Straps" and "Jewels of Office". (GE 3)

Among its powers, prerogatives and duties, not, however, to be construed as any limitation thereof, are the following:

- (a) It may adopt such Statutes, Rules, and Regulations, not contrary to or inconsistent with the Constitution of Grand Encampment as it may consider necessary for the good of the Order. (GE 3a)
- (b) It shall review the reports of its officers and the proceedings of Grand and Subordinate Commanderies and settle all controversies between Grand Commanderies. (GE 3d)
- (c) It may create or establish charitable projects under the designation of "Knights Templar" and this power shall be ample and exclusive. No other Templar Body owing allegiance to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar shall form or establish any charitable organization, association or corporation using the name or title thereof, the designation "Knights Templar" or any combination of such words, without the written approval of the Grand Master or the Grand Encampment (GE 3f)
- (d) Any Templar Body owing allegiance to the Grand Encampment which may hereafter form or organize any such charitable organization or corporation, although not using the name or title herein prohibited, shall nevertheless provide in its Articles of Organization that the principal officers of the Templar Body forming any such charitable organization shall be members of the Board of Control of such organizations so formed, and shall constitute a majority of the members of such Board of Control (GE 3f)
- (e) The decisions of the Grand Encampment are final, and no appeal lies there from. (GE 3)

PROXY REPRESENTATION IN GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Section 174.

The members named in paragraphs (b) and (c) of Section 170 may be represented by proxies belonging to the same Bodies. A proxy does not by virtue of such an appointment become a member of the Grand Encampment. He shall, before acting, produce acceptable evidence of his written appointment. Each member present in person or by proxy shall have only one vote. (GE 9)

GRAND MASTER OF GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Section 175.

The Grand Master of Grand Encampment generally shall have power and authority to do and perform all such acts as he may deem for the interests of Templary, and which are not contrary to the Constitution, Statutes, Rules Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment. Among his prerogatives and duties, but not to be construed as a limitation of the general grant herein contained, are the following:

- (a) To maintain a watchful supervision over all Commanderies, Grand, Constituent and Subordinate; to see that all Constitutional enactments, the Statutes, Edicts, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Encampment are duly and promptly obeyed; that the Work, Rituals and discipline of Templary are uniform; that the Insignia of Rank are those prescribed by the Grand Encampment; that a Uniform is prescribed by all Grand Commanderies for its members and that the Uniform of members of Subordinate Commanderies is that prescribed by the Grand Encampment. (GE 23a)

- (b) To remove any officer of a Grand or Subordinate Commandery when in his opinion such officer has been guilty of unknighly conduct. (GE 23d)
- (c) To visit and preside over any Grand, Constituent or Subordinate Commandery. (GE 23e)
- (d) To commission any member of the Grand Encampment to constitute a Grand Commandery which has received a Charter for its formation, or any Past Commander to constitute a Subordinate Commandery duly Chartered; to issue his proxy to any such member authorizing him to visit, inspect and preside over any Grand Commandery or Constituent Commandery, or to any Past Commander to visit, inspect and preside over any Subordinate Commandery. Such appointee shall be received as and for the Grand Master. (GE 231)

TITLES OF GRAND ENCAMPMENT OFFICERS

Section 176.

The honorary title of the Grand Master is "Most Eminent", and the official title is "Grand Master". The honorary title of each of the other officers is "Right Eminent". The honorary title shall be used in addressing or referring to an officer and when so used shall immediately precede the official title, e.g.: "Most Eminent Grand Master", "Right Eminent Grand Treasurer", etc. The official title shall only be used by an officer when necessary to designate his rank or official station. (GE 31)

GRAND ENCAMPMENT EYE FOUNDATION

Section 177.

A Foundation is hereby created for the establishing and maintaining of a project to be known as Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc, for the research, surgical treatment, and hospitalization of those who suffer from diseases of or injury to the eye, which if untreated, might result in blindness and for the correction of strabismus in children. That admission for treatment of such persons shall be without regard to race, color, creed, age, sex, or national origin. That the treatment of patients for this purpose shall be free and limited to persons unable to pay. That all matters in connection with the launching of this project including the establishing and maintaining of hospitalization, research and treatment of these persons shall be in existing facilities, and shall be handled by Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc, a nonprofit corporation, to be formed for this purpose, and by a Board of

Trustees consisting of the following officers and members of the Grand Encampment: Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder and all Past Grand Masters and six members of the Grand Encampment elected at large, two for a three-year term, two for a six-year term, and two for a nine-year term and thereafter two members shall be elected at large at each Triennial Conclave to serve for a period of nine years. All appropriate corporation duties, responsibilities and provisions shall be included in the Charter and By-Laws of Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., by action of the Board of Trustees.

For the purpose of this project, and in accordance with Section 10 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment (see Sect. 178), annual assessment of One Dollar (\$1.00) per member each year, except members whose dues have been remitted because of their inability to pay the same and those who have purchased Life Sponsorship Certificates, is hereby levied upon each Grand and Subordinate

Commandery of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America based upon the membership therein, beginning July 1, 1956, which shall be paid to Grand Encampment by the respective Grand and Subordinate Commanderies not later than July 1, 1957, and shall continue at the rate of One Dollar (\$1.00) per member each year thereafter payable not later than July 1 of each year after 1957.

Upon the payment of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) in a lump sum to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc, it shall issue to the Knight Templar making such payment a certificate as a life sponsor of Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.; and thereafter, the Grand or Subordinate Commandery of which any Knight Templar may be a member shall be exempt from the annual assessment because of his membership in his Commandery.

The Grand Treasurer of the Grand Encampment shall, within thirty days after receipt pay over all money received by him for this purpose to Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc, a nonprofit corporation, and accept its receipt, therefore. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., may solicit and receive gifts, contributions, and bequests from any source for the purpose of augmenting the funds available for this purpose. Full and complete reports of all of the affairs and activities of this project shall be rendered annually, as of July 1, each year to the Grand Encampment by the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc, so that each Knight Templar in all the Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies may have an account of the service that shall be rendered to mankind in the name of Templar Charity. (GE 18 1/2)

The Committee on the Knights Templar Eye Foundation shall have general oversight of the practical working of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. It shall, from time to time, transmit to the Grand Encampment matters of interest and recommendations for the administration of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. (GE 104 1/2)

REVENUE AND FINANCES OF GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Section 178.

Grand Encampment may levy and collect fees for Dispensations and Charters issued to Grand and Subordinate Commanderies; may levy a fee for each Knight Templar created by Subordinate Commanderies; may levy annual per capita dues upon Grand and Subordinate Commanderies; and may levy assessments upon Grand and Subordinate Commanderies based upon the membership therein. (GE 10)

NON-AFFILIATION FORFEITS MEMBERSHIP IN GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Section 179.

A member of the Grand Encampment forfeits all rights of Membership by being non-affiliated with a Commandery during such period of non-affiliation. (GE 89)

LIFE TENANCY FOR PAST GRAND COMMANDER'S JEWELS

Section 180.

(a) A Past Grand Commander's Jewel manufactured after May 23, 1979, shall be a facsimile of the jewel worn by the Grand Commander, with the exception of diamonds and the addition of a Templar Cross in the center of the pendent. Said Cross being of purple enamel, in the center of which is a 0.75 carat top grade Zirconium stone. The hanger from which the pendant is suspended will be in the form of the Coat of Arms of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in open design. All to be rose plated base metal.

(b) The recipient of the loaned jewel shall sign a statement to the effect that he acknowledges the jewel, that has or will be presented to him, on a life tenancy covenant and that the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania is the owner of said jewel. The jewel shall be returned to the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar within thirty (30) days following the death of the recipient.

(c) The jewel, while in the possession of the recipient, his family or executor of his estate, shall not be altered, more especially, that the diamond/zirconium stone shall not be removed, exchanged nor a substitution made while in his or their possession.

(d) The jewel shall be returned to the then Grand Commander, his authorized representative, or the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania. The signed statement, as specified in Section (b), shall be given, or mailed to the family or executor of his estate, when the jewel is returned to the Grand Commandery. The Sir Knight who received the jewel from the family or executor of the estate, shall give a receipt to the family or executor, stating that he has received the jewel.

END OF PART 1

PART II

CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES

ALLEGIANCE

Section 201.

Upon the formation of a Grand Commandery, all Commanderies within the Territorial Jurisdiction must enroll under such Grand Commandery and shall respect and obey the Laws and Regulations thereof. (GE 63)

HOW COMPOSED AND NAMED

Section 202.

A Commandery consists of:

- A Commander
- A Generalissimo
- A Captain General
- A Senior Warden
- A Junior Warden
- A Prelate
- A Treasurer
- A Recorder
- A Standard Bearer A Sword Bearer
- A Warder
- A Sentinel

Three Guards and such other Knights Templar as may be members thereof.

The Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Treasurer, and Recorder shall be elected, and the remaining Officers shall be appointed by the Commander. (GE 64)

Section 203.

Henceforth the names of all Commanderies shall have Templar significance and shall be adopted subject to the approval of the Grand Commander. No Commandery shall be named after a living person.

Section 204.

A Commandery not distinguished by a name and being desirous of obtaining one, or a Commandery desirous of changing its name, may after due notice to its members, adopt a resolution to that effect and certify the same to the Grand Commander for his approval or disapproval. If he shall approve, the Commandery shall produce its Charter to the Grand Commander, who shall cause the Grand Recorder to endorse thereon the name so selected and approved, and shall certify the same under his hand and seal of the Grand Commandery.

Section 204.1

Holding Commanderies. The Grand Commandery may create and charter one or more Holding Commanderies for the purpose of retaining Sir Knights who were members of a Constituent Commandery which demised. Membership in such Holding Commandery shall only be obtained by affiliation. A Holding Commandery may create Sir Knights. The Grand Commander shall appoint the officers of the Holding Commandery, except that the offices of Recorder and Treasurer shall be held by the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer respectively, and the elected Grand Commandery officers shall be ex officio members of the Holding Commandery, without payment of dues or assessments. All other members of the Holding Commandery shall be subject to the payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery, and Commandery and shall be subject to discipline as otherwise provided by law. A Holding Commandery shall not be required to have a suitable Asylum, to meet quarterly, or to create new Sir Knights. A Commander of a holding commandery does not obtain the rank of Past Commander by virtue of such service.

Section 204.2

Special Commanderies. The Grand Commandery may create and charter special purpose Commanderies, such as a research commandery, for such purposes, and under such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate. Membership in such a special purpose Commandery shall only be by affiliation and may not be a Sir Knight's sole membership. All members of a special-purpose Commandery shall be subject to the payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery, and Commandery and shall be subject in all other respects to Templar law. A special-purpose Commandery shall not be required to have a suitable Asylum, to meet quarterly, or to create new Sir Knights. A Sir Knight serving as Commander of a special-purpose Commandery does not obtain the rank of Past Commander by virtue of such service.

BY-LAWS

Section 205.

Every Commandery shall have a code of By-Laws for its government and the transactions of its business not in conflict with the Constitution, Statutes or Rituals of the Grand Encampment or the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery. The Grand Commandery may enact a uniform code of By-Laws for the government of its Commanderies. In the absence of such code, all By-Laws adopted by Commanderies and all amendments thereof shall be approved by the Grand Commandery, provided, however, that the Grand Commander may approve By-Laws or amendments thereof adopted during the recess of the Grand Commandery, which action shall be subject to review at the next Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery. (GE 168)

Any amendment to the By-Laws must be presented in writing at a Stated Conclave, signed by two members of the Commandery; be read by the Recorder and entered in full on the minutes, must lie over until the next Stated Conclave, when, the members having been duly notified that the amendment is then to be acted upon, it may be adopted by the vote of a majority of the members present.

Section 206.

Any action of the Grand Encampment and or the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania which may affect or alter the By-Laws of a Constituent Commandery in any respect, shall be regarded as an amendment to said By-Laws and shall thereafter be deemed amended to conform therewith.

Section 207.

By-Laws and amendments to By-Laws shall not become effective until a certificate of approval is read at a Stated Conclave of the Commandery. Such By-Laws and amendments and such certificate of approval shall be entered in full on the minutes of the Commandery.

CONCLAVES

Section 208.

The Conclaves of Commanderies shall be:

(a) Stated, which shall be held at least quarterly at such place as may be specified in the Dispensation or Charter or otherwise provided for by law, and at such time as fixed by the By-Laws;

(b) Special, which may be called by the Commander or by action of the Commandery. They shall be held for the conferring of Orders or for such business as may be prescribed by law, and at the place for the holding of Stated Conclaves provided that the Grand Commander may authorize the holding of such Conclaves for the conferring of the Orders at a place other than that specified in the Dispensation or Charter. The notice for Special Conclaves shall specify the time the Special Conclave shall be held; it shall also specify the business to be transacted, and none other shall be considered at such Conclave. (GE 65)

(c) Virtual – In the event of extraordinary circumstances, a Commandery may conduct a Stated or Special Conclave virtually. Such virtual Conclaves may be for the transaction of business only. A virtual Conclave shall be held by means of video teleconference or webcast, provided that the necessary facilities are widely available to the members of the Commandery, and the Conclave shall be conducted in full compliance with the requirements of Sections 65 and 66 of the GE Constitution. No ritual shall be performed, and no Orders shall be conferred during any such virtual Conclave.

Section 209.

The Stated Conclaves of a Commandery may be dispensed with during the months of July and August by vote of the Commandery.

When the Stated Conclave of a Commandery falls within the week of the Annual Conclave the Grand Commandery or the Triennial Conclave of Grand Encampment, such Conclave may be changed by vote of the Commandery at the preceding Stated Conclave, to any other day (except Sunday) within one week of the Stated Conclave.

When the stated Conclave of a Commandery falls on New Year's Day, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Eve, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, or St. John The Evangelist Day, such Conclave may be changed by vote of the Commandery at the preceding Stated Conclave, to any other day (except Sunday) within one week of the Stated Conclave.

The Grand Commander may, upon receiving a request approved by vote of the Commandery at a previous Stated Conclave, issue a Dispensation authorizing a change of the date, time and location of a Stated Conclave for reasons other than those stated above. The membership must receive due and timely notice of said change. (GE 48f)

Section 210.

A Commandery that fails to hold a Conclave for twelve consecutive months shall be placed on probation for the period of one year and if thereafter it fails to hold a Conclave for the next twelve consecutive months, its Charter may be arrested. (GE 176)

QUORUM

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) (Amended 5/18/2020)

CONDUCT OF CONCLAVE

Section 212.

At Conclaves of Commanderies, all officers shall wear full uniform.

Section 213.

The order of business shall be as directed by the Commander.

Section 214.

When any resolution or motion shall be offered or made, and seconded, it shall be stated by the presiding officer. Pending its consideration, a motion may be made to amend, stating what in particular is proposed to amend it; and an amendment to the amendment may be moved, but until the disposal of such amendment, no further amendment shall be in order.

Section 215.

After a vote upon any amendment shall have been taken, it shall not be in order to introduce the same subject under color of a new amendment or as an amendment to a pending amendment.

Section 216.

After a vote shall have been taken upon all the amendments that may have been considered, the vote shall be taken upon the resolution or motion as it may then be, including the amendments that have been adopted. Pending the consideration of such resolution or motion, no motion shall be in order except

to lay on the table, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a certain time, or to commit, all of which shall be determined without debate.

Section 217.

A motion to amend, to postpone, or to commit, may be laid upon the table without removing the pending resolution or motion before the Commandery. No other dilatory or evasive motion shall be permitted.

Section 218.

Each Sir Knight as he rises to speak shall address the presiding officer. He shall not be interrupted, nor called to order, except by or through the presiding officer. When so called to order, he shall resume his seat, but after being informed of his default, he may be then permitted to proceed in his address.

Section 219.

No Sir Knight shall be allowed to speak more than twice upon any subject under discussion, except by special permission of the presiding officer.

Section 220.

If a Sir Knight is twice called to order at the same Conclave, and again offends, the presiding officer may direct him to leave the room, and see that the direction is enforced before continuing the business of the Commandery.

Section 221.

When the presiding officer wishes the debate to close, he rises, and that ends the discussion.

Section 222.

Each member present in person shall be entitled to one vote, except that the presiding officer shall vote only in case of a tie, when he shall decide the issue. Unless otherwise provided by Grand Encampment law, all questions submitted shall be decided by a majority of the members present.

Section 223.

The presiding officer decides all questions of order, and no appeal from his decision can be taken.

Section 224.

What is known as Parliamentary Law, or conventional systems for regulating the proceedings of deliberative bodies shall not apply to Constituent Commanderies.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 225.

Each Commandery shall hold its annual election for Officers at the Stated Conclave in March, and the installation of Officers shall take place before the first day of May following.

Annual dues are calculated to the end of the Templar year, April 30th, but must be paid on or before the Stated Conclave in March, at which time the annual election is held, in order to entitle a member to vote or hold office.

Section 226.

All elections for office shall be by ballot. Should a Commandery decide by voice vote or By-Laws to have nominations of Officers and Trustees, the nominations may take place at the February Stated Conclave if their By-Laws so provide. If the By-Laws do not provide for nominations at the February Stated Conclave, the nominations shall take place just prior to the election at the March Stated Conclave.

Section 227.

No Sir Knight shall be permitted longer than two minutes to place a name in nomination, nor longer than one minute to second a nomination. Only one second for a nominee shall be permitted. If only one Sir Knight is nominated for an office, the Recorder, or a Sir Knight so designated by motion, shall cast a unanimous ballot for the Sir Knight and the Commander shall declare the Sir Knight elected.

Section 228.

A majority of the whole number of votes cast shall be necessary for a choice. If on the first ballot no choice is made, a second ballot shall be had. If on the second ballot no choice is made, a third ballot shall be had which shall be confined to the two highest of those voted for, or, when such instances occur, to the one who has a plurality, and the other two or more of the next highest on the return who shall have an equal number of votes. If on the third ballot no choice is made, the balloting shall be continued in the same manner until one of the candidates voted for shall receive a majority of the whole number of votes cast. (GE 138)

Section 229.

Any member in good standing is eligible to election to any office in the Commandery. (GE 139)

SPECIAL ELECTION

Section 230.

If a vacancy shall occur in any elective office, except when there is a right of succession as provided in Sections 246, 247 and 248 of the Constitution and Laws of Grand Commandery, application may be made, through a majority vote of the Commandery, to the Grand Commander to hold a Special Election to fill such vacancy.

Notice of such election shall be given to the members at least ten days previous to the holding thereof.

TERM OF OFFICE

Section 231.

Officers of Commanderies shall hold office and discharge the duties thereof for the term for which they are elected or appointed, May 1st thru April 30th of the following year and until their successors are duly installed. (GE 69)

TEMPLAR YEAR

Section 232.

The Templar year shall begin on the first day of May in each year and end on the thirtieth day of April following.

OFFICERS DUTY TO ATTEND ANNUAL CONCLAVES

Section 233.

It is the duty of the Commander, the Generalissimo and the Captain General of the Constituent Commanderies to attend the Conclaves of the Grand Commandery. The Grand Commandery shall have power and authority to take such action as it may deem appropriate to enforce the provisions of this Section. (GE 67)

APPEALS

Section 234.

No appeal shall lie to the Commandery from a decision of the Commander.

When the decision involves the construction or effect of the Constitution, Statutes or Rituals of the Grand Encampment, or the Laws of the Grand Commandery, or the By-Laws of the Commandery, an appeal may be taken to the Grand Commandery, but pending the decision of the appeal such ruling of the Commander shall be in full force and effect. (GE 68)

VOW OF OFFICE

Section 235.

Each Officer of a Commandery, before entering upon the discharge of duties of his office, shall take the following vow, viz:

"I (A.B.) do promise and vow that I will support and maintain the constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, and the By-Laws Of this Commandery, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office in which I am about to be installed, to the best of my ability." (GE 70)

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Section 236.

All Officers of a Constituent Commandery shall be installed into office in a formal ceremony for such purpose. Such installation may be conducted at a Public Ceremony. The incoming Eminent Commander, as soon as he is elected, shall be charged with the responsibility of making suitable arrangements therefore, and for the appointment of the Installing Officer, Marshal and Prelate for such ceremony. (GE 14Sa)

Section 237.

The Officers of a Constituent Commandery may be installed by any Permanent Member of the Grand Encampment, by the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo or Grand Captain General of the Grand Commandery, by the Commander, or by a Past Commander of any Commandery. (GE 143)

Section 238.

Before the Installing Officer administers the Vow of Office in a constituent Commandery, he shall see that the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, and that the Rituals of the Red Cross, and the Orders of Malta and, Knight Templar are in possession of the incoming Commander or properly accounted for. (GE 144)

Section 239.

A Constituent Commandery may hold a public installation of Officers in its own Asylum, but not elsewhere without a Dispensation from the Grand Commander. (GE 145)

Section 240.

It is not necessary for a re-elected or a re-appointed Officer to be installed, as he holds over by virtue of his former election or appointment and installation until his successor is installed. (GE 146)

THE COMMANDER

Section 241.

It is the duty of the Commander to see that the Officers and Members of his Commandery duly observe the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Commandery, the Constitution Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, and the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment. That accurate records are kept and just accounts rendered and that regular returns are made to the Grand Commandery annually and that the dues are promptly paid. (GE 71)

The Commander is the custodian of the Charter or the Dispensation, and it is his duty to provide for its safekeeping.

Section 242.

It shall be the duty of the Commander to appoint all Committees and all Officers not made elective, and to fill, by appointment, all vacancies, except those herein provided for, such appointees to serve during his pleasure, or until their successors have been elected or appointed, as provided by law, and installed.

Appointed power carries with it the right of removal for cause.

Section 243.

The Commander, before his installation, shall receive the several Rituals, Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, and the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery belonging to the Commandery, giving a receipt for the same, which shall be transmitted to the Grand Recorder with the annual returns.

Section 244.

In the event of a vacancy arising through death, resignation, or otherwise, in the offices of Treasurer or Recorder, or Trustees, the Commander shall audit or cause to be audited the books and accounts of and the securities and investments held by such Officer or Trustee and report thereon to the Commandery.

A copy of such report shall be transmitted to the successor of such Officer or Trustee.

COMMANDER TO APPOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE

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. (Amended 5/18/2020)

SUCCESSION TO THE OFFICE OF COMMANDER

Section 246.

In case of the temporary absence, disability, removal, or mental or physical incapacity of the Commander, the Generalissimo shall act as Commander. In case of like disability of both the Commander and the Generalissimo, the Captain General shall act. (GE 72)

Section 247.

In case of the death, permanent removal from the jurisdiction precluding the performance of the duties of his office, or the permanent mental or physical disability of the Commander, the Generalissimo shall succeed to the office and be installed. In case of like disability of the Generalissimo or his advancement as above provided, the Captain General shall succeed to the office and be installed. In case of the like disability of the Captain General, or his advancement as above provided, the office shall be vacant and the Grand Commander shall issue a Dispensation for an election to fill the vacancy and any other that may occur in consequence thereof. In case of like disability of all three officers, a Dispensation may be issued for a special election to fill the vacancies and any others which may result there from, pending which, the Junior Past Commander able to serve shall act as Commander. The Grand Commander may vary this procedure for reasons he may deem sufficient, and may issue a Dispensation to fill any vacancy. (GE 72)

Section 248.

In the event of the absence, death or disability of the first three Officers of a Commandery, the Junior Past Commander present shall assume the office and discharge the duties of Commander.

THE TREASURER

Section 249.

The Treasurer shall perform such duties as are prescribed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, and the By-Laws of his Commandery. (GE 73)

He shall receive all moneys paid to him by the Recorder, give his receipt therefor, and deposit the same in the name of the Commandery in such bank or trust company as shall be designated by the Commandery. He shall payout no money except on orders signed by the Commander, or Acting Commander, and the Recorder, or Acting Recorder. He shall countersign all such orders, keep proper books and accounts, and make such reports as shall be required of him by the Commandery or the Commander. He shall submit his books and accounts for audit when required by the Commandery, or by the Grand Commander.

Section 249(a)

Any Commandery may, by its By-Laws, provide that the offices of Treasurer and Recorder may be consolidated into the one office of Recorder and when so combined, the Recorder shall assume the duties of the Treasurer as prescribed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery and the By-Laws of his Commandery. He shall collect all dues and assessments and other monies due the Commandery and deposit the same in the name of the Commandery in such Bank or Trust Company as shall be designated by the Commandery.

He shall pay no monies, except on orders signed by the Commander or Acting Commander, and the Generalissimo or the Captain General. He shall countersign all such orders, keep proper books and accounts, and make such reports as shall be required of him by the Commandery or the Commander.

THE RECORDER

Section 250.

It is the duty of the Recorder:

- (a) To give notice of all Conclaves; notices of Special Conclaves shall state the business to be transacted; (GE 74a)
- (b) To issue summons when directed by the Commandery or the Commander; (GE 75b)
- (c) To record correctly all transactions of the Commandery; (GE 74 c)
- (d) To collect all dues and assessments and other moneys due the Commandery and pay the same over to the Treasurer forthwith, taking his receipt therefore; (GE 74 d)
- (e) To have charge of the Seal of the Commandery and to affix it to all papers requiring the same; (GE 74 e)
- (f) To report annually before the fifth day of April to the Grand Recorder the Roll of Officers and the Past Commanders in such form as shall be prescribed; (GE 74 f)
- (g) To report annually, before the fifth day of May, such information as may be prescribed by the Grand Commandery, and with said report to remit the dues and fees due the Grand Commandery, and to transmit promptly to the Grand Commander and to the Grand Recorder copies of all By- Laws and amendments thereto adopted by the Commandery;
- (h) To submit his books and accounts for audit when required by the Commandery, or by the Grand Commander. (GE 74 g)
- (i) To annually file the Commandery's taxes following the appropriate format and timelines governed by the taxing body's rules and regulations and report the taxes filing status to the Grand Recorder. (Amended 5/23/2016)

The above listed duties apply to the Recorder of a Commandery Under Dispensation as well as to those of Constituted Commanderies.

Section 251.

The Recorder, immediately after each Stated Conclave, shall make a return to the Grand Recorder of the Petitions received for Orders and Membership or for Membership (see Section 252); of those elected to receive the Orders; of those elected to Membership; of the Orders conferred; of restorations to Membership or to Good Standing; of rejections, suspensions and expulsions since the last preceding Stated Conclave; and, if none of the foregoing has occurred, or if a Stated Conclave is not held, he shall immediately so certify to the Grand Recorder upon the monthly return form.

Section 252.

When a petition for the Orders of Knighthood or for Membership has been received by the Commandery, the Recorder shall report the name of the petitioner, his date of birth, occupation, residence for six months preceding, the Lodge in which he received the Degrees, the Lodge in which he is affiliated, the Chapter in which he received or is to receive the Chapter Degrees, and also the Chapter in which he is or will be affiliated (and if for membership, the name and number of the Commandery of which he was late or now is a member), to the Grand Recorder with an inquiry if there is anything on the records of the

Grand Commandery against the petitioner. If necessary, the Recorder shall also give the notice required by Section 326.

Section 253.

The Recorder shall keep a record of the place of residence of each member of the Commandery, which record shall be the best evidence of the residence of said member. When a member of the Commandery changes his residence, and/or his mailing address, he shall forthwith notify the Recorder of such change.

TRUSTEES

Section 254.

While Trustees are not Officers of a Commandery, they are elected at the same time as the Officers of the Commandery and shall be placed on the roster with the Officers. Their term of office begins on May 1st and expires on April 30th following.

Section 255.

The Trustees shall invest all moneys placed in their hands by the Commandery for that purpose. All investments shall be made in the name of the Trustees. ("The Trustees of Commandery No Knights Templar of Pennsylvania").

Section 256.

The Trustees shall make no investments except in such securities as are or may be sanctioned by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the investment of trust funds or those approved by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander.

Section 257.

The Trustees shall, when deemed advisable and for the best financial interest of the Commandery, convert by sale or exchange any Commandery securities in their possession into such securities as are sanctioned as proper investments of trust funds.

Section 258.

Investments in securities that are not sanctioned, at any time, by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the investment of trust funds or those approved by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander must be converted by sale or exchange into such securities as are sanctioned by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the investment of trust funds or those approved by the Grand Commandery or the Grand commander.

Section 259.

The Trustees shall have charge of all real estate, securities and investments of the Commandery, collect the income, interest and dividends thereof, and pay the same over to the Recorder not later than the next Stated Conclave of the Commandery, after it shall have been received or collected, taking his receipt therefore. Moneys invested by deposit in a Federally Regulated Institution (Rev. 2007) where it is the usual practice to add the interest or dividends to the principal periodically, need not comply with the

foregoing, provided, that the Trustees note the receipt of such interest or dividends in their annual report and that the Commandery has no objection to such reinvestment of interest or dividends.

Section 260.

The uninvested cash held by the Trustees of a Commandery must be deposited in a Federally Regulated Institution (Rev. 2007) approved by the Commandery and in the name of the Trustees of the Commandery. (See 255)

Section 261.

The Trustees shall open a book, or books, and keep a separate account or record of each General, Permanent or Special Fund.

Section 262.

The Trustees shall open a book, or books, and keep a separate account or record of each bequest, donation of money, securities or other property, real or personal, giving date, name of testator or donor and for what special purpose, if any conditions are named.

Section 263.

The Trustees may sell or exchange investments and/or securities in the Permanent Fund, provided, however, that all money received in the transaction must be expended for new investments or securities and must be listed in the Permanent Fund Account.

Section 264.

The Trustees of a Commandery, elected by the Commandery, under a By-Law, must act as a body. No single Trustee has the right to invest money or do any other business requiring discretion; every such act must be authorized either by all the Trustees, or by a majority at a meeting called for the purpose, of which each Trustee had sufficient notice.

Section 265.

A Commandery may adopt and insert a section in its By-Laws (requiring the Trustees to secure approval of the Commandery, at a Stated Conclave of the Commandery, to buy, sell, change, alter or dispose of any investments or securities. The By-Laws may also provide that in case of an emergency the Commander, the Generalissimo, the Captain General, the Treasurer, and the Recorder, with the approval of the Grand Commander or the Deputy Grand Commander, may act for the Commandery and give approval for the Trustees to sell an investment for the best interest of the Commandery. If the By-Laws do not provide for Commandery approval for the sale or exchange of investments, it is to be construed that the Trustees have authority to buy, sell, change, alter or dispose of any investments or securities as they deem to be to the best interest of the Commandery.

Section 266.

A Commandery may adopt and insert a section in its By-Laws requiring the Trustees to be bonded.

Section 267.

The Trustees shall annually, at the Annual Conclave in March, or whenever required by the Commandery or the Commander, make a full report of all their transactions, with a list of all securities or

evidence of investment, held by them for the Commandery; and shall submit their books and accounts for audit when required by the Commandery or the Grand Commander.

Section 268.

The requirements of Sections 256 and 258 must be strictly adhered to in any of the foregoing sections with but one exception, viz., nothing in any of the foregoing sections shall interfere with provisions in any will or in any deed of gift under which the Commandery shall receive a legacy or gift, in any specific securities, or directing the continuance of any investment which is the subject of the Trust, or which requires the interest to be added to the principal for a period of time.

Section 269.

A Trustee of a Commandery can resign his position at any Stated Conclave of the Commandery. The Commandery can hold an election for his successor at any Stated Conclave without securing a Dispensation from the Grand Commander, but the members of the Commandery must have due and timely notice that such an election is to be held. An audit of the Trustees account is to be made when a Trustee resigns.

Section 270.

Deleted in its entirety by action of the Grand Commandery.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

Section 271.

Each Commandery may annually assemble on, or near, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension Day and Christmas, in its Asylum, some place of public worship or some suitable place proper for the occasion, and observe the day of observance in a proper manner.

ANNUAL RETURNS

Section 272.

Each Commandery shall, before the fifth day of May in each year, transmit to the Grand Recorder, in such form as shall be prescribed, an annual return, accompanied by a check or draft paid to the order of the **Grand Commandery of Knight Templar of Pennsylvania** for the amounts due to the Grand Commandery and to the Grand Encampment.

Section 273.

(a) Any Commandery, which shall fail to make its annual return or shall fail to make payment of the amounts so due by it before the fifth day of May in any year, shall be deprived of its representation in the Grand Commandery, exception as provided in Section 273(b), and shall be notified thereof by the Grand Recorder under seal of the Grand Commandery; and if after three months notice it shall fail to make such return and payment, it shall be suspended until restored by vote of the Grand Commandery, or by order of the Grand Commander.

(b) Any member of Grand Commandery who is a member of a Constituent Commandery deprived of representation at the Annual Conclave because of the failure of said Commandery to make an annual return or to remit the amount due, shall on payment of one members Grand Commandery and Grand Encampment assessment be eligible to participate in the Annual Conclave in the same manner as if the annual return and the payment of the amount due had both been made; provided, that, if the member of Grand Commandery would have been eligible for mileage and per diem, such mileage and per diem shall not be authorized nor paid until the annual return has been received and the check or draft in payment of the amount due the Grand Commandery and the Grand Encampment has been received by the Grand Recorder. Payment of anyone's annual dues shall not be credited to the Commandery making the late return or payment but shall be credited to miscellaneous receipts of Grand Commandery. Nothing in this Section (b) shall be construed to prevent the suspension of the Commandery if the return and payment are not made within the required period of time called for in Section 273(a). (rev. 2025)

ARREST, FORFEITURE OR SURRENDER OF CHARTER BY COMMANDERIES

Section 274.

The Charter of a Commandery may be surrendered by a two- thirds vote of its members present at any Stated Conclave; provided, that a written Resolution proposing such surrender shall have been read and filed with the Recorder, at the Stated Conclave next immediately preceding, and that at least twenty-one days notice of such proposal shall have been given to each member of the Commandery. (GE 171)

Section 275.

A Charter surrendered or arrested cannot be used to form a new Commandery but may be restored by this Grand Commandery to not less than nine unaffiliated former members in good standing. In such case it is not proper to reconstitute the Commandery. (GE 172)

Section 276.

The forfeiture or surrender of the Charter of a Commandery does not affect the good standing of the members thereof. (GE 173)

Section 277.

When the Charter of a Commandery is surrendered or arrested, the members in good standing, upon payment to the Grand Commandery of their dues, shall be entitled to a Certificate of Good Standing from the Grand Recorder, which shall have the effect of a Demit. (GE 174)

Section 278.

A member of a Commandery which has ceased to exist from any cause other than having been consolidated with another Commandery, is not liable for dues to such Commandery after the same has ceased to exist.

The Grand Commandery has the right to collect from the members of such extinct Commandery all dues chargeable against them at the time it became extinct and to discipline those who refuse or neglect to pay the same. When such Commandery ceases to exist, its members may join another Commandery in this Grand Jurisdiction regardless of his domicile there in, upon Petition accompanied by a Certificate from the Grand Recorder, attesting that his standing was good when said Commanderies

Charter was surrendered or revoked, or that he has subsequently paid all dues owing by him to such Commandery and has thereby restored himself to good standing as a non-affiliate. The status of members of a Commandery whose Charter has been surrendered or revoked shall be that of nonaffiliated Knights Templar. (GE 175)

Section 279.

The funds and other property of such extinct Commandery become the property of the Grand Commandery. (GE 175)

When the Charter of a Commandery is arrested, forfeited or surrendered it shall be the duty of the last Commander, Treasurer and Recorder, within three months after its dissolution, to surrender to the Grand Recorder the Charter, seal, funds, jewels rituals, records, and other books and papers and unless otherwise directed the furniture and paraphernalia of the Commandery, together with an inventory thereof.

COMMANDERY PLACED ON PROBATION OR CHARTER ARRESTED BY GRAND COMMANDER

Section 280.

A Commandery that fails to hold a Conclave for twelve consecutive months or to knight a single candidate within such period, shall be placed on probation for the period of one year, and if thereafter it fails to hold a conclave for the next twelve consecutive months or to knight a single candidate within such period, its Charter may be arrested. (GE 176)

PRECEDENCE OF RANK

Section 281.

The precedence of rank shall be as follows:

The Commander

The Generalissimo

The Captain General

The Past Commanders who are members of the Grand Encampment, followed by the other Past Commanders, according to seniority of their respective service.

The Senior Warden

The Junior Warden

The Prelate

The Treasurer

The Recorder

The Trustees

The Standard Bearer
The Sword Bearer
The Warder
The Sentinel
The Guards. (GE 78)

QUALIFICATIONS NOT TO BE CHANGED

Section 282.

The Orders of Knighthood shall be conferred only upon candidates who possess the qualifications for membership fixed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment. (GE 79) (Note--see Section 305)

Section 283.

Except as provided in Section 55, paragraph (g), subsection 2, petitions for Orders or for Membership shall be acted upon at Stated Conclaves only.

No petition may be balloted on in less than two weeks from presentation to the Commandery, provided that the Grand Commander may by Dispensation authorize the presentation of and ballot upon such petition at the same Conclave, after such notice, as he may deem proper. (GE 80)

FEE FOR ORDERS

Section 284.

No Commandery may confer the Orders of Knighthood for a fee less than Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00). The fee may not be remitted directly or indirectly. (GE 81) (Amended 5/23/2016)

Section 285.

Every petitioner for the Orders of Knighthood must pay the whole amount of the fee before the Orders are conferred upon him. (GE 134)

ORDER OF SUCCESSION FOR CONFERRING ORDERS

Section 286.

The Orders shall be conferred in the following succession: Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar. The Order of the Red Cross and/or the Order of Malta may be conferred either in full form or in short form. (GE 83)

DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 287.

A Commandery has the right to levy and collect such annual dues and per capita assessments, as it may deem necessary to defray its expenses. (GE 84)

Section 288.

A majority vote shall determine the propriety of an assessment and the amount thereof, provided that a member of a Commandery may appeal to the Grand Commandery if he feels aggrieved by such assessment and claims that it is in violation of Templar laws.

Section 289.

The dues of every Commandery shall be at least Ten Dollars per year. Dues and/or assessments of the Grand Commandery and the Grand Encampment may be in addition to the dues of the Commandery, all of which are due in advance at the Stated Conclave in March.

Section 290.

Dues and assessments for the Templar year shall be payable in advance. Each member shall be given due notice, annually in February, of the dues and assessments for the ensuing Templar Year and any indebtedness owed to the Commandery. Such indebtedness must be paid by the Stated Conclave in March or the member shall be subject to the provisions of Section 294. (GE 133)

Section 291.

Dues statements may be mailed to Sir Knights at any time during the Templar year, in addition to the statement in February as required by Section 290. Statements may include a notation for dues payable in advance for one Templar year.

Section 292.

No member shall be entitled to vote at the annual election or be eligible to any office whose dues are not paid in full to the end of the current Templar year.

SUSPENSION AND RESTORATION

Section 293.

Deleted in its entirety by action of the Grand Commandery.

Section 294.

The Eminent Commander shall supervise and determine whether it is advisable to remit the dues of a delinquent member because of illness, infirmity or financial inability, and shall recommend to his Commandery the remission of dues, whenever he deems the same justified. If the Eminent Commander does not see fit to recommend the remission of dues of a delinquent member, he shall appoint a Committee of at least two members to make a personal call, if possible, upon such delinquent member with reference thereto. The report of such Committee shall be reviewed by the Eminent Commander, and shall be reported to the Commandery. The process of suspension shall be undertaken only after the

foregoing preliminary requirements have been met. Thereupon, the Eminent Commander shall see to it that the Recorder send either a certified or registered letter to the delinquent member at his last known address giving official notice of intention to suspend such member, including the date and hour when the suspension proceedings will be brought before the Commandery for action. At the time when such proceedings are brought before the Commandery, the Eminent Commander shall first inform the Commandery of all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding such delinquent member and shall exhibit the return receipt or unclaimed certified or registered letter to the delinquent member before any action shall be taken by the Commandery. (GE 207)

Section 295.

When a member of a Commandery is summoned to show cause why he should not be suspended for nonpayment of dues and fails to appear, the Commander cannot declare him suspended until the Commandery has so voted. (GE 208)

Section 296.

When a Knight Templar has been suspended from his Commandery solely because of non-payment of dues to the Commandery, he may be restored to membership upon written application therefore, a majority vote at a Stated Conclave and payment of such part of his dues in arrears as the Commandery may require. (GE 203)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Section 297.

No Commandery shall confer Life Membership for a sum less than fifteen years dues and then only after the payment of all indebtedness to the Commandery. (GE 135) Section 298.

No Commandery shall confer Life Membership on a Sir Knight who has been a member for twenty or more years for a sum less than ten years dues and then only, after the payment of all indebtedness to the Commandery. (GE 135)

Section 299.

No Commandery shall confer Life Membership on a Sir Knight who has been a member for thirty-five or more years for a sum less than six years' dues and then only after the payment of all indebtedness to the Commandery. (GE135)

Section 300.

A Commandery may confer Life Membership on a Sir Knight who has been a member in good standing for forty-nine years for the sum of Ten Dollars.

Section 301.

No part of the life membership fee can be remitted, or applied to the payment of arrearages, nor shall any such fee, or part thereof be refunded.

Section 302.

A life member shall be exempt from the further payment of dues, but shall be subject to assessments.

Section 303.

The fees for life membership shall be immediately turned over to the Trustees of the Commandery for investment in the Permanent Fund, and only the income there from shall be expended.

Section 304.

Non-affiliation in a Lodge or Chapter voids a Commandery life membership. A life member who has been restored to membership in the Commandery, after having been suspended solely because of his suspension or expulsion from Lodge or Chapter shall, upon restoration, be entitled to life membership and the privileges thereof.

QUALIFICATIONS OF PETITIONERS

Section 305.

Anyone:

- (a) Who is a Master Mason and Royal Arch Mason affiliated in both Lodge and Chapter; or who is an affiliated Master Mason, and who has petitioned a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the Capitular Degrees (provided, however, that none of the Order of Knighthood shall be conferred upon said petitioner until he shall have received the Royal Arch Degree); and
- (b) Who is firm believer in the Christian religion;
- (c) Who is physically able to conform to the ceremonies of the Order or whose physical inability to so conform shall have been waived by Dispensation of the Grand Commander; and
- (d) Who, immediately prior to the date of his petition has resided for at least one year within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and for at least six months within the jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned; or who is a sojourner on whom the Commandery having jurisdiction has waived such jurisdiction; or who is a member of Active Armed Forces of the United States, United States Public Health Service, United States Coast and Geodetic Survey and the National Aeronautical Space Agency of the United States, who shall have been stationed within the jurisdiction of the Commandery for at least six months immediately prior to the date of his petition is eligible to petition for the Orders of Knighthood. (GE 177)

Section 306.

To be eligible for the Orders of Knighthood and Membership, or for Membership only, a petitioner shall be recognized as a Master Mason by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and as a Royal Arch Mason by the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

Section 307.

If a Knight Templar loses the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania or the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, as required of petitioners, it is

obligatory upon his Commandery to vote to terminate his membership therein, but due notice of such intended action must be sent to him.

CONTENTS OF PETITION

Section 308.

Every petition for the Orders of Knighthood shall declare the Lodge in which the petitioner received the Degrees, that he has never been rejected by a Lodge in Pennsylvania if he received the Degrees other than in a Pennsylvania Lodge, the Lodge in which he is affiliated, the Chapter in which he received or is to receive the Chapter Degrees and also the Chapter in which he is or will be affiliated. It shall also give his full name, date of birth, residence and occupation, and shall state whether he has or has not been previously rejected by any Commandery; and the facts as to his residence, showing qualification as required by Section 305. The petitioner shall declare that he is a firm believer in the Christian religion, that he has read the petition and that he has personally signed the same. Every petition must be signed by two members of the Commandery, who shall vouch for the good character and Masonic standing of the petitioner and recommend favorable action. (GE 178)

If the petitioner has been previously rejected by any Commandery, the petitioner shall state the name, number and location of such Commandery and the date of such rejection.

Section 309.

No petition signed by more than one petitioner shall be received. (GE 179)

PETITION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

Section 310.

A petition, whether for Orders or Membership, shall be referred to a Committee of Three Members of the Commandery, only when requested to do so by a member in good standing in the Commandery acting upon the petition. If a Committee is empowered to investigate the petitioner, it shall consist of members who shall know or personally interview the petitioner. The facts of the report being made, and not its character, shall be entered on the minutes of the Commandery. (GE 180)

Section 311.

The committee shall make a prompt report; and the Commander may in his judgment in order to facilitate the same, at any time after the lapse of one month after the appointment thereof, remove and replace any or all the members of such Committee, who may neglect or refuse to act thereon. A petition for Orders or Membership not acted upon by the Commandery within, and including, the fourth consecutive Conclave of the Commandery after its presentation shall be declared by the Commander to be null and void; and all fees paid shall be returned forthwith to the applicant. In case of a petition which involves an inquiry from another Commandery or a waiver of jurisdiction, the Grand Commander may grant an extension of the four-month limit.

INQUIRY OF GRAND RECORDER AND NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Section 312.

The Recorder of a Commandery, which shall receive a petition for Orders or Membership shall forthwith inquire of the Grand Recorder if there is anything on the records of Grand Commandery against the petitioner, giving his full name, date of birth, occupation, number of Lodge and Chapter (and where located if not in Pennsylvania), and residence, as set out in his petition; and, when necessary, stating that he does not reside nearest the Commandery to which the petition has been presented, and giving the name and number of the Commandery nearest the residence of the petitioner.

Section 313.

No Commandery shall ballot upon a petition for Orders or Membership until such inquiry has been made and a reply has been received from the Grand Recorder stating that there is nothing on the records against the petitioner; nor, unless a notice of the Conclave at which the petitioner is to be balloted for shall have been sent to each and every member of the Commandery giving the name, date of birth or age, occupation and residence of the petitioner, as well as the Lodge and Chapter of which he is a member or the Lodge of which he is a member and the Chapter to which he has petitioned for Degrees and Membership (and where each is located if not in Pennsylvania), and that his name will at that time be presented for ballot; except by virtue of a Dispensation granted by the Grand Commander.

Where the inquiry of the Grand Recorder and/or the notice for the Stated Conclave gives incorrect information to identify the petitioner, either because of false information given by the petitioner or because of errors by the Recorder or the printer, a ballot thereon is void, and proper inquiry and/or notice must be given and a new ballot had; except where prior approval to proceed has been granted by the Grand Commander.

WITHDRAWAL OF PETITION

Section 314.

A petition may be withdrawn by the petitioner at any time before ballot. (GE 181)

BALLOT

Section 315.

An unfavorable report from the Committee does not dispense with the necessity of a ballot. (GE 182)

Section 316.

Every member present, when a ballot on a petition is taken, is required to vote unless excused by the Commander or Commandery before the balloting has commenced. (GE 183)

Section 317.

The ballot upon a petition for the Orders or for Membership must be secret and unanimous. The reason for casting a blackball cannot be disclosed or inquired into. (GE 184)

Section 318.

Two or more petitions, whether for Orders or Membership, regularly presented, may be balloted upon at one time. If such ballot is unanimous, each petitioner should be declared elected. In the event of the appearance of a black ball in such group ballot, there must be a ballot upon each petition separately. A Commander may order one additional re-ballot before the result of a ballot upon any separate petition has been announced and before any member of the Commandery has left the Asylum. (GE 185)

Section 319.

If the ballot approves the petitioner, he shall be entitled to receive the Order of the Red Cross, subject however, to objection from any member of the Commandery as provided in Section 321, and subject also to the provisions of Sections 306 and 325.

FILING PETITION AFTER REJECTION**Section 320.**

A rejected petitioner for the Orders, if still residing within the jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned, may again petition after the expiration of Six Months, but shall not petition any other Commandery until the expiration of Three Years after such rejection, unless the consent of the Commandery by which he was rejected is given by unanimous ballot. (GE 186)

A second or subsequent petition shall be subject to the same procedure as in the case of a first petition.

OBJECTIONS TO CONFERRING ORDERS UPON CANDIDATES AFTER BALLOT**Section 321.**

A member of a Commandery in good standing, whether or not present when the ballot was taken, may object to the conferring of the Order of the Red Cross upon an elected candidate, and cannot be required to disclose his reason therefore. The objection may be made either in open Commandery or to the Commander, and is equivalent to rejection by ballot, and the Orders shall not be conferred. The fact that an objection was made, and not the name of the objector, shall be entered on the minutes, but such objection may be withdrawn before it has been so entered. (GE 187)

Section 322.

Except as provided in Section 325, any Companion of the Order of the Red Cross is entitled to receive the remaining Orders, unless found unworthy after trial on charges duly preferred. No member of a Commandery, whether or not present when the ballot was taken, shall prevent or delay the conferring of the remaining Order or Orders by a mere objection. (GE 188)

Section 323.

Any member of a Commandery, who seeks to prevent or delay the conferring of the remaining Order or Orders on any elected candidates, who shall have been constituted a Companion of the Order of the Red Cross, shall be required to prefer written Charges against him, which shall be filed with the Recorder of the Commandery, and the candidate shall be entitled to receive a copy of such Charges and to be heard in person, and by counsel, if the counsel is a Knight Templar. The remaining Orders cannot be conferred until such Charges have been disposed of, either by withdrawal or determination according to the Disciplinary Rules of the Grand Encampment. Only the fact that Charges have been preferred, and not the name of the objector or the nature of the Charges, shall be entered on the minutes. Before the commencement of the hearing and on the request of the complainant, such Charges may be withdrawn by vote of the Commandery. (GE 189)

Section 324.

Charges filed as provided in Section 323 may be withdrawn by the complainant at any time before hearing, and with the consent of the Commandery at any time there after prior to the determination thereof.

ELECTION VOIDED BY FAILURE TO RECEIVE ORDERS

Section 325.

Failure of a candidate to present himself for the Orders within twelve months after receiving his first written notice to appear for the conferring of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross voids his election, and the disposition of any fees paid or deposit made is a matter resting in the discretion of the Commandery. The true rule and policy of Templary should be to decide each such case upon the circumstances involved and allow, the return of the money or insist upon its retention as the best fraternal judgment may indicate.

One constituted a Companion of the Order of the Red Cross who fails to appear to receive the remaining Orders within One Year after having received the Order of the Red Cross shall not be entitled to receive such remaining Orders unless by a favorable, secret and unanimous ballot of the Commandery. (GE 195)

NEAREST COMMANDERY NOT PETITIONED

Section 326.

When a petition for the Orders of Knighthood is received by a Commandery other than that which is nearest to the place of residence of the petitioner, an inquiry is not mandatory, when the Commandery receiving the petition is located in the same County, or in any contiguous County within the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. When this does not apply, the Commandery receiving such petition shall notify the Commandery nearest the place of residence of the petitioner. The notification shall be addressed to the Recorder of the Commandery, and shall contain the full name, date of birth or age, occupation and residence of the petitioner, giving the number of the Lodge in which, he is affiliated and the Chapter in which he is or will be affiliated.

The Commandery so notified shall cause the notification to be published in full as a part of the notice to members of its next or second Stated Conclave thereafter, together with the statement that any Sir Knight who deems the petitioner unworthy of receiving the Orders shall communicate with the Recorder of the Commandery petitioned. The notice shall also state the name and address of such Recorder. Such Recorder shall promptly advise the Committee of Inquiry of all objections so received by him.

Section 327.

The Commandery petitioned shall not act on the petition until at least ten days after the mailing of the notices to the members of a Commandery nearest the place of residence of the petitioner, as attested by the Recorder of the Commandery notified, under seal of the Commandery, to the Recorder of the Commandery petitioned, provided, however, that in each case the necessity for inquiry between Commanderies and in matters relating thereto shall at all times be subject to the control and direction of the Grand Commander.

Section 328.

A resident of a city, borough or town in which there are two or more Commanderies may present a petition for the Orders of Knighthood to anyone of them, and inquiry of the other or others shall not be necessary.

TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF COMMANDERIES

Section 329.

In the absence of a Regulation of the Grand Commandery defining the limits of such Commandery, the jurisdiction thereof over petitioners for the Orders extends in all directions One half of the distance on a direct line between its Asylum and the Asylum of Commanderies located in adjacent territory, not, however, beyond the limits of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in which such Commandery is located unless the adjoining Grand Commandery waives its jurisdiction over specified territory. If petitioner is beyond the limits of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania follow either Section 352 or Section 353 of the Constitution and Laws of Grand Commandery. (GE 147)

Section 330.

A Commandery may waive jurisdiction over any person who desires to petition elsewhere, irrespective of Grand Commandery boundaries. (GE 148)

SOJOURNERS

Section 331.

No Commandery may confer the Orders, or anyone of them, upon any sojourners unless the consent of the Commandery having territorial jurisdiction is first obtained, provided, however, that it is lawful for any Commandery to receive the petition of and confer the Orders upon any person belonging to the Active Armed Forces of the United States, United States Public Health Service, United States Coast and Geodetic Survey and the National Aeronautical Space Agency of the United States, who shall have been stationed within its territorial jurisdiction for at least Six Months prior to the presentation of his

petition, as provided by Section 305 (d). In the event of a violation of this section, the Commandery offending shall pay the Commandery having jurisdiction, the fees received for such admission and be subject to such other penalties as may be prescribed by law. (GE 82)

Section 332.

A Commandery to which a Sojourner presents a petition for the Orders, except persons in the Active Armed Forces of the United States, United States Public Health Service, United States Coast and Geodetic Survey and the National Aeronautical Space Agency of the United States as prescribed in Section 331, shall immediately notify the Commandery having jurisdiction over the petitioner and obtain its waiver of jurisdiction before receiving and acting upon the petition. (GE 149)

MEMBERSHIP PETITIONS

Section 333.

(a) A Knight Templar may be admitted to membership in any Commandery regardless of his residence and may be an elected officer in more than one Commandery at the same time, provided he may not be Commander of more than one Commandery at the same time. (GE190)

(b) The Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania permits plural membership in two or more Commanderies within the jurisdiction, or with another Grand Jurisdiction or by affiliation with a Constituent Commandery under the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania by a member from another jurisdiction, also with a Subordinate Commandery under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment, if the laws of the other Grand or Subordinate Jurisdiction so provide. The petition for plural membership must be accompanied by a "Certificate of Good Standing" issued by the Commandery of which the petitioner is a member.

(c) A plural member is entitled to all the rights and privileges of full membership in any Commandery of which he is a member, except as in paragraph (a) above and is subject to all dues and assessments of all Commanderies of which he is a member, including those of Grand Encampment. Loss of active membership by action of any Commandery of which he is a member shall cause the loss of membership in all Commanderies of which he is a member, provided however, that a plural member may demit from any of the Commanderies of which he is a member.

(d) A member of two or more Commanderies within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania shall have only one vote in the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, if a member thereof and if a plural member in another Grand Jurisdiction, only one vote in the Grand Encampment, if a member thereof. (Amended 5/20/2013)

Section 334.

A Knight Templar desiring to affiliate with a Commandery must file a petition for Membership, together with a Demit, or its equivalent, which shall be retained by the Commandery petitioned if the petitioner is elected to Membership; if rejected, the Demit, or its equivalent, shall be returned to the petitioner. (GE 191)

Section 335.

A Knight Templar created in a foreign jurisdiction which does not recognize the Order of the Red Cross as a necessary prerequisite for the Order of the Temple, desiring to affiliate with a Commandery must file a petition for the Order of the Red Cross and for Membership, together with a Demit or its equivalent, from such foreign jurisdiction. If elected, the Demit, or its equivalent shall be retained by the Commandery, and the Order of the Red Cross shall be conferred before the petitioner is admitted to Membership. If rejected, the Demit, or its equivalent, shall be returned to the petitioner. The Commandery petitioned may by its By-Laws fix a fee for conferring the Order of the Red Cross on said petitioner. (GE 191 a)

Section 336.

Every petition for Membership shall declare the Lodge and Chapter in which the petitioner is affiliated, and the Commandery of which he was late, or now is, a member, and shall give his full name, date of birth, residence and occupation. It must be signed by two members of the Commandery who shall vouch for the good character and Masonic standing of the petitioner and recommend favorable action.

AFFILIATION IN LODGE AND CHAPTER NECESSARY

Section 337.

Affiliation in Lodge and Chapter is necessary to qualify a petitioner for Membership. (GE 193)

MEMBER ENTITLED TO DEMIT

Section 338.

A member, upon written request presented in open Commandery, is entitled to a Demit without a vote of the Commandery provided he is not indebted to the Commandery and no charges are pending against him. Unless the Commandery approves of an inquiry to ascertain the reason for a Demit being requested, such request severs his membership. Dues shall not be charged during the period the request is held in abeyance. (GE 192)

CONTINUOUS COMMANDERY AFFILIATION

Section 339.

If a member wishes to change his membership and be continuously affiliated, he may file his petition with the Commandery in which he desires membership and with a Certificate of Good Standing from the Recorder of his Commandery under the Seal thereof showing that his dues have been, paid three months in advance, and shall file a written application to his Commandery for a Demit. If he is elected to Membership in the Commandery petitioned, the Recorder thereof shall immediately forward said Application for a Demit to the Commandery to which it is addressed, and when the Demit is received, it shall be filed with the petition, and the Sir Knight's name shall be entered as a member of the Commandery petitioned as of even date with the Demit. If the petitioner is rejected, the Certificate of Good Standing and application shall be returned to him. (GE 194)

HEALING

Section 340.

The Grand Commander in whose jurisdiction an irregularly created Knight Templar resides has the power to heal him, and may authorize a Commandery or a Commander to do so. (GE 196)

Section 341.

One Knighted in a clandestine manner or in a spurious Commandery cannot be healed. (GE 197)

CONFERRING ORDERS UPON APPLICANT NECESSARY QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Section 342.

Until the Three Orders of Knighthood have been conferred upon an applicant, he is not possessed of the necessary qualifications for membership and therefore is not subject to the payment of dues, but is subject to discipline by the Commandery for unknightly conduct. (GE 199)

Section 343.

Those to whom a Charter is issued and those who receive the Orders in a Commandery are ipso facto members thereof, except where the Orders have been conferred for and by request of another Commandery.

CONFERRING ORDERS FOR ANOTHER COMMANDERY

Section 344.

A Commandery may confer the Orders upon a Candidate elected by another Commandery to receive them, at the request of such other Commandery. The Recorder of the Commandery conferring the Orders must report such action to the Grand Recorder and also to the Recorder of the Commandery requesting the Orders be conferred. (GE 221)

NON-AFFILIATION IN LODGE OR CHAPTER

Section 345.

Voluntary non-affiliation in a Lodge or Chapter for six months shall deprive a Knight Templar of his membership in the Commandery after due notice and hearing. (GE 201)

Section 346.

When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Lodge or Chapter for any reason, he shall, after due notice and hearing, with respect to the fact of such suspension or expulsion only, be suspended or expelled, as the case may be, from his Commandery. (GE 202)

Section 347.

When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Commandery solely because of his suspension or expulsion from his Lodge or Chapter, restoration in such Lodge or Chapter shall entitle him to restoration in his Commandery on written application therefore and a majority vote at a Stated Conclave. (GE 203)

SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION FOR UNKNIGHTLY CONDUCT**Section 348.**

Acquittal, suspension or expulsion by a Lodge or Chapter on a charge of un-masonic conduct does not deprive a Commandery of the right to try a member thereof for the same or other offenses committed either before or after his trial in the Lodge or Chapter. (GE 204)

Section 349.

Suspension or expulsion of a Knight Templar by the Grand Encampment, by a Grand Commandery, or by a Commandery deprives him of membership in the Commandery and all rights and privileges of Knighthood so long as the judgment remains in force. (GE 205)

RESTORATION TO MEMBERSHIP OR GOOD STANDING**Section 350.**

When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled for unknighly conduct, he may be restored to membership on petition if the ballot is unanimous. (GE 206)

DISCIPLINARY RULES**Section 351.**

In the conduct of all trials and all proceedings incident thereto, the Disciplinary Rules adopted by the Grand Encampment shall be observed. (GE 209) (See separate section of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment.)

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN COMMANDERIES**Section 352.**

Correspondence between Commanderies of different Grand Commanderies must be conducted through their respective Grand Commanders, except in cases at petitions for waiver jurisdiction. (GE 210)

Section 353.

Correspondence between a Subordinate Commandery and a Constituent Commandery must be conducted through the Grand Master and the Grand Commander. (GE 211)

Section 354.

Complaints and correspondence must be addressed in the first instance to the Commander, through him to the Grand Commander, and if proper, through him to the Grand Master. A member of the Grand Encampment may communicate directly with the Grand Master, and a Past Grand Commander and all Officers of the Grand Commandery may communicate directly with the Grand Commander. If the proper Officer refuses or neglects to forward communications as herein provided, the complainant may transmit the same directly to the superior Officer. (GE 212)

APPEARANCE IN PUBLIC

Section 355. Reserved for future use.

Section 356. Reserved for future use.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

Section 358.

No Commandery shall hold a Conclave or perform any Templar work on Sunday, except for the purpose of conducting funerals, attending religious services, or conducting practice or tactical or other drills for instruction. (GE 216 a)

MOVE ASYLUM

Section 359.

(a) A Commandery with the approval of the Grand Commander may remove its Asylum from one building to another in the same municipality. (GE 217)

(b) A Commandery may remove its Asylum from one town or city and establish an Asylum in a neighboring or adjoining territory only by authority of the Grand Commandery.

(c) If at any time the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo and the Grand Captain General shall determine that circumstances warrant or require a Commandery to move its Asylum from one town or city and establish an Asylum in a neighboring or adjoining territory, they may grant permission for such move and their action shall not be subject to review at the Annual Conclave of Grand Commandery unless the said Officers ask to have their action reviewed. The Grand Commander shall make a report of the action of the Officers in his Annual Report to Grand Commandery. Whenever three or more members of a Commandery shall sign and present a written declaration to the Commandery, at a Stated Conclave, that they deem it for the best interest of the Commandery or Templary that the Commandery move from one building to another in the same municipality, or to another town or city in a neighboring or adjoining territory, the Commander shall cause same to be read by the Recorder and entered in full on the minutes. The resolution must lie over to the next Stated Conclave or a Special Conclave called for the purpose of considering the declaration when the members having been duly noticed of the resolution, it shall be acted upon. If a majority of the members present vote in favor of the removal it shall be reported to the Grand Recorder promptly with a

certified copy of the resolution and the minutes showing the result of the action thereon. If the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo and the Grand Captain General are satisfied that the Commandery has arranged for an Asylum adapted or suitable for the requirements of such Commandery and the authorized Grand Officers or the Grand Commandery approves the action of the Commandery, the permission for removal shall become effective from the date of such approval. It shall be the duty of the Grand Recorder to promptly certify to the Commandery the action of the Grand Commandery or the authorized Grand Officers on said resolution.

When a Commandery has been authorized to remove its Asylum to another building in the same municipality or a neighboring or adjoining territory by Grand Commandery or the authorized Grand Officers, it may thereafter move to its new location without further formality or requirement and resume its activities.

CHARTER

Section 360.

The Dispensation or Charter of a Commandery must be in the Asylum throughout a Conclave. (GE 218)

The Commander is the custodian of the Charter, or the Dispensation, and it is his duty to provide for its safekeeping. The Charter may be framed in a proper manner to maintain the condition and appearance but is not to be hung on a wall. (rev. 2024)

Section 361.

If the Charter of a Commandery is lost, mutilated or destroyed, the Grand Commander upon satisfactory proof shall direct the Grand Recorder to issue an attested copy thereof under Seal. (GE 219)

KNIGHT TEMPLAR FUNERAL

Section 362.

Only a Knight Templar in Good Standing is entitled to Templar Funeral honors, but a Commandery may grant them to, or withhold them from, an unaffiliated Knight Templar. The Funeral Service adopted by the Grand Encampment shall be followed. (GE 220)

VISITORS

Section 364.

If he is not otherwise properly vouched for, a Visitor must be examined by a committee of one or more members and the committee must report that it is convinced that the Visitor is a member in good standing of a recognized Commandery or Priory of Knights Templar, before the Visitor may be admitted into the Asylum. (GE 223)

Section 365.

If a member objects, no member of another Commandery can be admitted into an Asylum unless he visits in an official capacity. The objection may be made openly in the Commandery or privately to the Commander, and in neither case can the objector be required to disclose the reason for his objection. (GE 224)

Section 366.

A Knight Templar who is not a member of a Commandery shall not be permitted to visit any Commandery within this jurisdiction more than once, except by a majority vote of the members present.

SEAL**Section 367.**

The presiding Officer of a Commandery has the right to order its Seal affixed to any Certificate or other document which he can legally issue in the name of the Commandery. (GE 228)

SUMMONS**Section 368.**

A Summons issued by the Commander shall be attested by the Recorder under the Seal of the Commandery. (GE 229)

Section 369.

A Summons may be personally served on the Knight Templar to whom it is addressed, or it may be left at his place of residence or business, or mailed to him at his usual address. (GE 230)

RITUALS**Section 370.**

The Rituals, as promulgated by the Grand Encampment, cannot be altered or abridged except by the action of the Grand Encampment. (GE 231)

Section 371.

The Rituals of the Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar are under the sole supervision and control of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and may be published and issued by it alone. It is unlawful for any Commandery or member thereof to use any others than those authorized by the Grand Encampment and issued by it, or to write, print, publish, issue or cause to be written, printed, published, issued or used and other Ritual in connection with said Orders or anyone of them. (GE 233)

RESIGNATION OF OFFICER

Section 372.

Any Officer of a Constituent Commandery may resign his office by filing a written resignation with the Recorder, save that the resignation of the Recorder shall be filed with the Commander. The resignation shall not be effective until accepted by the Commandery. (GE 233)

FILLING VACANCIES

Section 373.

A vacancy in any office of a Constituent Commandery created by resignation shall be filled as prescribed in Section 247 of the Constitution and Laws of Grand Commandery as to the offices therein mentioned; as to all other offices by appointment by the Commander. (GE 234)

RETENTION OF RANK

Section 374.

One who has filled by installation and term of service, the office of Commander in a Commandery shall thereafter retain the title of Past Commander. Past rank is limited to the office of Commander. A Sir Knight who is installed Commander of a Commandery and thereafter dies during his term of office shall be entitled to be considered as having filled his term of office. (GE 235)

Note - See Section 133 for those who have held elective once in Grand Commandery.

Section 375.

A Commander resigning his office before completing his term does not retain the title of Past Commander, unless he has previously been installed and served a full term as Commander of a Commandery. (GE 236)

Section 376.

The Commander of a Commandery under Dispensation does not become a Past Commander when such Commandery is Chartered. (GE 237)

TITLES

Section 377.

The honorary title of the Commander is "Eminent" and the official title is "Commander".

The honorary title of all officers and individual members of the Order is "Sir Knight".

The honorary title shall be used in addressing or referring to an officer, and when so used shall immediately precede the official title, e.g.: "Eminent Commander", "Sir Knight Captain General", "Sir Knight Warder," etc. The title of each and every Knight Templar, when addressed or referred to by either

or both his Christian and surnames is "Sir Knight," without any prefix thereto, and "Sir Knights" is the title to be applied to any assemblage of Knights Templar. (GE 77)

HONORARY TITLES

Section 378.

Honorary titles may be conferred upon Sir Knights who have rendered long, outstanding and distinguished service in the cause of Templary in conformity with the provisions hereof. No titles of office, whether active or honorary, shall be conferred by any Constituent Commandery except the title of active officers named in, or authorized by, the Constitution of the Grand Encampment as listed in Section 202, or honorary titles as authorized in this section. Each Constituent Commandery shall have the right, in conformity to the provisions of this section, to confer honorary titles as follows:

(a) Commanderies may confer the honorary titles of Honorary Past Commander, Captain General Emeritus, Treasurer Emeritus, Recorder Emeritus, and Prelate Emeritus upon written approval by the Grand Commander;

(b) The holder of such honorary title shall have no right, by virtue of such honorary title, to exercise any of the functions or powers of the office as to which he holds an honorary title, nor shall he by virtue of such honorary title wear the jewel of the office to which such title pertains. The holder of such honorary title, however, shall be privileged to wear the uniform and shoulder straps of the office to which honorary title applies, and there may be conferred upon him a jewel and shoulder straps appropriate to the honorary title, provided that such jewel and shoulder straps must bear a specific notation that the title which is represents is honorary only;

(c) Such honorary titles shall not be conferred upon any Sir Knight other than a member of the Commandery by which the honorary title is conferred;

(d) The precedence of rank for holders of such honorary titles shall be in the order of seniority appropriate to the office for which the honorary title is applicable, except that:

(1) The holder of the title of a past officer by virtue of service shall take precedence over the holder of an honorary title, and provided further;

(2) In any Constituent Commandery the Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, and all Past Commanders shall take precedence over all holders of honorary titles. (GE 237a)

HONORARY MEMBERS

Section 379.

A Commandery by unanimous ballot, after due reference to a committee and ballot had at a subsequent Stated Conclave, may elect as an Honorary Member a member of another Commandery, but such election does not confer the right to vote, nor does it create any liability for dues. (GE 198)

RECORDING MINUTES

Section 380.

The Grand Commander may prescribe the form in which the minutes of Commanderies shall be recorded, and it shall be the duty of the Division Commander to see that all Recorders in his Division follow such form.

COMMANDERY NOTICES

Section 381.

The Grand Commander may prescribe a form for giving notice of the Stated and Special Conclaves of Commanderies, but Commanderies may add thereto such matters as they deem proper, provided, that matters foreign to Templary shall not conflict with the interests and principles of Templary.

Section 382.

Any mention of Ladies' Auxiliary meeting which may be desirable to accompany the monthly notice of a Commandery shall be printed on a separate sheet and mailed with the notice, but not made a part thereof. This shall not preclude the Commander from making mention of a joint social activity with the Ladies' Auxiliary in his message to the Commandery.

Section 383.

Recorders shall mail or send electronically notices of the Stated and Special Conclaves of Commanderies to all Elective Officers of the Grand Commandery and to the Division Commander in charge of such Commandery. (Amended 5/19/2018)

Section 384.

Removed (5/17/2024)

UNITED STATES FLAG

Section 385.

All Constituent Commanderies shall display a silk regulation Flag of the United States in their respective Asylums, to be placed on the dais at the extreme right. (GE 240)

COMMANDERIES UNDER DISPENSATION PETITIONERS

Section 386.

A Petition for a Dispensation for a new Commandery may be signed by any Knight Templar residing within the territorial jurisdiction of the proposed new Commandery. Petitioners who are members of a Commandery need not demit, but may secure from the Recorder of their respective Commanderies, Certificates of Good Standing under the Seal of the Commandery, showing that the member has paid his dues for at least three months beyond the date of the Certificate. The Certificate of

Good Standing of the Petitioners or their Demits shall be filed with the Petition. After action upon the Petition by the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery, the Certificates of Good Standing and Demits shall be filed with the Grand Recorder whether such action has been favorable or unfavorable. If the action is favorable, the Grand Recorder shall report the same to the Commanderies issuing the Certificates of Good Standing. If the action is unfavorable all Demits which accompanied the Petition shall be returned to the Petitioners to whom they were issued, and all Certificates of Good Standing shall be cancelled and returned to the Commanderies which issued them. (GE 150)

COMMANDERIES UNDER DISPENSATION STATUS OF PETITIONERS

Section 387.

After a Dispensation to form a new Commandery is granted, the membership of the Petitioners in their own Commanderies remains in abeyance, they become Active Members of the Commandery under Dispensation, and are not required to pay dues to their own Commanderies while members of the Commandery under Dispensation. If the Charter is refused, the Petitioners resume membership in their own Commanderies. (GE 151)

Section 388.

Any Petitioner for a Dispensation for a new Commandery may sever his connection with such new Commandery at any time before a Charter is granted by notice to the Grand Recorder, and the new Commandery, and his Certificate of Good Standing or Demit shall be returned, and his former status resumed. (GE 152)

Section 389.

When a Dispensation for a new Commandery has been refused, the matter can be revived only by a new Petition. (GE 153)

COMMANDERIES UNDER DISPENSATION COMMENCEMENT OF WORK

Section 390.

A Commandery under Dispensation requires no formal proceedings in order to commence work. The members assemble and proceed as if the Commandery were regularly constituted. (GE 154)

COMMANDERIES UNDER DISPENSATION POWERS

Section 391.

A Commandery under Dispensation cannot enact By-Laws, but it may prescribe such Rules as are necessary for its government. It cannot be represented in this Grand Commandery (GE 155)

Section 392.

Except as otherwise provided, a Commandery under Dispensation has the same rights and powers as a Chartered Commandery. (GE 156)

COMMANDERIES UNDER DISPENSATION TERM OF OFFICE**Section 393.**

The Officers of a Commandery under Dispensation hold office during the continuance of the Dispensation unless removed by the Grand Commander. (GE 157)

Section 394.

Any Officer of a Commandery under Dispensation may resign with the consent of the Grand Commander. (GE 158)

COMMANDERIES UNDER DISPENSATION STATUS OF INITIATES**Section 395.**

Knights Templar created in a Commandery under Dispensation bear the same relation to that Commandery and to other Knights Templar as is borne by those created in Chartered Commanderies. (GE 159)

Section 396.

Petitions presented to a Commandery under Dispensation and not balloted on may be considered and acted on by the Commandery after it is constituted under Charter. (GE 160)

**COMMANDERIES UNDER DISPENSATION STATUS IF
COMMANDERY BECOMES EXTINCT****Section 397.**

When a Commandery under Dispensation ceases to exist, the non-affiliated petitioners and the Knights Templar created therein are entitled to a certificate from the Grand Recorder showing that they are non-affiliated Knights Templar, which shall have the effect of a Demit.

Section 398.

No Commandery shall be constituted until it is provided with a suitable Asylum properly furnished. (GE 162)

Section 399.

A Commandery cannot be constituted without a Charter. (GE 163)

Section 400.

Officers of a Commandery shall not be named in a Charter, but shall be elected and installed after the Commandery is constituted. (GE 164)

Section 401

Until the Commandery is constituted, the Officers thereof are not Members of the Grand Commandery and cannot vote therein. (GE 165)

Section 402.

A Commandery can be constituted only by the Grand Commander or such Officer appointed by him as proxy. Nine members must be present. (GE 166)

Section 403.

If the Commandery was constituted by a proxy of the Grand Commander, the Officer constituting the Commandery shall make report thereof to the Grand Commander. (GE 167)

Section 404.

When a Commandery has been constituted, it shall enact By Laws for its government and the transaction of its business in accordance with Sections 205 and 207 of the Constitution and Laws of Grand Commandery. (GE 168)

CONSOLIDATION OF COMMANDERIES

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 affected 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. (Amended 5/18/2020)

Section 406.

All Members of the Commanderies consolidating shall, immediately upon consolidation, become Members of the new Commandery. (GE 170)

Section 407.

The title to all the property and effects of the consolidating Commanderies shall upon consolidation vest in the new Commandery, and the new Commandery shall be liable for all indebtedness of the several Commanderies consolidating. (GE 170)

COMMANDERY DEFINITIONS AND POWERS

Section 408.

A Knight Templar is a Mason upon whom the Orders of Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knights Templar have been conferred by any organization recognized by the Grand Encampment as having authority to confer the same. (GE 57)

Section 409.

A Commandery consists of at least three Knights Templar, hailing from three separate Commanderies, and acting under a lawful Warrant, or of nine or more Knights Templar acting under a lawful Dispensation or Charter. (GE 58)

Section 410.

A Commandery has the exclusive right to receive Petitions from those within its Territorial Jurisdiction possessing the necessary qualifications, to elect petitioners by unanimous vote only, and to confer the Orders upon them. (GE 59)

Section 411.

Before a Commandery can be formed or opened, there are the following prerequisites:

(a) A Constitutional Number present, which is:

1. At least three Knights Templar hailing from at least three separate Commanderies; or
 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. (Amended 5/18/2020)
- (b) A Lawful Warrant, which is:
1. A Dispensation from the Grand Master, or a Dispensation or Charter from the Grand Encampment in Territory where there is no Grand Commandery; or
 2. A Dispensation from the Grand Commander, or a Dispensation or Charter from the Grand Commandery if the proposed location is in a Country, State, District, or Territory where there is a Grand Commandery. (GE 60)

Section 412.

Commanderies under the immediate jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment are styled "Subordinate". Commanderies under the immediate jurisdiction of any Grand Commandery are styled "Constituent". (GE 61)

Section 413.

As used in the Constitution and Laws of Grand Commandery:

"Healing" means re-obligating the Knight Templar and correcting what has been done amiss at his creation.

"Permanent Members" of the Grand Commandery are properly affiliated Past Commanders of a Constituent Commandery.

"Representative Members" of the Grand Commandery are those Knights Templar who, by virtue of the offices (Commander, Generalissimo or Captain General) which they hold at the time, are temporary members of the Grand Commandery and are entitled to seats in the Grand Commandery.

"Insignia of Rank" means the Emblem prescribed by Section 505 to denote the rank of the officer or member using or wearing the same.

"Jewel of Office" means the emblem prescribed to be worn by any officer, to designate the office held by him. It is to be worn by an officer only during his incumbency.

"Adjourn" The Grand Encampment and Grand Commanderies do not "Close", they "Adjourn".

"Close." Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies "Close"; they do not "Call Off" or "Adjourn," but they may close to meet on a certain day to finish business that is pending.

"Conclave." Commanderies and Grand Commanderies hold "Conclaves", not "meetings".

"Open." "Commanderies "Open". Grand Commanderies and the Grand Encampment "Convene".

"Notice" means a written notice.

"Sojourner" means one who is eligible to petition for the Orders of Knighthood who presents his petition to a Commandery having no territorial jurisdiction of the Petitioner. (GE 87)

DISPLAY OF THE HOLY BIBLE

Section 414.

The Holy Bible shall be displayed at all Conclaves of the Commandery, on a stand, pedestal, or altar, in front of the Prelate's station, on the floor of the Asylum, to the left (South) of the United States flag; it shall be placed with the top to the East, opened to the Gospel of St. Matthew, Chapter 28, with a small wooden Passion Cross displayed on the right and the Square and Compasses displayed on the left thereon. Two crossed swords will also be displayed thereon.

It is to be opened by the Prelate immediately after the Conclave is declared opened; and closed by the Prelate when the Conclave is declared closed.

The altar shall be covered with a black or white cloth cover; on the front of which a red passion cross may be embroidered. (Standing resolution adopted by GE 1967)

PRELATE'S ROBE - WHEN WORN

Section 415.

The Prelate shall wear his Robes of Office while officiating in the conferring of the Orders and may wear them outside the Asylum when attending a Templar funeral or a Templar religious service. At all other times he shall wear the regulation Knight Templar Uniform of this Grand Commandery and the Jewel of his Office. (GE 254)

COMMANDERY DRILL TEAM, ASYLUM ESCORT, ETC.

Section 416.

Each Constituent Commandery shall maintain a unit, or units, equipped with full Templar uniforms, as prescribed in Part III of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery, to be worn at full form openings, and the conferring of the Order of the Temple. Such unit or units shall at all times be composed of at least six active members who shall be available for Asylum Escort and Triangle Guard duty, and Commandery Drill Team and such additional requirements as the Commandery may from time to time determine.

In lieu of the regulation Templar uniform, a Constituent Commandery may provide and use Ceremonial Robes conforming to and consistent with the historical traditions and practices of Templary. These Ceremonial Robes are to be used only in the asylum for the conferring of the Order of the Temple and their design and material approved by the Grand Commandery. (GE 62 d)

CEREMONIAL ROBES, DRESS AND EQUIPMENT

Section 417.

The Ceremonial Robes, dress and equipment of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross and of the Knight of Malta and Order of the Temple shall be as prescribed in the Ritual. (GE 255)

GRAND STANDARD

Section 418.

The Grand Standard is of white woolen or silk material, five feet in height and three feet in width, made tri-partite at the bottom, fastened at the top to the cross bar by nine rings; in the center of the field a blood red Passion Cross, over which is the motto, "In Hoc Signo Vinces" and under "Non Nobis Domine, Non Nobis, Sed Nomini Tuo Da Gloriam." The Cross to be three feet in height and the upright bar to be six inches in width. On top of the staff a gilded globe or ball four inches in diameter, surmounted by the Cross of Salem, twelve inches in height. The Cross is to be crimson, edged with gold. (GE 238)

BEAUSEANT

Section 419.

The Beauseant of the Order shall be of silk, in two stripes of equal width running horizontally, the upper stripe black and the lower stripe white, six feet by and three feet six inches on the staff; swallow-tailed one-third its length; the edges of the flag shall be plain, without fringe. The name of the Commandery shall be placed upon its upper stripe and its location on the lower stripe, the lettering being in contrasting colors to the field. The staff shall be nine feet in length, including the crosshead, which shall be of gold or gilt metal, consisting of a ball surmounted by the Cross of Salem. Cords and tassels composed of strands of black and white silk in equal proportions shall be attached to the base of the crosshead. (GE 239)

ARCH OF STEEL

Section 420.

The Grand Master of Grand Encampment, his representatives, Past Grand Masters of Grand Encampment, the Grand Commander, his representatives, and Past Grand Commanders are the only Sir Knights to be received under the Arch of Steel. Additionally, all incumbent Grand Masters of Masons or their Personal Representatives, regardless of their status as a Sir Knight, are to be received under an Arch of Steel and accorded the Public Grand Honors of Masonry. (GE Drill Regulations and Standing Resolution of 08/97)

Section 421

A Grand Commandery may prescribe the Ceremony for the Reception of its Officers by its constituent Commanderies. (GE 132)

END OF PART 11

PART III

UNIFORMS AND JEWELS

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR - UNIFORMED ORDER

Section 501.

The Order of Knights Templar is declared to be a Uniformed Order. (GE 62a)

OFFICERS TO OWN AND POSSESS UNIFORM

Section 502.

Each and every Officer of a Constituent Commandery shall be required to own and possess a dress uniform prior to his installation. (GE 62c)

Section 503.

It shall be deemed a compliance with Section 502 if any member provides himself with a regulation uniform conforming to the specifications set forth in Section 510 or Section 511, but such uniform is not required to be new if one formerly used should be procured and is in good condition.

UNIFORM FOR CANDIDATES OPTIONAL

Section 504.

The purchase of a uniform by a candidate shall be optional in this Grand Jurisdiction. (GE 62b)

INSIGNIA OF RANK

Section 505.

The emblem to be used or worn on the uniforms of the various Officers and Members of the Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery and Constituent Commanderies to denote the rank of such person in the Order shall be as follows:

- (a) For the Grand Master and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Encampment, the Cross of Salem
- (b) For all other Officers of the Grand Encampment, the Patriarchal Cross.
- (c) For Past Grand Commanders and the Officers of Grand Commandery, the Templar Cross, which is the Cross Pattee with straight lines.
- (d) For Past Commanders, Commanders, Generalissimos and Captains General of Constituent Commanderies, the shoulder straps hereinafter described and specified.

- (e) For members of Constituent Commanderies, the red Passion Cross. (GE 241)

SHOULDER STRAPS

Section 506.

The Shoulder Straps of Officers and Past Officers of Grand Commandery shall be as follows:

(a) For the Officers of Grand Commandery during their incumbency in office, Bright red silk velvet, two inches wide by four inches long, with one row of either gilt or real bullion embroidery, three eighths of an inch wide; the Templar Cross, one inch square, of either gilt or real bullion embroidery in the center of the strap, with the initials of the respective office, to be embroidered in old English characters, of silver bullion, on the lower end of the strap. There shall be no red stone set in the cross.

(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, with the initials of the respective office, to be embroidered in old English characters, of silver bullion, on the lower end of the strap. (GE 243)

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

Section 507.

The Shoulder Straps of Officers and Past Commanders of Constituent Commanderies shall be as follows:

(a) For Commanders: Emerald green silk velvet, one and three-fourths inches wide by four inches long, bordered with one row of either gilt or real bullion embroidery, three-eighths of an inch in width; the Passion Cross, with rays embroidered of silver bullion, in the center; Cross to be one and one-half inches in height; cross arm to be in proportion to height of Cross.

(b) For Past Commanders: the same as for Commanders, except that the color of shoulder strap shall be bright red.

(c) For Generalissimos during incumbency in office: The same as for Commanders, except that the Square surmounted with the Paschal Lamb, shall be used instead of the Passion Cross.

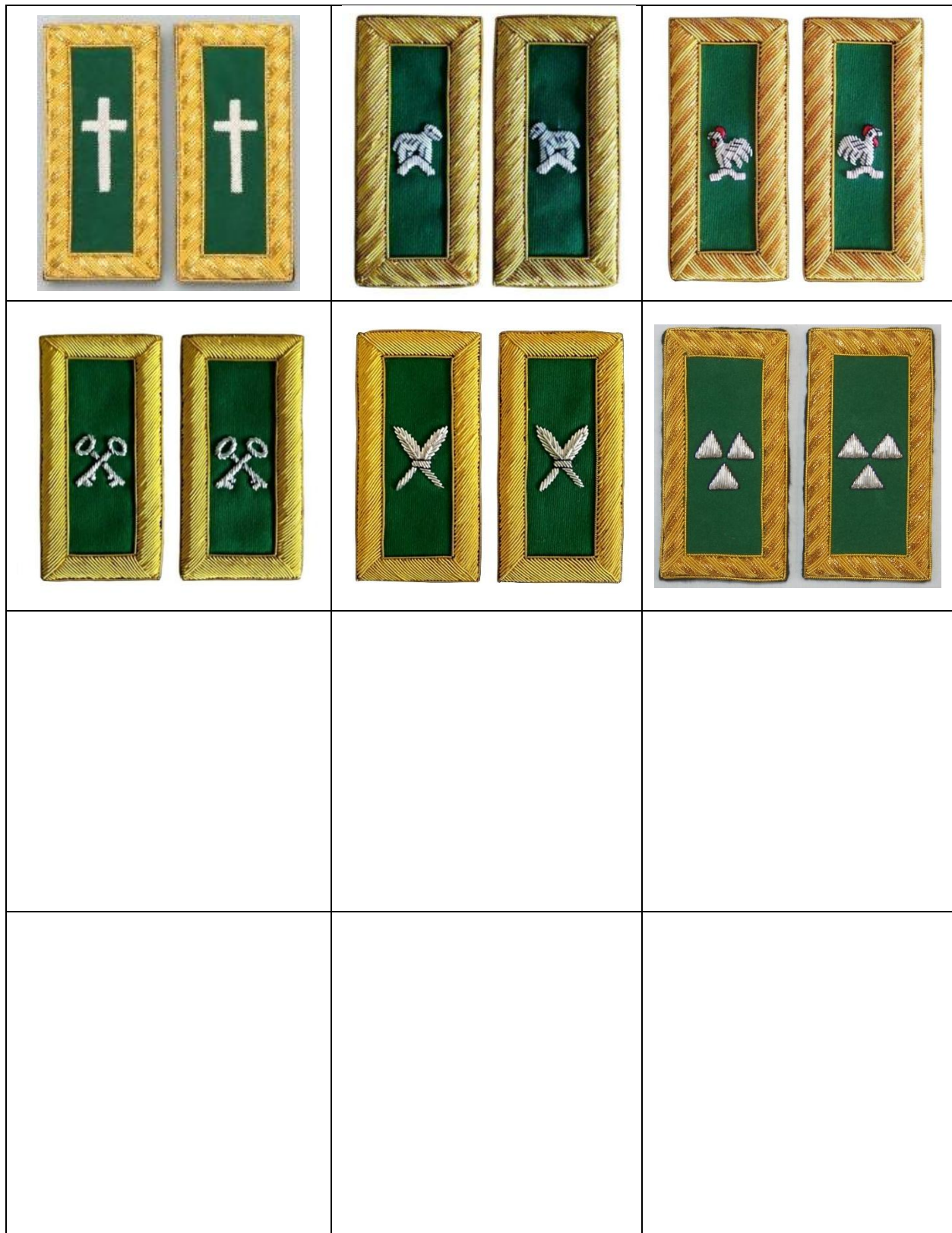
(d) For Captains General during incumbency in office: The same as for Commanders except that the Level, surmounted with the Cock, shall be used instead of the Passion Cross.

(e) For Prelates during incumbency in office: The same as for Commanders except that the triple triangle with small Passion Cross in the center shall be used instead of the Passion Cross.

(f) For Captains General who have retired after six full years of service in office, and who have not attained a higher office: The same as for Captains General except that the color of the shoulder strap shall be bright red. (GE 249)

(g) For Prelates who have retired after six full years of service in office: The same as for Prelates, except that the color of the shoulder strap shall be bright red.

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



WEARING OF TEMPLAR CROSS BY PAST GRAND OFFICERS LIMITED

Section 508.

Only Past Grand Commanders, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos and Past Grand Captains General are entitled to wear the Templar Cross. (GE 245)

OFFICERS TO WEAR INSIGNIA OF RANK AND ALL OTHERS PROHIBITED FROM WEARING SAME

Section 509.

All Officers shall wear on their Uniforms the Insignia of Rank, and on their Templar dress coats the Shoulder Straps, to denote the rank attained or office held, and no member shall wear the emblems described in Section 505 or the Shoulder Straps described in Sections 506 and 507 unless he shall have attained the rank or shall hold the office which the wearing of such emblems or Shoulder Straps denotes. (GE 246)

DRESS UNIFORM - SHORT COAT STYLE

Section 510.

(a) COAT:

1. For All Officers of the Grand Commandery, Past Grand Commanders, All Officers of Constituent Commanderies, Past Commanders of constituent Commanderies, and All Sir Knights:

The uniform coat shall be a three-button, double breasted sack coat, to close with three buttons, and to be of black clothing material (a ten to ten and one-half ounce tropical of 45% wool and 55% Dacron or a ten-ounce 100% wool tropical worsted is recommended). It shall have no outside pockets, but shall have two lower straight flaps, no openings, stitched on outside edges to give the appearance of pockets, and a left breast pocket welt one inch wide and six inches long to provide a space for fastening a Commandery jewel of office and/or other permitted Commandery jewels. It shall have two inside breast pockets, one on each side. At wearer's left side, near the simulated pocket flap and his waistline, a four-inch horizontal slit opening with zipper closing, to allow sword belt chains or slings to be worn on concealed belt or on trouser waist belt (see note below) Coat to be not less than 3/8 lined with plain black lining material, sleeve linings to be of either plain black or white lining material, with a shield in each sleeve, and armholes piped with lining. Edges to be single stitched. Length of coat shall be one inch below wearer's crotch line. Coat to have roll collar with peak lapels, three inches wide at peak. On the points of the collar, one half inch above lapel seam and one-half inch from outside edge of collar, shall be a Cross as hereafter described. On the left sleeve just below the shoulder seam may be Commandery identification as described in the various Officer, Past Officer and Sir Knight listings below.

NOTE - Neither baldric nor outside belt is to be worn with the short coat dress uniform. Existing belts worn with the long coat dress uniform may be worn under coat by removing long chain, the scabbard to be suspended from the two short chains extending thru slot in coat; or from two short slings of black leather with hook snaps at bottom and a loop at top may be worn over trousers belt and thru slot in coat to suspend scabbard.

2. For the elective Officers of the Grand Commandery during incumbency in office, Past Grand Commanders, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand generalissimos, and Past Captains General:

The Cross on the lapels shall be a one-inch Templar Cross of gold thread (see note below) embroidered on the coat, or on patches sewn on the coat, with velvet centers in the arms of the Cross. On the left sleeve just below the shoulder seam there may be embroidered on the sleeve, or on a patch sewn on the sleeve, the word "PENNSYLVANIA" in plain block letters in semicircular shape, and below the word, a Templar Cross corresponding with those on the collar. For Past Grand Commanders, the velvet center shall be purple, for all others enumerated above, the velvet center shall be red.

NOTE - Embroidery may be either by machine or by hand and thread may be of either rayon (or other suitable and practical material) or metallic bullion.

3. For the appointive Officers of the Grand Commandery during incumbency in office:

The same as described for the elective Officers of Grand Commandery, except that the embroidery on the left sleeve shall be as follows: just below the shoulder seam, the name of the Commandery in semicircular shape and below the name the number of the Commandery of which the wearer is a member, and below the number, the word "PENNSYLVANIA" in a horizontal line, all embroidered in plain block letters of gold thread. (See the note at the end of 1)

4. For Commanders, Division Commanders, and Past Commanders (including former Officers of Grand Commandery not having Past rank as defined in Sections 133 and 134):

The same as described for the appointive Officers of Grand Commandery, except that a one-inch Passion Cross of gold thread with red center shall be substituted for the Templar Cross.

5. For all other Officers of Commanderies and for Sir Knights:

The same as described for Commanders, except that silver embroidery shall be substituted for gold.

(b) TROUSERS:

The trousers shall be of black clothing material to match the coat and to be without cuffs or ornamentation.

(c) CHAPEAU:

1. For the Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Officers of Grand Commandery, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos, and Past Grand Captains General:

A military chapeau, body covered with either hatters plush or velvet, trimmed with black silk velvet binding, and with two black and one white ostrich plumes. Front and rear peaks of chapeau shall extend four and one fourth inches from the head; side of chapeau shall be beveled, being one inch smaller at the top than at the head. On the left side there shall be a rosette, oval in shape, five inches in height by four inches in width, composed of not less than thirty-three satin points, in single fold, on top of which, so as to display said points to the distance of one-half inch from the edge, is laid one row of quilled black satin ribbon, in folds of from one eighth to one-fourth of an inch in width, and on top of this laid an oval black silk velvet rosette, three and one-fourth inches in height by two and five eighths inches in width, edged with two twisted threads of gilt or real bullion, thus displaying the quilted satin ribbon around the edges of the rosette to a distance of from three- eighths to one-half inch. On the velvet oval shall be a Templar Cross of silk velvet, three inches square, bordered by a single row of gilt or real bullion embroidery, one fourth of an inch in width (no twisted bullion at the several corners or angles of the Cross). A bow of black silk velvet and a half-round gold bullion tassel shall be placed between the front folds of the chapeau.

NOTE - Rosette of satin points and quilled satin ribbon may be omitted. Cross and border may be machine embroidered with rayon thread on a velvet base. These items are optional as they will permit a reduction in the cost of a chapeau. For Past Grand Commanders, the arms of the Cross shall be purple; for the other Officers, it shall be red.

2. For Division Commanders, former Division Commanders and former Officers of Grand Commandery not having Past rank as defined in Sections 133 and 134:

The same as described for the Grand Commander, except that a Passion Cross of red silk velvet, three inches in height with transverse arms in proportion to the height (no twisted bullion at the several corners or angles of the Cross) shall be substituted for the Templar Cross, and the other substitutions as listed in 1. above may be made if desired.

3. For Commanders and Past Commanders: The same as described for Division Commanders, except that the gold tassel shall be omitted.

4. For all other Officers of Constituent Commanderies and for Sir Knights:

The same as described for Commanders, except that silver threads and embroidery shall be substituted for gold.

(d) SWORD AND SCABBARD:

1. For the Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Officers of Grand Commandery, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos, and Past Grand Captains General:

A sword with metal scabbard, suspended by two metal rings; a straight cross guard; a helmet head; a white ivory or imitation ivory handle etched in front with the monogram of the

owner and on the opposite side with the Templar Cross. There shall be no chain from pommel to cross guard, nor shall the guard be other than a straight solid pattern, devoid of either curving ends or shield-shaped device in the center. A blade not to exceed nineteen millimeters in width, with a scabbard to properly accommodate the same, is recommended. All scabbards shall be devoid of elaborate ornamentation and must contain no emblem other than recognized emblems of the Order. All metal parts of the sword, except the blade, shall be gold plated. For Past Grand Commanders, the Cross, when in color, shall be purple; for the other Officers, it shall be red.

2. For Commanders, Division Commanders and Past Commanders (including former Officers of grand Commandery):

The same as described for the Grand Commander, except that the Passion Cross shall be substituted for the Templar Cross, which, when in color, shall be red.

3. For all other Officers of Commanderies and for Sir Knights:

The same as described for Commanders, except that silver shall be substituted for gold.

(e) SHIRT:

Shirt to be white, white turn down collar.

(f) NECKTIE:

Black four-in-hand, without stick pin.

(g) GLOVES:

Buff colored, of lisle thread or chamoisette.

(h) HOSE:

Black hose.

(i) SHOES:

Black shoes

Section 511.

The above-described Short Coat dress uniform adopted as an optional dress uniform in 1966 and subsequently removed from the optional status in 1983 and the Long Coat dress uniform adopted prior to 1966 shall both be considered regulation Full Dress Uniforms of this Grand Jurisdiction.

Provided, that any Sir Knight who now possesses the long coat dress uniform or any newly dubbed Sir Knight who elects to purchase the full-dress uniform prescribed prior to the adoption of the short coat full dress uniform, as an option, in 1966 shall be deemed to be in compliance with the uniform regulations of this Grand Commandery.

And further, that for Asylum ceremonies either dress uniform may be used; that for competitive drills the uniforms used by those participating must be alike.

CAP and MANTLE

Section 511a.

In lieu of the regulation Templar uniform, constituent Commanderies may adopt the use of the Cap and Mantle as their official uniform. These can be worn for all Templar occasions, provided that when appearing in public, the entire Commandery **MUST** be dressed in like manner — either in Uniform or all in Cap and Mantle. The Cap and Mantle is prescribed as follows: (rev. 2025)

1. **TEMPLAR MANTLE:** In general, the mantle shall be of the style worn by medieval Templars and by members of the Sovereign Grand Priorities. It shall consist of white material, with hood, reaching to approximately twelve inches from the floor and ornamented as follows:

a. For members of the Order below the rank of Commander: The mantle shall be white; the hood to be lined with silky white material, the Passion Cross in bright red, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with white cords with white tassels.

b. For Commanders and Past Commanders: The mantle shall have a single red ribbon, one inch wide, stitched one-half inch from the outer edge; the hood to be lined with a similar red material; the Passion Cross in red with gold rays, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords with red tassels.

c. For Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers entitled to permanent rank: The mantle shall have the ribbon of a Past Commander and an additional red ribbon one-half inch wide, stitch one-half inch from said ribbon; the Templar Cross in red, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords and red tassels.

d. For the Grand Commander: The mantle shall have a single red ribbon, two inches wide, stitched one inch from the outer edge; the hood lined in red with a similar material; the Templar Cross in red, nine inches in height on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords and red tassels.

e. For Past Grand Commanders: The mantle shall have a single purple ribbon, one and one-half inches wide, stitched three-quarters of an inch from the outer edge; the hood lined in purple with a similar material; the Templar Cross in purple, nine inches in height on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with purple cords and tassels.

2. **JEWELS AND DECORATIONS:** No other ornamentation or Templar jewels or recognitions shall be worn on the mantle except that a jewel of office conforming to official Grand Encampment design may be worn suspended on a chain collar worn on top of mantle. The collar shall be of the following design. For Past Grand Commanders and Grand Commandery officers the collar shall consist of rectangular links that may or may not be attached to a fabric backing of black or purple material and shall rest upon the shoulders. The total circumference of the collar is to be not more than 48 inches. The links shall contain designs appropriate to rank such as purple or red Templar crosses, designs general to Templary such as crosses indicating the orders of Templary, Cross and Crown insignia or designs not indicative of any other degree or body of Freemasonry or other private organization (Figure 1). For Commanders of Commanderies the chain will be a simple gold or silver color chain composed of round or oval links worn around the neck and having no backing. For other officers of a Commandery the chain shall be similar to the commander except that it shall be silver in color (Figure 2).

3. TEMPLAR CAP: The Templar cap shall follow the design and specifications of the style worn by the Sovereign Grand Priorities, three inches in depth and very slightly flared at the top.

a. For all members of the Order below the rank of Past Grand Commander: The cap shall be of bright red velvet (or silk) and the cross displayed on the front of the cap shall be appropriate to rank— red Passion Cross for members below the Rank of Commander; red Passion Cross with gold rays for Commanders and Past Commanders; and red Templar Cross for all Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers entitled to permanent rank.

b. For Past Grand Commanders: The cap shall be of purple velvet (or silk) with Purple Templar Cross trimmed in gold.

c. For all ranks: The Cross shall be two inches high.

4. COMMANDERY BADGE: The distinctive badge of a constituent Commandery shall be worn on the right breast of the mantle. The badge will be no less than five inches or more than eight inches high. The badge of the Commandery shall be superimposed upon the Malta Cross, or the Malta Cross shall be incorporated within the Commandery badge. The design shall be approved by the Grand Commandery. (Figure 3) No other ornamentation or Templar jewels or recognition shall be worn on the mantle.

5. SWORD AND SCABBARD: The sword and scabbard shall conform to the regulations of the Grand Commandery.

6. SWORD SLING: The sword shall be suspended, when required to be worn, on a sling to be worn over the right shoulder, to terminate in two straps with snaps to fasten to the two upper rings of the scabbard.

7. TROUSERS: The trousers shall be of black clothing material and to be without cuffs or ornamentation.

8. SHIRT: Shirt to be white, white turn down collar.

9. NECKTIE: Black four-in-hand, without stick pin.

10. GLOVES: Buff colored, of lisle thread or chamoisette.

11. HOSE: Black hose.

12. SHOES: Black shoes

Figure 1 Grand Commandery Chain Collar



All Grand Officers



Past Grand Commander

Figure 2 Constituent Commandery Chain Collar



(Silver ranks below Commander, Gold Commander only)

Figure 3 Commandery Mantle Patches examples





St. Omer's No. 7



Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania

Figure 4 Mantles



Past Grand Commander



Grand Commander



Grand Officer or Past Grand Officer

Figure 4 Mantles (continued)



Commander or Past Commander



Sir Knight

Figure 5 Caps



Past Grand Commander



Grand Officers or Past Grand Officer (permanent rank)



Commander or Past Commander



Sir Knight

DRESS UNIFORM - LONG COAT STYLE

Section 512.

(a) COAT:

1. For the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, and Past Deputy Grand Commanders:

A double-breasted frock coat of black cloth, the skirt to extend to within two inches of the bend of the knee, and to be finished with side edge on each side that shall extend two-thirds the length of the skirt. There shall be two rows of half-round, black, uncut velvet covered buttons on the front, nine buttons in each row, placed by threes. The distance between the rows shall be from eight to ten inches at the top and four to five inches at the bottom. There shall be four like buttons on the back of the coat (two at waist (figure 1) seam and one at lower edge of each side edge). The diameter of the buttons shall be three-quarters of an inch. The coat shall be lined with black material, have a standing collar, to hook in front, and to rise no higher than to permit free movement of the chin. The sleeves shall be stitched at a point three and one-half inches from the end of the sleeve to form a cuff, with three small half round, black uncut velvet covered buttons on each sleeve. No other ornamentation.

2. For all other Officers and Past Officers of the Grand Commandery, Past Commanders, and Commanders:

The same as described for the Grand Commander, except that the buttons shall be dome buttons, black ivory or silk covered, and placed at equal intervals instead of by threes (figure 2).

3. For all other Officers of Commanderies and for Sir Knights:

The same as described for Commanders, except that the coat shall be single breasted (figure 3).



(b) TROUSERS:

The trousers shall be of black cloth to match the coat and without cuffs or ornamentation.

(c) CHAPEAU:

The same as listed in Section 510 (c).

(d) SWORD AND SCABBARD:

The same as listed in Section 510 (d), except that the scabbard shall be suspended by three metal rings, two at the upper mount and one at the middle mount.

(e) BELT AND BUCKLE:

For Past Grand Commanders:

A belt of black enameled leather body, one and three-fourth inches wide, covered with purple and gold wire lace interline (four rows of gold and three of purple), with gold plated inside slides, with extra black leather band on the inside of the felt to carry the slides for the three slings of black leather, seven-eighths of an inch wide, two short and one long, covered with rows of gold wire lace with one row of purple between, the slings to have lengthening buckles with gold plated swivels at the lower ends, and a gold plated sword hook at the top of the second sling. The buckle shall be rectangular, two inches high and three inches wide of hard metal, gold plated, with a polished bevel edge one-

eighth of an inch in width. The face shall be stippled in vermicelli pattern with dull finish, and shall bear a Templar Cross in purple enamel, one and one eighth inches square, without rays, over which shall be the motto "IN HOC SIGNO VINCES" in block letters in relief with polished face; the buckle shall be attached to the belt with a French fastener and the return end held in place by a sliding loop of gold wire lace one-fourth of an inch wide.

For the Grand Commander, all other Officers of Grand Commandery during incumbency in office, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos, and Past Grand Captains General:

The same as described for Past Grand Commanders, except that black and gold wire lace shall be substituted for purple and gold lace, gold plated chains shall be substituted for leather slings, and the Templar Cross shall be red.

For Commanders, Division Commanders, and Past Commanders (including former Officers of Grand Commandery): The same as described for the Grand Commander, except that a red Passion Cross shall be substituted for the Templar Cross on the buckle. Any Commandery, however, may select a distinctive buckle, subject to the approval of the Grand Commander.

For all other Officers of Commanderies and for Sir Knights:

The same as described for Commanders, except that the buckle and chains shall be silver-plated instead of gold plated.

(f) BALDRIC:

For Officers of Commanderies below the rank of Captain General and for Sir Knights:

The baldric shall have a body four inches in width, the center of white moiré antique silk, bordered on each side with black silk velvet one inch in width; over the seam where the velvet joins the silk, there shall be a strip of navy lace one-fourth of an inch wide. On the center and front of baldric there shall be a white metal star of nine points (alluding to the nine founders of the Order); in the center of the star a Passion Cross without rays, the center of which is filled with red silk velvet of enamel surrounded by the motto "IN HOC SIGNO VINCES", such star to be three and three fourths' inches in diameter. The ends of the baldric shall be held in place by metal clasps or fasteners so that the point of intersection shall be six inches from the lower end of the baldric. The metal clasp at point of intersection shall have on the outside a metal plate in shape of a Templar Cross, with or without a device for supporting a sword. The baldric shall be lined with green moiré silk throughout its entire width and length. At the back of the baldric, so as to show on the left breast when worn reversed, there shall be a Red Cross of equal arms and angles, being four inches square. The shoulder seam on the outside of the baldric shall be covered, on the white center only, with silver wire lace. The baldric shall be worn from the right shoulder to the left hip.

(g) SHIRT:

A plain white shirt.

(h) SHIRT COLLAR:

The collar shall be of white linen, standing, closed in front and sufficiently high to show one-fourth of an inch above the coat collar.

(i) GLOVES:

Gloves shall be buff colored, of lisle thread or chamoisette.

(j) HOSE:

Black hose.

(k) SHOES:

Black shoes.

FATIGUE UNIFORM

Section 513.

(a) COAT:

For the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, and Past Deputy Grand Commanders:

The fatigue coat shall be a three button, double-breasted sack coat, to close with two buttons and to be of black unfinished worsted cloth or similar black clothing material. It shall have side pockets with flaps and a left breast pocket. On the points of the collar there shall be a one-inch Templar Cross of gold thread (see note below) embroidered on the coat, or on patches sewn on the coat, with velvet centers in the arms of the Cross. On the left sleeve just below the shoulder seam there shall be embroidered on the sleeve, or on a patch sewn on the sleeve, the word "PENNSYLVANIA" in plain block letters in semi-circular shape, and below the word, a Templar Cross corresponding with those on the collar. There shall be a one-half inch black braid on each sleeve forming a cuff. The coat shall have six buttons of half round black uncut velvet, three on each side, with two buttons on each cuff. The coat shall be lined with black material and have two inside pockets. For Past Grand Commanders, the velvet center of the Cross shall be purple; for the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, and Past Deputy Grand Commanders, it shall be red.

NOTE - Embroidery may be either by machine or by hand and thread may be of either rayon (or other suitable and practical material) or metallic bullion.

For the other elective Officers of Grand Commandery during incumbency in office, Past Grand Generalissimos, and Past Grand Captains General:

The same as described for the Grand Commander, except that the buttons shall be dome buttons, black ivory or silk covered.

For appointive Officers of the Grand Commandery during incumbency in office:

The same as described for the elective Officers of the Grand Commandery, other than the Grand Commander and the Deputy Grand Commander, except that instead of the embroidery on the left sleeve there shall be substituted the following: just below the shoulder seam, the name of the Commandery in semicircular shape and below the name the number of the Commandery of which the wearer is a member, and below the number, the word "PENNSYLVANIA" in a horizontal line, all embroidered in plain block letters of gold thread (see note at end of 1. above).

For Commanders, Division Commanders, and Past Commanders (including former Officers of Grand Commandery):

The same as described for the appointive Officers of the Grand Commandery, except that a one-inch Passion Cross of gold thread with red center shall be substituted for the Templar Cross.

For all other Officers of Commanderies and for Sir Knights:

The same as described for Commanders, except that silver embroidery shall be substituted for gold.

(b) TROUSERS:

The trousers shall be of black cloth to match the coat and without cuffs or ornamentation.

(c) CAP:

For the Grand Commander, other Grand Officers during incumbency in office, Past Grand Commanders, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos, and Past Grand Captains General:

A Military style Garrison Cap, also known as a Pershing Cap or Fatigue Cap, of black, gold band, and black visor, also referred to as a bill, with a gold chin strap attached with gold buttons (figure 1). 8-point style caps will remain regulation and wearable until such time as no currently owned caps remain, but Sir Knights are not permitted to procure new caps of said style from the date of adoption of this section.

For Past Grand Commanders: a metal purple Templar Cross outlined in gold (figure 4), two-inch square, fixed to the front of the cap just above the band; for all others enumerated above, the Templar Cross shall be red (figure 4). Past Grand Commanders and Grand Commanders golden oak leaf and acorn embellishment ("scrambled eggs") to be included on the visor.

For Commanders, Past Division Commanders, and Past Commanders (including former Officers of Grand Commandery): The same as described for the Grand Commander, a metal Passion Cross of red outlined in gold (figure 6), two inches in height with transverse arms in proportion to the height shall be substituted for the Templar Cross.

For Generalissimo and Captain General: The same as described for Grand Commander, except that the band, chinstrap, and buttons will be silver (figure 2) with a metal Passion Cross of red outlined in silver (figure 7).

For all other Officers of Commanderies and for Sir Knights: The same as described for Generalissimo and Captain General, except a black band, silver chins strap with silver buttons (figure 3) and Passion Cross of red outlined in silver.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7

(d) SHIRT:

Shirt to be white, white turn down collar.

(e) NECKTIE:

Black four in hand, without stick pin.

(f) GLOVES:

Buff colored, of lisle thread or chamoisette.

(g) HOSE:

Black hose.

(h) SHOES:

Black shoes.

CAPE

Section 514.

For the Grand Commander, other Grand Officers during incumbency in office, Past Grand Commanders, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos, and Past Grand Captains General:

A cape of black beaver, kersey or melton, cut three quarters full, and extending to the bottom of the long dress coat; with box collar one and one fourth inches stand and two inches fall at the back of neck, increasing to two and one half inches at end of collar; to fasten with a hook and eye at end of collar

and closing over breast with four black orunelle buttons, size 28, covered by a folly; the corners of collar and cape to be cut square; and the edges to be finished plain or stitched raw. The lining shall be white in color. On the lining, over left breast, there shall be a Templar Cross of silk velvet, four inches square, the top of the Cross on a level with the arm pit and the right edge four inches from the edge of the cape. The collar shall be of black silk velvet, on which shall be embroidered the Templar Cross, three-fourths of an inch square of silk velvet, bordered with No. 26 gold bullion embroidery (no twisted bullion at the several corners, or angles of the Cross). For Past Grand Commanders, the Cross shall be purple; for the other Officers, it shall be red.

For Commanders, Division Commanders, and Past Commanders (including former Officers of Grand Commandery):

The same as described for the Grand Commander, except that a Passion Cross, four inches in height on the lining, and three fourths of an inch in height on the collar, with transverse arms in proportion to the shall be substituted for the Templar Cross.

For all other Officers of Commanderies and for Sir Knights:

The same as described for Commanders, except that silver embroidery shall be substituted for gold.

Section 514.1

The cape may be worn in lieu of an overcoat with either Templar Dress Uniform or Fatigue Uniform. (GE 249 and 252)

APRON

Section 515.

A Grand Commandery may provide for the wearing of a Templar Apron in its Uniform Regulations similar to those in Grand Encampment Constitution Sections 260 A, B and C. A Grand Commandery may specify with which of its authorized uniforms a Templar Apron may be worn.

(a) Traditional Apron. A Traditional Templar Apron shall conform substantially in design to the images below. It shall be trimmed in gold for Sir Knights of the rank of Commander or Past Commander and above, and in silver for Sir Knights below the rank of Commander. A Traditional Templar Apron may only be worn in an Asylum or other private setting where only Knights Templar are present.



(b) Contemporary Apron. A Contemporary Templar Apron shall conform substantially in design to the image below. It shall be trimmed in gold for Sir Knights of the rank of Commander or Past Commander and above, and in silver for Sir Knights below the rank of Commander. A Contemporary Templar Apron may be worn in both private and public settings. It is permissible to manufacture an apron so that it is reversable with the Traditional Apron on one side and the Contemporary Apron on the other.



(c) Grand Commandery Officers may wear such aprons and others, as deemed appropriate, from time to time, by the Grand Commander and in accordance with his directions.

(d) If a Sir Knight appears in uniform in a tyled, Masonic Lodge, he shall wear such apron as is in accord with local Masonic custom or approved by the presiding officer.

JEWELS

Section 516.

All Officers of Grand Commandery and of Constituent Commanderies shall wear the jewel of their respective office as prescribed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment and the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania during their incumbency in office. (GE 256)

Section 517.

Only Templar jewels shall be worn on the Templar Uniform. Meritorious jewels, badges of Commanderies, and Malta jewels may be worn on the left breast in the order named, on a line with the third button of the coat when worn with the uniform described in Section 512 (a). The jewel of office shall take precedence over the jewels enumerated above. (GE 257)

The Grand Commander may regulate the wearing of meritorious jewels, badges of Commanderies, and Malta jewels, by the Grand Officers.

Section 518.

The jewel of office of the Grand Commander shall be worn suspended from a heavy red silk cord with a swivel. The cord shall have a tassel at each end, shall be held together by sliding holders, and shall have a total length of sixty- four inches. (GE 262 a)

Section 519.

The jewels of office of Past Grand Commanders and of the remaining Officers of the Grand Commandery shall be suspended from a hanger in the form of the Coat of Arms of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in open design. The Past Grand Commanders jewel may be worn suspended from a heavy purple cord, with tassels, or on the left breast with the other Templar jewels.

Section 520.

The jewels of office of Commanderies shall be suspended from such hangers as shall be determined by the respective Commanderies, subject to the approval of the Grand Commander.

Section 521.

(a) MALTA JEWEL:

The Malta jewel shall be of the design prescribed by the Grand Encampment and shall be two inches in height and two inches in width. The arms of the Cross shall be set in white enamel, outlined in gold, and the Coat of Arms of the United States of America shall be mounted thereon. The jewel shall be suspended by black grosgrain ribbon from a hanger, one and three-fourths inches in width, and one fourth inch in height, with the word "Pennsylvania" in gold letters set thereon in black enamel; provided that any Commandery with the approval of the Grand Commander, may adopt such other hanger as it shall determine.

(b) MALTA PIN:

A five-eighth inch Malta Pin set in gold with a shield of the United States superimposed on the center, and without a ribbon and hanger, may be presented during that portion of the Orders in lieu of the regulation jewel for Sir Knights not in uniform. This pin may be worn on the left pocket or lapel of civilian dress. The only authorized Malta Jewel to be worn on the Templar uniform is the "Pennsylvania" Malta Jewel or one approved by the Grand Commander for the Commandery. (Rev. 1995)

Section 522.

The emblem on the Jewels of Office of Grand Commandery and of Constituent Commanderies shall be as follows:

1. Grand Commander and Commanders: The Passion Cross upon Sun Rays, nine rays between each arm of the Cross, illustrated in detail in Figure 1 on page 107. The jewel shall be of yellow gold or gold plate.
2. Deputy Grand Commander: The Passion Cross, without Rays, illustrated for detail in Figure 2 on page 107.
3. Grand Generalissimo and Generalissimos: The Square surmounted by the Paschal Lamb, illustrated for detail in Figure 3 on page 107.
4. Grand Captain General and Captains General: The Level surmounted by the Cock, illustrated for detail in Figure 4 on page 107.
5. Grand Senior Warden and Senior Wardens: A hollow Square with a Mailed Arm and Hand grasping the Sword of Justice, illustrated for detail in Figure 5 on page 107.
6. Grand Junior Warden and Junior Wardens: The Eagle, wings spread, holding in its talons a Flaming Sword, illustrated for detail in Figure 6 on page 108.
7. Grand Prelate and Prelates: A Triple Triangle, with a red Passion Cross in the center of each Triangle, illustrated for detail in Figure 7 on Page 108.
8. Grand Treasurer and Treasurers: Two Crossed Keys, illustrated for detail in Figure 8 on Page 108.
9. Grand Recorder and Recorders: Two Crossed Quill Pens, illustrated for detail in Figure 9 on Page 108.
10. Grand Standard Bearer and Standard Bearers: A Masonic Plumb surmounted by the Banner of the Order, illustrated for detail in Figure 10 on Page 108.
11. Grand Sword Bearer and Sword Bearers: A Triangle with Two Crossed Swords, illustrated for detail in Figure 11 on Page 108.
12. Grand Warder and Warders: A hollow square with Crossed Swords and a Trumpet, illustrated for detail in Figure 12 on Page 109.
13. Grand Captain of the Guard of Grand Commandery and Sentinel of Constituent Commanderies: A hollow Square with a Sword, illustrated in detail in Figure 13 on page 109.
14. Guards of Constituent Commanderies: A hollow Square with a Battle axe, illustrated in detail in Figure 14 on page 109.

Section 523.

Moved to Appendix A. (May 19, 2023)

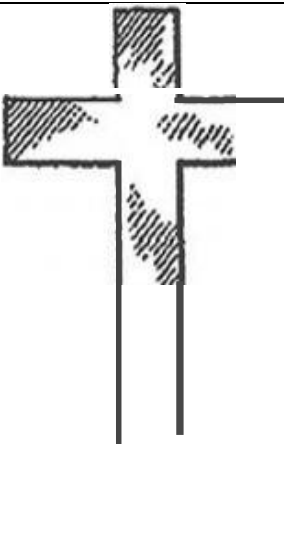
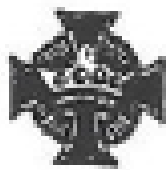
		
Figure 1 Grand Commanders and Commanders (See Sect. 522)	Figure 2 Deputy Grand Commanders (See Sect. 522)	Figure 3 Grand Generalissimos and Generalissimos (See Sect. 522)
		
Figure 4 Grand Captains-General and Captains General (See Sect. 522)	Figure 5 Grand Senior Wardens and Senior Wardens (See Sect. 522)	

		
Figure 6 Grand Junior Wardens and Junior Wardens (See Sect. 522)	Figure 7 Grand Prelates and Prelates (See Sect. 522)	Figure 8 Grand Treasurers and Treasurers (See Sect. 522)
		
Figure 9 Grand Recorders and Recorders (See Sect. 522)	Figure 10 Grand Standard Bearers and Standard Bearers (See Sect. 522)	Figure 11 Grand Sword Bearers Sword Bearers (See Sect. 522)

		
Figure 12 Grand Warders and Warders (See Sect. 522)	Figure 13 Grand Captain of the Guard of Grand Commanderies and Sentinel of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies (See Sect. 522)	
		
Figure 15 Emblem of the Order (See Sect. 524)	Figure 14 Guards of Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies (See Sect. 522)	Figure 16 Knight Templar Button (See Sect. 525)

EMBLEM OF THE ORDER

Section 524.

The Emblem of the Order shall be the Cross (red Passion) and Crown (gold), illustrated for detail in Figure 15 on page 114. (Section 522), (GE 263)

KNIGHT TEMPLAR BUTTON

Section 525.

The Knight Templar Button shall be the Crusader's Cross, over the center of which is a Crown, the whole backed by rays of light, illustrated for detail and style in Figure 16 on page 114. (Section 522). It shall be enameled as follows:

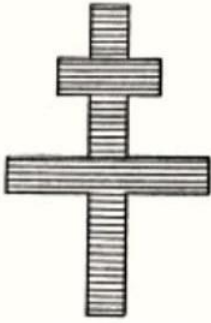
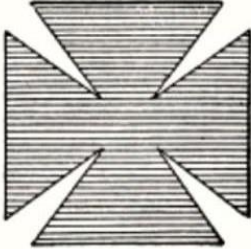
For Past Grand Commanders: Purple.

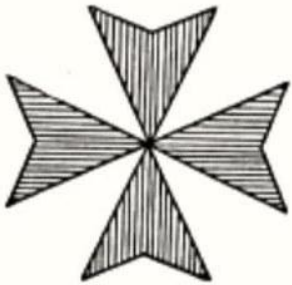
For Grand Commandery Officers; Commanders, Past Commanders, Generalissimos and Captains General of Constituent Commanderies: Red.

For Sir Knights and Officers of Constituent Commanderies below the Rank of Captain General: Green

The Button shall have a maximum size of five-eighths of an inch at its greatest point. (GE 264)

Designs of Insignia Crosses

	
Cross of Salem Grand Master and Past Grand Masters	Patriarchal Cross Grand Encampment Officers and Past Officers
	
Templar Cross Grand Commandery Officers and Past Officers	

	
Passion Cross Commandery Officers, Past Offices and Sir Knights	Crusaders Cross All Sir Knights
	
Malta Cross All Sir Knights	Red Cross All Sir Knights

KNIGHT TEMPLAR NAME TAG

Section 527.

The Knight Templar Name Tag shall be 1/2" to 5/8" in width by 3" in length, of black color, with the name engraved in white letters not over 1/4" in height and a white border around the edge of the tag not over 1/32" in width. The Tag shall be worn on the right breast on a line with other Templar jewels worn on the left breast.

Division Commanders, who have completed their term of office, may wear a Name Tag not over 3/4" in width by 3" in length, of black color, with the name engraved in white letters not over 1/4" in height and a white border around the edge of the Tag not over 1/32" in width. Also, a small Cross and Crown, the number of the Division and dates served shall be engraved thereon. The Tag shall be worn on the right breast on a line with other Templar jewels worn on the left breast.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CITATION BARS

Section 528.

(a) A Knight Templar Leadership Bar may be worn on the left breast of the uniform coat approximately one-half inch above the medals displayed and in the center of the display line; by any Sir Knight who has been Officially recognized as having served as a Master of a Masonic Lodge, High Priest of a Royal Arch Chapter, Illustrious Master of a Council of Royal and Select Master Masons, and

Commander of a Commandery of Knights Templar. If worn as one of two or more citation bars, it is to be worn closest to the left arm, with all bars centered above the pocket. If a Sir Knight wears more than one row of bars, the York Rite Leadership Bar is to be worn on the lowest row. Said bar to be constructed of metal, 3/8 inch high, 1 and 3/8 inches wide, displaying the four colors representative of the four York Rite Bodies, blue, red, purple and white, and being attached to the uniform with clutch pins. (Rev. 2026)



(b) A Knight Templar Veterans Bar recognizing the contributions of those Sir Knights who have served their country in any branch of the Armed Services may be worn on the left breast of the uniform coat approximately one-half inch above the medals and in the center of the display line. If worn with the Knights Templar Leadership Bar it is placed closest to the center, with both jewels centered above the pocket. Said Bar to be constructed of metal, 3/8 inches high, 1 and 3/8 inches wide, displaying alternate colors of red, white, blue and black in a pattern consistent with the Armed Forces Veteran's Bar, and being attached to the uniform with clutch pins. (Rev. 2010)



(c) The First Responder Service Bar is to recognize those Sir Knights who respond to render immediate aid at emergencies within their communities and surrounding areas, often putting themselves at risk. The service bar may be worn on the uniform of any Sir Knight who serves or has served on the Local, State or Federal level, in Law Enforcement, Fire Services or Emergency Medical Services, by responding, or dispatching others, to emergencies that threaten the lives or property of those in their community or local area. Said bar, Blackinton model number A7142-AD-R, in gold tone, as pictured below. The bar is to be worn on the left of the uniform, in line with or below the Veteran Service and/or York Rite Leadership bars, if present, or in place thereof if neither is present.



(d) The Sword Proficiency Bar is to recognize those Sir Knights who demonstrate proficiency in the execution of tactics and use of the sword. Only Sir Knights who have been certified may wear this service bar. Requirements for certification are determined by the Grand Commander. Evaluations can only be performed by the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, an Inspector General, a Division Commander who has, himself, been certified, or other Sir Knights authorized by the Grand Commander to do so.



END OF PART III

PART IV

AMENDMENTS AND REPEAL

Section 601.

The Grand Commandery upon the concurrence of a majority of its members present at an Annual Conclave, or Special Conclave called for the purpose and convened within forty eight hours of the convening of the Annual Conclave, may revise, amend and alter this Constitution and Laws insofar as such revision, amendment or alteration shall not be in conflict with the Constitution, Statutes or Rituals of the Grand Encampment, provided, however, that the proposed revision, amendment, or alteration shall be filed in writing with the Grand Recorder at least seventy days prior to the Annual Conclave or Special Conclave of Grand Commandery at which the same is to be presented for consideration and that a copy thereof shall be inserted in, or accompany, the notice of said Conclave.

In case of an emergency, and with the approval of the Grand Commander, such revision, amendment, or alteration may be filed in writing with the Grand Recorder not less than two weeks prior to the Annual Conclave, and that the Grand Recorder shall, not less than one week prior to the Annual Conclave, notify those on the mailing list for notice of the Annual Conclave that the same is to be presented for consideration.

Section 602.

When the Grand Encampment amends, alters or revises its Constitution and Statutes, its Code of Laws, its Standing Resolutions, its Regulations for the Educational Foundation and/or its Regulations for the Eye Foundation at any Triennial Conclave, the Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, after he has received a copy of the approved amendments or revisions from the Grand Recorder of Grand Encampment, shall direct the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence to ascertain if the Constitution and Laws of Grand Commandery are at variance and if so to prepare the amendments necessary to have them conform therewith, inasmuch as the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania is bound by Templar Law to have its Constitution and Laws conform to Grand Encampment Constitution and Statutes, its Code of Laws, its Standing Resolutions, its Regulations for the Educational Foundation and its Regulations for the Eye Foundation it shall not be necessary for the Grand Recorder to include these proposed amendments with the Call for the Annual Conclave.

Section 603.

On revision of the Constitution and Laws, or amendments thereto, those parts not changed are construed to be as before.

Section 620.

All Constitutional provisions, Statutes and Laws heretofore enacted and not include in this Constitution and Laws are hereby repealed, insofar as they are not laws of the Grand Encampment.

END OF PART IV

APPENDIX A

The history of the purchase of the Grand Commandery jewels. (From proceedings as noted)

The early Jewels of the Grand Commandery were lost, and new Jewels were procured. (GC 1874, 48; GC 1875, 57)

In 1900 the Committee on Finance included the following in their appropriation report: "Your Committee has carefully considered the Resolution submitted at the session of yesterday in reference to the purchase of new Jewels for the Grand Officers, and would courteously report, that in order to procure Jewels in keeping with the standing of the Grand Commandery there should be appropriated the sum of \$1,500.00, as follows:

Jewel for Grand Commander	\$300.00
Jewels for 8 Elective Grand Officers	\$800.00
Jewels for 6 appointed Grand Officers	\$400.00
	\$1,500.00 (GC 1900, 69)

From the Proceedings of 1901 the detailed statement of payments by the Grand Treasurer included the following:

Feb. 28, 1901, J. E. Caldwell & Co.,

15 special Grand Commandery Officers' gold jewels

\$1,790.00 (G C 1901 65)

The Jewels of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Prelate, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder, Grand Captain of the Guard, the Beauseant of the Order and the Insignia and Emblem of the Order (described as a "Templar Cross, Crown and Rays of Light, Color may be Purple, Red or Green") were separately registered May 23, 1927, in the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, under the provisions of the Act of May 5, 1927, P. L. 778, the registrations being by the "Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania."

Grand Prelate's Jewel

At the 1926 Annual Conclave the report of the Grand Treasurer included a disbursement to J. E. Caldwell & Co., one Grand Prelate's Jewel in the amount of \$305.00.

The same report included a disbursement to J. E. Caldwell & Co., one Past Grand Commander's Jewel in the amount of \$175.00.

Division Commander's Jewels

The Jewels of the Division Commanders were authorized at the 1914 Annual Conclave and appropriated the sum of \$500.00 for the same. The Treasurer's report at the 1915 Annual Conclave lists a disbursement in favor of J. E. Caldwell K Co. for 19 Division Commander's Jewels in the amount of \$380.00. (G C 1914, 90; 1915, 69). In 1917 2 additional jewels in the amount of \$46.00 (GC 1917, 68).

Past Grand Commander's Jewel

From the annual report of the Grand Commander at the 1917 Annual Conclave: "June 26, 1917. By reason of a decision of our late Grand Master, Arthur MacArthur, which was approved by the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, and also by the Grand Encampment, the Jewels worn by our Past Grand Commanders ornamented with the Patriarchal Cross, are illegal. I therefore appointed R. E. Sir William W. Allen, R E. Sir A. Howard Thomas, and E. Sir Thomas R. Patton, as a committee to take up matter of the necessary changes; select a design; ascertaining the cost of same, and report to this session of our Grand Commandery."

The Committee reported as follows:

"Your Committee on Past Grand Commander's Jewel, respectfully reports that a number of designs were received, and carefully examined by the Committee, also by Past Grand Commanders and Grand Officers, and the design selected as being in their judgment most appropriate, was designated as Design "B" which is a facsimile of the jewel worn by the Grand Commander, with the exception of diamonds, and the addition of a Templar Cross in center of the pendant. Said Cross being of purple enamel, in the center of which is a diamond. In a circle on the pendant appears the words "Past Grand Commander Knights Templar of Pennsylvania."

"All to be of gold rose tinted. The cost of this jewel, not including the cost of the diamond to be \$70.00."

"On motion the report of the Committee was received, and the above-described jewel adopted as the jewel for Past Grand Commanders of this Grand Commandery." (GC 1917, 43, 113)

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Includes amendments passed at the 159th Annual Conclave May 19, 2012, at Wyomissing, PA
Sect. 28(c), 33

Includes amendments passed at the 160th Annual Conclave May 20, 2013, at Williamsport, PA
Sect. 333(b)(c)(d)

Includes amendments passed at the 163rd Annual Conclave May 23, 2016, at Cranberry Twp., PA
Sect. 28(b), 67(u), 250(i), 284

Includes amendments passed at the 165th Annual Conclave May 19, 2018, at Grantville, PA
Sect. 36.1, 41, 383

Includes amendments passed at the 166th Annual Conclave May 18, 2019, at Scranton, PA
Sect. 4(a)(b)(c removed), 136(a), 211, 245, 411(a)(2)

Includes amendments passed at the 169th Annual Conclave May 21, 2022, at Lancaster, PA
Sect. 6(c added), 208(c added), 204.1 (added), 204.2 (added), 513(c updated), 515 (added), 528
(updated, c added), 355 & 356 (repealed)

Includes amendments passed at the 170th Annual Conclave May 19, 2023, at Champion, PA
Sect. 22 (updated), Sect. 37 (updated), Sect. 55(l) (updated), Sect. 523 (relocated to Appendix A)

Includes amendments passed at the 171st Annual Conclave May 17, 2024 at Breinigsville, PA
Sect. 313 (updated), Sect. 333(a) (updated), Sect. 360 (updated), Sect. 384 (removed)

Includes Amendments passed at the 172nd Annual Conclave May 31, 2025 at Pittsburgh, PA
Sect. 91 (updated), Sect. 273 (updated), Sect 511a (updated)

Includes Amendments passed at the 173rd Annual Conclave May 30, 2026 at King of Prussia, PA
Sect. 22 (updated), Sect. 528 (updated)