



Mark G. Mattern  
Grand Commander



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From the Desk of the Grand Commander

To: Elected Grand Officers, Past Grand Commanders, Division Commanders and other appointed Grand Officers, Officers and Members of the Constituent Commanderies under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania

### COMMUNICATION NUMBER SIX

#### GRAND MASTER JOHNSON ACTIONS and CALL to CONCLAVE

Sir Knights:

In my Communication Number 5 I advised that the Grand Commandery Line Officers were watching the actions of Most Eminent Grand Master, SK Michael Burke Johnson, relating to his decision overturning the vote on **Resolution 2021-23, Reconsidering 2012 Resolution No. 1, as Amended by S.K. Duane Vaught, Decision No. 5, 15 March 2016** and his removal of SK David J. Kussman, R.E. Deputy Grand Master, from office.

At this time there are apparently ten (10) Grand Commanderies that have passed the resolution to request Grand Master Johnson to Call a Special Conclave of the Grand Encampment relating to these actions. The constitution of the Grand Encampment only requires nine (9) Grand Commanderies. At this point there are more than enough to accomplish that task. GM Johnson has also issued Grand Encampment General Order 3 which states that once the required number of Grand Commanderies make the request, and to minimize expenses, the Grand Master will Call the Special Conclave in conjunction with the East Central Department Conference in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in March of 2022. Voting delegates from Pennsylvania will be there to take part.

I am attaching to the email for this communication copies of Grand Encampment General Order No. 3 – Revised, the Letter sent out by SK Thomas X. Tsirimokos, PDC, Chairman of Jurisprudence, trying to “dispel some misconceptions and outright falsehoods propounded by the instigators of the so-called “Call to Conclave,” the Call for Special Conclave legislation so that you can see what actions would be taken at the Special Conclave, and an anonymous letter from Grand Encampment Officers and Past Grand Masters explaining their opinion on the matter.

At this point there is no need for me to call for a Special Conclave of the Grand Commandery to ask for a vote on the Call to Conclave. As I stated, there are already enough Grand Commanderies that have passed that resolution to request the Grand Master to Call for the Special Conclave. Getting that Call is just a small part of this process. Attending and voting on these actions speaks for all Sir Knights and is the most important.

The majority of Sir Knights in Pennsylvania have told me that they did not want to see the Grand Commandery be involved in the issue of getting Grand Master Johnson to call for the Special Conclave and that they support the decision to wait. I told you that I would not call for Special Conclave in PA when that majority was already telling me they did not want it.

I want to thank all of the Sir Knights for their support and sharing their feelings on this issue. We still have work to do, but I feel certain that it **will** get settled in Indiana. This Grand Line will continue to work for the best interests of Templary in Pennsylvania and our Sir Knights. If you have any questions, please let me know. I will do my best to answer them for you.

Keep up the good work in your Commandery and for Knights Templar in general.

Yours in Templary,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark G. Mattern". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark G. Mattern  
Grand Commander

Attest:  
Douglas M. Rowe  
Grand Recorder