



Martin O. Weddington Papers.

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C O N S T I T U T I O N

and

B Y - L A W S

of the

PRINCE HALL GRAND COMMANDERY

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

of the

STATE OF ILLINOIS AND JURISDICTION

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C O N S T I T U T I O N  
of the  
PRINCE HALL GRAND COMMANDERY  
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
of the  
STATE OF ILLINOIS AND JURISDICTION

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ARTICLE I  
Name

This Grand Commandery shall be known by the name and style PRINCE HALL GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, of the State of Illinois and Jurisdiction.

ARTICLE II

OF WHOM COMPOSED

This Grand Commandery shall consist of Right Eminent Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Prelate, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Instructor, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder, Grand Sentinel, Assistant Grand Recorder, the Legal Representatives for the time being of Subordinate Commanderies, under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, and also the Past Elected Grand Officers, the Past Eminent Commanders, so long as they are contributing members of some Constituent Commandery of this Grand Commandery.

ARTICLE III

CONCLAVES -- QUORUM

Sec. 1. This Grand Commandery shall meet annually on or before the second Thursday of August of each year, at such place as shall have been selected by a majority vote of the members present at the previous annual conclave of this Grand Commandery. If, however, there shall be a just reason why this Grand Commandery should not meet at the place selected, the Right Eminent Grand Commander and his elected Grand Officers shall select a suitable place of meeting and make the same known to the subordinate Commanderies and their legal representatives as soon as practicable. Provided, that if there should occur any just reason why the annual Conclave should not be held, then, in that case, the Right Eminent Grand Commander and his elected Grand Officers shall meet, and if they, by a majority vote, shall decide that the annual Conclave should be called off, then the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall submit the question of calling off such annual Conclave to the subordinate Commanderies, upon a referendum vote, and if three-fourths of all of the chartered subordinate Commanderies shall vote to call off such annual Conclave, then the same shall be called off and the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall issue a proclamation to

that effect; provided, that if any annual Conclave is called off, the elected Grand Officers shall meet at such place, as may be designated by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, at the time the annual Conclave called off should have been held and receive all of the annual returns and reports of the various subordinate Commanderies and supervise the finances of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 2. Special Conclaves may be called by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, in case of any emergency, at any time and place, in his discretion, or when requested by nine legal representatives of this Grand Commandery, all of whom shall be members of separate subordinate Commanderies, and in such case it shall be his duty to call a special Conclave of this Grand Commandery. Due notice shall be given to each subordinate Commandery, of the time and place such special Conclave is to be held and the business to be transacted. No other business than that specified in the notice, call, or summons, shall be transacted. Provided that no special Conclave shall be called or held within 60 days of the annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, except in case of some great emergency when the existence of the Grand Commandery is in jeopardy or when some of its valuable property is about to be lost or destroyed.

Sec. 3. Notice of all annual and special conclaves of this Grand Commandery shall be issued to the subordinate Commanderies at least sixty days prior to the holding of such annual or special Conclave mentioned in the notice.

#### Q U O R U M

Sec. 4. Nine representatives of at least three chartered Commanderies, whose taxes are paid, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If a quorum does not appear at the end of the first day the annual Conclave is to be held, the same shall be adjourned to the next annual Conclave, and the elected Grand Officers shall select the place of the next meeting.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### OFFICERS - STYLE - RANK - ELECTION AND INSTALLATION

Sec. 1. The Officers of this Grand Commandery shall be styled and ranked as follows:

1. Right Eminent Grand Commander
2. Deputy Grand Commander
3. ~~Grand~~ Generalissimo
4. Grand Captain General .
5. Grand Prelate
6. Grand Senior Warden
7. Grand Junior Warden
8. Grand Treasurer
9. Grand Recorder
10. Grand Instructor
11. Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer,  
Grand Warder, Grand Sentinel, and Assistant Grand Recorder.
12. Grand Trustees.

Sec. 2. The elective officers are Right Eminent Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Prelate, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Instructor, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, who shall be elected annually by separate ballot at the annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery by a majority vote.

Sec. 3. Appointive officers are Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder, Grand Sentinel, and Assistant Grand Recorder who shall be appointed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander elect.

#### ANNUAL ELECTION

Sec. 4. The annual election of the Grand Officers of this Grand Commandery shall be held in the afternoon of the second day's session of the annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, or at such other time as may be designated by a majority vote of the members present. When an annual election has begun, no other business shall be transacted until the election is finished.

#### INSTALLATION

Sec. 5. The officers elected and appointed shall be installed as soon after their election and appointment as it is convenient to do so, prior to the closing of the Grand Commandery.

The election and installation shall be held by the present or a past Right Eminent Grand Commander or the present or past Deputy Grand Commander, provided that no one shall be eligible to hold an election or installation when he, himself, is a candidate for election, or is to be installed.

Every Sir Knight elected or appointed to an office in this Grand Commandery shall, if present, be installed at some suitable time before the final closing of the annual Conclave, at which he may have been elected or appointed; and should any Sir Knight elected or appointed to an office be unavoidably called away before being installed, it shall be his duty to present himself to the deputy of his district; and said deputy shall at a regular conclave of his Commandery install him. The deputy shall notify the Right Eminent Grand Commander of his actions.

All officers elected, appointed and installed, shall hold office until the next annual Conclave and until their successors are elected, appointed, and installed.

#### ARTICLE V

##### PAST OFFICERS - RANK

The Past Grand Officers shall be styled by the name of the highest office previously held by them, or to which they have been elected and installed, with the word "Past" affixed thereto. Pro-

vided that only Past Right Eminent Grand Commanders shall rank as Past Grand Officers. Past Eminent Commanders shall be styled and ranked as such.

## ARTICLE VI

### GRAND OFFICERS - ELIGIBILITY - VACANCIES

Sec. 1. No one except those who have been elected, installed in the office of Eminent Commander and who have presided over a subordinate Commandery recognized by this Grand Commandery as legal and who are in good standing in and contributing members of some subordinate Commandery of this Grand Commandery, and who are qualified voters of this Grand Commandery, are eligible to be elected or appointed to any office in this Grand Commandery, subject to the exceptions and conditions hereinafter provided.

Sec. 2. (a) No one shall be eligible to be elected to the office of Right Eminent Grand Commander except those who have been elected to, installed and served in the office of Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, or a Past Right Eminent Grand Commander.

(b) No one shall be eligible to be elected to the office of Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, or any other elective office of this Grand Commandery, except a member who has been elected to, installed, and presided in the office of Eminent Commandery and who is a contributing member of a constituent Commandery of this Grand Commandery and ranked as Past Eminent Commander.

Sec. 3. No one who has been elected in the office of Right Eminent Grand Commander or Deputy Grand Commander shall be eligible to hold any office in a subordinate Commandery at the same time.

Sec. 4. No one shall be eligible to be appointed to any office in this Grand Commandery except a member who has been elected to, installed, and presided in the office of Eminent Commander and is a contributing member of a constituent Commandery and a qualified voter of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 5. No one shall be eligible to be elected to the office of Right Eminent Grand Commander for more than two years in succession.

### VACANCIES

Sec. 6. (a) In the event of the death, absence, disability or disqualification of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander shall fill the office and perform the duties of the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

(b) In the event of the death, absence, disability or disqualification of the Right Eminent Grand Commander and Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo shall perform the duties of the office of the Right Eminent Grand Commander.



(c) In the event of the death, absence, disability or disqualification of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander and the Grand Generalissimo, the Grand Captain General shall perform the duties of the office of the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

(d) In the case of the death, absence, disability or disqualification of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, and Grand Captain General, the Grand Senior Warden shall perform the duties of the office of the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

(e) In the case of the death, absence, disability or disqualification of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, and Grand Senior Warden, the Grand Junior Warden shall perform the duties of the office of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, and likewise in the case of the death, absence, disability or disqualification of the Grand Junior Warden and all of the higher ranking officers above named, the oldest Eminent Commander shall fill the office and perform the duties of the Right Eminent Grand Commander. The office of the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall never be vacant.

#### TRUSTEES

Sec. 7. The Trustees of this Grand Commandery shall be the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General and Grand Recorder.

#### ARTICLE VII

##### VOTES

Sec. 1. In all elections of this Grand Commandery each subordinate Commandery shall be entitled to three votes, to be cast by the legal representatives or proxy. In case there be only one representative present, he shall cast the three votes of the Commandery; if two representatives be present the highest in rank shall cast two votes and the lowest one vote; if three representatives are present, they shall cast one vote each.

Sec. 2. Each Grand Officer shall be entitled to one vote; each Past Grand Officer shall be entitled to one vote, and each Past Eminent Commander shall be entitled to one vote; provided that no present officer of the Grand Commandery can vote as a past officer of the subordinate Commandery and a present or past officer of the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 3. In taking the yeas and nays on roll call, the officers of the Grand Commandery shall be called first, past Grand officers, second, Past Eminent Commanders and those who have one vote, third, and those who have three votes, fourth, and last, those, if any, who have four votes; provided that the Right Eminent Grand Commander or the committee on credentials, may re-

arrange the manner of calling votes as may be deemed most convenient for the casting of the votes in the least possible time.

Sec. 4. All questions coming before the Grand Commandery, shall be decided by a majority vote unless otherwise provided by law,

Sec. 5. In all cases of an equality or tie vote, the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall cast the deciding vote, except in cases of election. In such case, the votes shall be taken over. All disposition of amendments and alterations of the Constitution, By-Laws, rules, regulations and standing resolutions shall be had as provided by law.

Sec. 6. No one shall be eligible to vote in this Grand Commandery except those who are qualified as prescribed by law.

#### ARTICLE VIII

##### POWERS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY

This Grand Commandery has, and claims all the essential powers and authority belonging to the Order of the Knights Templar, especially:

1. To grant dispensations and charters for holding regular Commanderies of the Order under its jurisdiction, with the right to confer therein the degrees of the Order, when deemed expedient, and for good cause may annul, revoke or amend such dispensation, or may annul, revoke or erase any pre-existing dispensation or charter of any constituent Commandery.

2. To fix the location and boundaries of its subordinate Commanderies, and to settle all controversies that may arise between the constituent Commanderies of this Grand Commandery.

3. To make and enforce all laws, rules and regulations, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, and to altar, amend, and repeal the same at will; and that its enactments, edicts and decisions upon all questions shall be the supreme law of the Order, and shall be strictly obeyed by all Commanderies under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery and the members thereof.

4. To make and adopt general laws, rules and regulations for the government of its subordinate Commanderies, and at pleasure may alter, amend or repeal the same, and has the final decision or determination of all matters, controversies or grievances which may be brought up by appeal or otherwise from the subordinate Commanderies or from the decision of the Eminent Commander.

5. To establish and preserve a uniform ritualistic work and instruction within the usages and customs of the Order of Knights Templar, and that all rituals so adopted shall not be altered, modified, changed or added to, without the authority of the Grand

Commandery being first expressly granted.

6. To assess and collect from its constituent Commanderies, or from the members of the Order, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, such sum or sums of money as may be provided by law and found necessary for the support and maintenance of this Grand Commandery or for the purpose of maintaining and protecting the Order.

7. To establish and maintain a Charity Fund for the benefit of the members who are old and indigent and without means of support, or the orphans and widows of any deceased member who died in good standing in any of the constituent Commanderies, whenever deemed necessary by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery.

8. May supervise the state and condition of its finances, and enact such legislation in relation thereto as it may deem necessary.

9. This Grand Commandery has power and original jurisdiction to hear and decide all charges and complaints against the members of this Grand Commandery or against members of the Order, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, for the violation of the laws, edicts, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery, the moral law or for the violation of the oath and obligation of the member, and, upon conviction, after an impartial trial, may expel, suspend or reprimand the accused; and its sentences, decisions and judgments shall be final, conclusive and binding upon the accused, the subordinate Commanderies, and all concerned.

10. The Grand Commandery has power to hear and determine all appeals from the subordinate Commanderies, to order the records of any case in a subordinate Commandery, hear and determine the matters therein, and as an appellate and supreme tribunal, it has power to set aside, modify, reverse or confirm the verdict, sentence, decision, and judgment of constituent Commanderies, and the rulings and decisions of the Eminent Commanders, and has power, upon trial of cases coming up by appeal, to acquit, to suspend or expel any member of the Order for the violation of the moral law, the edicts, laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery, or for the commission of any criminal offense, and its judgments and decisions in any or all such cases are final, conclusive and binding upon the accused and all concerned.

11. The Grand Commandery has jurisdiction and power to determine all appeals from the Eminent Commanders or the presiding officer and alone, has jurisdiction and power to try the Eminent Commander for the violation of the laws, rules, edicts and regulations of this Grand Commandery, the moral law, or for the commission of any crime or criminal offense, and upon conviction to inflict such punishment as appears just and equitable; and has power to remove the Eminent Commanders or any officers of a constituent Commandery from office. All expenses of any such trial shall be borne by the Commandery of the officer tried.



12. This Grand Commandery has power to adopt a budget and to do whatever it finds necessary for the best interest of the order and to execute all such powers and perform all such acts as by custom and usage are exercised and performed by a Grand Commandery of Knights Templar.

## ARTICLE IX

### POWERS AND DUTIES OF GRAND OFFICERS

#### DUTIES OF THE RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER

Sec. 1. The Right Eminent Grand Commander is the executive officer of the Grand Commandery and as such shall perform all duties pertaining to such office and shall see that the enactments and edicts of this Grand Commandery are faithfully performed and that all officers faithfully perform all duties assigned to them as such officers.

2. He shall preside when present at all conclaves and meetings of this Grand Commandery and that all assemblies of Knights Templar within his jurisdiction, except at the time of his own election and installation. He shall, at pleasure, preside over any meeting or conclave of any subordinate Commandery at which he may be present.

3. He has power to suspend or remove from office, until the next succeeding conclave of this Grand Commandery, or for a less time, any officer of this Grand Commandery, or of any constituent commandery, for the violation or disobedience of the laws, rules, and regulations of this Grand Commandery, the commission of any criminal offense, or for contumacy to his lawful authority, for malefescence in office, or for doing anything which will lower the standing of the Order.

4. He shall have power to call a special conclave of this Grand Commandery whenever he thinks the good of the Order requires it in any case of great emergency, provided that no special conclave can be called within 60 days of an annual conclave. He shall specify the business to be laid before the Grand Commandery in special session, and shall cause notice to be given as required by law of the time and place of such special conclave.

5. During the interim of the annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery, he shall have a general supervision of the Order throughout the jurisdiction, and shall decide all questions of law referred to him, and his decision shall be binding until the next annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery. It shall be his duty to see to it that the general landmarks of Masonry, the constitution, laws, regulations and edicts of this Grand Commandery and his own edicts are faithfully observed, and that there be no violation of the same.

6. He shall appoint all committees not otherwise provided by law and shall be ex-officio chairman thereof, and shall have

supervision of their work.

7. He shall have power to convene any constituent Commandery in special session at pleasure. Whenever he desires to convene any subordinate Commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, in a special session, he shall notify the Eminent Commandery of the fact, and immediately thereupon the Eminent Commander of the subordinate Commandery to be convened shall cause the members of his Commandery to be notified of the time and place of such meeting, and it shall be the duty of the Recorder of his Commandery to issue a notice to the members of his Commandery of the time and place of the meeting of the Commandery called by the Right Eminent Grand Commander. The Eminent Commander and all the officers of the Commandery shall do all in their power to facilitate the meeting called by the Right Eminent Grand Commander and the Commandery shall extend to the Right Eminent Grand Commander all courtesies.

8. He shall have power to visit each and every constituent Commandery throughout the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery for the purpose of giving instructions, inspecting the books, records, and proceedings of the subordinate Commandery, or he may appoint his deputy as his representative to inspect the books, records and proceedings of constituent Commandery and he shall see that the records of all subordinate Commanderies are kept in due and proper form and that the Commanderies do not violate the general landmarks of Masonry, the laws, rules, regulations and edicts of the Grand Commandery and his own edicts, and that they do nothing to bring disgrace upon the order of Knights Templar, or to lower the standing of the Order within the vicinity where the Commandery is located. He shall especially see to it that all disbursements of the funds of the constituent Commanderies are properly made by the officer designated for that purpose, and that such disbursements are made only pursuant to the will or vote of the Commandery, and that a correct record and proper accounting be made of the same. He shall also see that the funds or finances of the constituent Commanderies are safeguarded and are properly administered.

9. He shall have power to suspend the charter of the subordinate Commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery for contumacy, or for the violation of the general landmarks of Masonry, the laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery or for doing anything to lower the standing of the Order. Such suspension may be until the next succeeding annual conclave, or for a shorter time. All such suspensions shall be reported to the Grand Commandery at its next succeeding annual conclave.

10. He shall have power to issue dispensation for the formation of the new Commanderies in manner as provided by law.

11. In the organization of new Commanderies, the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall have power to confer the degrees of the Order at sight, either in person or by deputy appointed for that purpose, upon a sufficient number of eligible applicants in

order to enable them to petition him for a dispensation to form a new Commandery. All fees collected by the Right Eminent Grand Commander or his deputy for the conferring of the degrees of the Order at sight shall be turned into the treasury of the new Commandery so organized. The minimum fee in such cases shall not be less than that prescribed for the initiation of candidates in a regular chartered Commandery. In all such cases, the maximum number upon whom degrees can be conferred at sight shall not exceed nine (9).

12. He shall have power to review and determine all appeals from rulings and decisions of the Eminent Commanders and his judgment and decision in the matter shall be binding until the next annual conclave of the Grand Commandery to which his action on such matters shall be reported.

13. He shall be the custodian of the bonds of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder and shall have the same present at each annual conclave of this Grand Commandery and shall turn them over to his successor in office.

14. He shall have power to summons and command the Grand Officers of this Grand Commander or any other member of the Order to meet him in conference or to advise and assist him on questions relative to the Order.

15. During the interim of the annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery, if any emergency arises and any assessment, by reason thereof, is deemed necessary, the Right Eminent Grand Commander with the consent of his Grand Deputy, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, or a majority of them shall have power and may levy special assessments against the subordinate Commanderies based on their membership at the time such assessment is levied; and if any such assessment is levied, each member shall pay his pro rata share. If any assessment is levied, the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall state the time within which the same is to be paid. Provided that the payment of any such assessment cannot be extended beyond the next annual conclave of this Grand Commandery.

16. The Right Eminent Grand Commander shall have power to issue dispensation for any lawful purpose, as may be provided by law.

17. It shall be the duty of the Right Eminent Grand Commander to visit each subordinate Commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, at least once annually, and at such other times as he may deem necessary, and in making such visits, he shall have power to call two or more Commanderies together which may be located in the same city, or within the vicinity of ten (10) miles radius. In making any such visit, it shall be his duty to inspect the books, records, proceedings and transactions of each Commandery visited and see that the books of the Commandery are kept in such manner as to safeguard the funds of the Commandery and that the records of the Commandery are preserved for all legitimate purposes of the Commandery. In making any such



official visits, the Commandery or Commanderies so visited shall pay his expenses incurred per diem, as provided by law.

18. The Right Eminent Grand Commander shall have power to divide the jurisdiction into districts, and to appoint a district deputy Grand Commander over each district. Provided that the deputy Grand Commander shall be deputy over the district in which he resides.

19. It shall be the duty of the Right Eminent Grand Commander to approve in writing or sign all orders drawn upon the Grand Treasurer to liquidate and pay the legitimate expenses and obligations of this Grand Commandery, pursuant to the laws, regulations and directions of this Grand Commandery. Such orders are to be drawn, attested and signed by the Grand Recorder and countersigned by the Right Eminent Grand Commander. It shall be his duty to see that the funds of this Grand Commandery are deposited in a bank in the name of this Grand Commandery when so directed by the Grand Commander, and shall sign all checks or drafts drawn by the Grand Treasurer for the payment of the obligations of this Grand Commandery as expressed in the order drawn by the Grand Recorder.

20. It shall be the duty of the Right Eminent Grand Commander to cause a true audit to be made of the books, papers, documents, records and accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder and to cause a report of the result of such audit and examination to be made to the Grand Commandery at its annual conclave.

21. The Right Eminent Grand Commander shall make an annual report of all his official acts and decisions and shall close such annual report at least fifteen (15) days prior to the annual conclave of this Grand Commandery, and to furnish a typewritten copy of the same and forward it to the Grand Recorder at least 15 days before the annual conclave. The Grand Recorder shall place said report with the other reports of the Grand Officers for the purpose of turning them over to the proper committee or committees at least ten (10) days before the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery. All decisions of the Right Eminent Grand Commander not reported shall become void at the close of the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery at which they should have been reported.

22. The Right Eminent Grand Commander shall make a supplemental report that may be necessary to cover his official acts during the time that shall elapse since the closing of his annual report and the convening of the Grand Commandery. The annual report and the supplemental report, if any, shall be read and submitted to the Grand Commandery during the first day's session thereof.

23. At the end of his term of office, he shall turn over to his successor in office all books, records, documents and properties of every description or kind in his possession or under his control.

24. He shall be paid all the legitimate expenses of his office, and such salary as may be provided by law.

### DUTIES OF THE DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER

Sec. 2. The Deputy Grand Commander shall assist the Right Eminent Grand Commander in the performance of his duties and shall fill any vacancy that occurs in the office of the Right Eminent Grand Commander as provided in Section 6 of Article 6 of the Constitution. He shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to him by the Grand Commandery or the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

### DUTIES OF THE GRAND GENERALISSIMO AND GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL

Sec. 3. The Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General shall assist the Right Eminent Grand Commander in the performance of the duties of his office and in case of a vacancy in the office of the Right Eminent Grand Commander and in the office of the Deputy Grand Commander, they shall each perform such duties as are prescribed in Section 6 of Article 6 of the Constitution and shall perform such other duties as are prescribed by the Grand Commandery or the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

### DUTIES OF THE GRAND TREASURER

Sec. 4. (1) The Grand Treasurer shall be the custodian of the monies, securities and fiscal properties of this Grand Commandery.

(2) He shall always keep accurate records of the accounts, monies and transactions of the Grand Commandery in bound books of accounts of the Grand Commandery. All entries of financial records shall be made in ink.

(3) He shall attend all conclaves of this Grand Commandery with the records, books and accounts of the transactions of his office.

(4) He shall receive all monies of the Grand Commandery from the Grand Recorder, giving his receipt for the same, and shall deposit, when ordered to do so by the Grand Commandery, all monies received by him, in a bank or trust company in the name and to the credit of this Grand Commandery, subject to the order of this Grand Commandery; the bank or trust company to be selected by the Grand Commandery or by the trustees of the Grand Commandery.

(5) All monies deposited in banks on behalf of this Grand Commandery shall be withdrawn by checks or drafts drawn and signed by the Grand Treasurer and countersigned by the Right Eminent Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder.

(6) The Grand Treasurer shall only pay out the funds of this Grand Commandery on obligations as directed by the Grand Commandery, and then only upon the orders drawn and signed by the Grand Recorder and countersigned by the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

(7) Before entering upon the duties of his office he shall give a bond in some good and reliable surety company, in the sum of \$500.00, or such other sum as may be prescribed by a vote of the Grand Commandery; the expenses and premium on bond to be paid by the Grand Commandery.

(8) He shall, at the annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, render a true and correct account of his disbursements and of all transactions in his office. At the end of his term of office, he shall deliver to his successor in office all monies, books, papers, documents and properties of every kind and nature that may be in his possession or under his control, belonging to the Grand Commandery.

(9) He shall close his books 15 days before the annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery and shall make an annual report in writing of all the monies received and disbursements made in full, and a true and correct transactions of his office. A typewritten copy of such report shall be placed in the hands of the Grand Recorder at least 15 days before the annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, who shall place before the annual Conclave said report with the other reports of the Grand Officers for the purpose of turning them over to the proper committee or committees.

(10) The Grand Treasurer shall make a supplemental report of all monies received and the disbursements made by him during the session of the Grand Commandery.

#### DUTIES OF THE GRAND RECORDER

Sec. 5. (1) The Grand Recorder shall attend all the conclaves and meetings of this Grand Commandery, and shall keep a true and shall keep a true and accurate record of all proceedings and transactions of this Grand Commandery in bound books of record of the Grand Commandery.

(2) He shall collect and receive all moneys of this Grand Commandery and shall turn the same over to the Grand Treasurer immediately, and within the time prescribed by law, and take his receipt for the same. All entries of records and financial transactions shall be made in ink.

(3) He shall keep a true and accurate record of all the financial accounts of each constituent Commandery of this Grand Commandery in bound books of account of this Grand Commandery, which accounts shall accurately show the financial standing of the subordinate commanderies with this Grand Commandery.

(4) He shall draw and sign under the seal of this Grand Commandery, all orders upon the Grand Treasurer for the payment of the bills, for the expenses and obligations of this Grand Commandery, which shall have been approved by the Grand Commandery, or which, under the laws of the Grand Commandery are required to be paid, and shall submit such orders to the Right Eminent Grand Commander for his signature. He shall also countersign all checks or drafts drawn by the treasurer for withdrawing money from the bank



for the payment of the legitimate expenses and bills of this Grand Commandery, pursuant to the orders first drawn and signed by himself and countersigned by the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

(5) He shall issue all proclamations and take care of all correspondence required of him by the laws of this Grand Commandery and the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

(6) He shall be the custodian of the seal of this Grand Commandery and shall affix the same to all documents required to be sealed.

(7) He shall forward to each newly constituted Commandery, immediately upon such Commandery receiving a dispensation, a copy of the Constitution, laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery.

(8) He shall, 60 days before the meeting of any annual or special conclave of this Grand Commandery, notify such subordinate Commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, of the time and place of such annual meeting and furnish the subordinate Commanderies blank forms for making full and complete returns of the work of the subordinate Commandery to the Grand Commandery.

(9) He shall make a typewritten report of his accounts and transactions including all receipts, orders for disbursements for the fiscal year and also a summary of the returns of subordinate Commanderies, showing the number of members in each, the indebtedness of each, the amount paid, the amount due the Grand Commandery, and also the admissions, rejections, suspensions, expulsions and deaths. He shall have all his books, records, papers and documents present at the opening of each annual conclave prepared for the examination of the auditing committee or auditor of the finance committee or the officers of this Grand Commandery. Such books, documents, records and papers shall also be prepared to be turned over to the auditing committee or auditor at least 15 days before the meeting of the annual conclave of this Grand Commandery.

(10) He shall close his accounts at least 15 days before the convening of the annual conclave of this Grand Commandery, and shall have a typewritten copy of his annual report which shall be placed among the copies of the reports of the other officers, for the purpose of turning the same over to the proper committee or committees. All of his official acts as Grand Recorder showing his receipts, orders for disbursements of monies turned over to the Grand Treasurer subsequent to the closing of his annual report, shall be made in a supplemental report, which shall be read and submitted to the Grand Commandery before adjournment.

#### GRAND INSTRUCTOR

Sec. 7. It shall be the duty of the Grand Instructor to instruct the members of Knights Templar in the ritualistic work of the Order, as prescribed in the rituals adopted by this Grand Commandery. He shall have no power to make innovations in the long established ritual of the Order of Knights Templar, but shall follow the same and shall receive such compensation as may be

prescribed by law.

### GRAND COUNCIL

Sec. 8. The Right Eminent Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Recorder shall compose the Grand Council, and it shall be their duty to advise with the Right Eminent Grand Commander on matters relative to the Order of Knights Templar.

### GRAND TRUSTEES

Sec. 9. The Grand Trustees shall perform the corporate duties of this Grand Commandery, and shall have power to delegate their authority for the execution of any paper or document to the Right Eminent Grand Commander and Grand Recorder.

### OTHER OFFICERS

Sec. 10. The other officers of this Grand Commandery shall perform such duties as are incident to their office respectively, and as required of them by the Right Eminent Grand Commander and the ritual of the Order.

## ARTICLE X

### DISTRICT DEPUTIES

Sec. 1. For the furtherance of the business of this Grand Commandery, the Right Eminent Grand Commander may divide the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery into districts.

Sec. 2. The Right Eminent Grand Commander shall appoint as many district deputies as he may deem necessary; provided that the Deputy Grand Commander shall be the district deputy of the district in which he resides.

Sec. 3. Each district deputy shall make an annual report to the Right Eminent Grand Commander of all official acts performed by them and shall make such other reports from time to time as may be prescribed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander. The district deputies shall exercise only such powers as are delegated to them by the Right Eminent Grand Commander. The Right Eminent Grand Commander has power to appoint special district deputies for special work. Any Knights Templar so appointed shall report to the Right Eminent Grand Commander immediately upon finishing the work allotted to him.

## ARTICLE XI

### COMMITTEES

Sec. 1. The following committees shall be appointed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander elected at each annual conclave of this Grand Commandery. They shall hold their appointments for one year, or until the next annual conclave, to wit, committee on



Grand Officers' reports, committee on returns of chartered commanderies, committee on jurisprudence and law, committee on credentials, committee on appeals and grievances, committee on auditing, committee on foreign correspondence, and such other committees as may be provided by law.

Sec. 2. All committees shall perform such duties and receive such compensation therefor as may be prescribed by law.

## ARTICLE XII

### COMMANDERIES UNDER DISPENSATION

Sec. 1. Organizations of not less than 15 Royal Arch Masons, eligible to be initiated into the Order of Knights Templar, pursuant to the laws of this Grand Commandery, may be organized by and under the direction of the Right Eminent Grand Commander. In such case the Right Eminent Grand Commander may cause the degrees of the Order to be conferred upon a sufficiently number of such persons for him to issue to them, upon their petition, dispensation to organize a commandery upon the recommendation of the commandery whose jurisdiction may be affected, if within five miles from the place of meeting of such commandery.

Sec. 2. New commanderies may be organized in any city, town, village or other place wherever the Grand Commandery or the Right Eminent Grand Commander deems suitable for the organization and maintenance of the commandery. No dispensation shall be issued for the establishment of a new commandery by the Right Eminent Grand Commander without the recommendation of a chartered commandery nearest and most affected by the new commandery, if within five miles of the location of the chartered commandery; provided that the Right Eminent Grand Commander may grant dispensation without a recommendation when it appears that the refusal to grant the recommendation is withheld for some ulterior motive or for reasons not in conformity to the best and highest interest of the Order of Knights Templar.

Sec. 3. No petition or application for the approval of the issuance of a dispensation for the formation of a new commandery shall be considered by the chartered commandery petitioned until said petition shall have been submitted at one regular meeting and laid over until the next regular meeting of the commandery.

Sec. 4. No dispensation for a new commandery shall be issued until the fee of \$10.00 shall be paid, or such other sum as may be proscribed by law, which sum shall be turned over to the Grand Commandery. The application for a dispensation to form a new commandery shall be accompanied by the fee for the same. The fee for a charter for a new commandery shall be \$15.00, which sum shall be paid to the Grand Commandery and such fee shall accompany the petition for a charter.

Sec. 5. Every petition to form a new commandery shall not contain less than 15 persons, all of whom must have been initiated in the order of Knights Templar and must be in good standing in the Royal Arch Chapter recognized by this Grand Commandery as

legitimate. The place for organizing a new commandery must be stated in the petition, and the name of the proposed new commandery and the name of the Eminent Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, must also be stated in the petition and there must be a good reason for organizing the new commandery.

Sec. 6. It shall be the duty of the Grand Recorder to attest, under the seal of this Grand Commandery, all dispensations for a new commandery, which may be issued by the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

Sec. 7. No dispensation or charter for a new commandery shall be issued until the Right Eminent Grand Commander is satisfied that the proposed officers of the new commandery possess sufficient executive ability, knowledge and wisdom to govern the order as required of them respectively by the laws and regulations of this Grand Commandery and the usages of the Order.

Sec. 8. The Right Eminent Grand Commander shall have power to select and appoint the officers designated in his dispensation to form a new commandery and also those named in the petition for a charter. A commandery under dispensation has no power to elect officers.

Sec. 9. Neither the Right Eminent Grand Commander nor the Grand Commandery has any power to issue a dispensation or organize a new commandery outside of the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 10. No commandery, under dispensation, shall confer the degrees of the order for a less sum than that prescribed by the Grand Commandery for chartered commanderies without a dispensation as provided by law.

Sec. 11. No charter shall be issued to a commandery under dispensation which has not been organized and initiated at least 30 days prior to the annual conclave of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 12. Commanderies under dispensation shall have such powers and authority as shall be prescribed in the dispensation and in the laws of this Grand Commander.

### ARTICLE XIII

#### CHARTERED COMMANDERIES

Sec. 1. Subordinate commanderies chartered by this Grand Commandery have and may exercise such powers and authority as shall be prescribed in its charter, in the constitution, laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery and its own by-laws, when they are not in conflict with the laws of this Grand Commandery. No subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, shall have any authority or power to enact or enforce any law, rule or regulation contrary to or in violation of the laws and edicts of this Grand Commandery. Any by-law, rule, or regulation of a subordinate commander, under the juris-

diction of this Grand Commandery, in conflict with or contrary to the Constitution and general laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery is void and has no force and effect.

Sec. 2. Every subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, shall encouch into its by-laws a provision that such commandery is a subordinate commandery of this Grand Commandery and is subject to the constitution, laws, rules, regulations, and edicts of this Grand Commandery, and that it holds a charter from this Grand Commandery and that the Constitution, laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery are the supreme laws by which the Commandery is governed.

Sec. 3. Whenever a subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, shall be incorporated under the laws of the state in which it is located, it shall include in its charter of incorporation a provision that it is a subordinate commandery of this Grand Commandery and is subject to the constitution and general laws of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 4. Every constituent commandery, which has been heretofore incorporated, under the laws of the state in which it is located, shall amend its charter of incorporation by inserting the provision that it is a subordinate commandery of this Grand Commandery and is subject to the constitution and general laws of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 5. All property of every kind and nature, wherever located, belonging to constituent commanderies of this Grand Commandery is held in trust for the commandery and for the benefit of the members thereof and for the furtherance of the objects of the order in the jurisdiction of the commandery. Said property shall not be partitioned, divided or distributed among the members of the commandery, nor conveyed or transferred to the members of the commandery, or any of them. Upon the dissolution of a subordinate commandery, its property shall revert to the Grand Commandery and shall be turned over to the officers of the Grand Commandery by the defunct commandery by the person or persons having its custody. Such property shall be held in trust by this Grand Commandery for a period of three years, in which time if the defunct commandery shall be revived and reobtain its charter from the Grand Commandery, then, in such case, the Grand Commandery shall restore such property to the revived commandery; but if the defunct commandery shall not be revived within three years, said property shall become and be the absolute property of this Grand Commandery. Nothing in this section shall be so construed as to prevent the transfer of the property of a subordinate commandery in the legal conduct of its regular and legitimate business without intent to evade the provisions of this section.

Sec. 6. All constituent commanderies of this Grand Commandery shall furnish the Grand Commandery annually a true and correct inventory of all their properties, both real and personal, such inventory shall be signed by the Eminent Commander and attested by the Recorder of the commandery under the seal of the commandery, and shall be made out according to law. Failure to furnish such



inventory shall subject the Eminent Commander and the Recorder of the commandery to be removed from office by the Right Eminent Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 7. No subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, or any member thereof, shall resort to the civil courts to establish any right or to redress any grievance arising out of the membership in the order or out of their connection with the order of Knights Templar, until he shall have first exhausted all his remedies within the order, in manner as provided by the laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 8. No constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery shall dispose of any of its property, either real or personal, or any interest therein, except by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting of which all members of the commandery shall be given a reasonable printed or written notice of the time and place of which the contemplated action is to be taken. This section does not apply to the payment of the legitimate bills and obligations of the commandery. Such can be paid only by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting.

Sec. 9. No constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery shall mutilate or destroy any of its records or property. It shall preserve all records in the archives of the commandery.

Sec. 10. All constituent commanderies of this Grand Commandery shall have and exercise the following powers:

1. To confer the degrees of the order, as provided in the ritual, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery, and not otherwise.

2. To transact all of its business that can legally be transacted by a subordinate commandery, pursuant to the laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery.

3. To be represented at all conclaves of this Grand Commandery.

4. To elect and install its officers annually pursuant to the laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery.

5. To make by-laws, subject to the approval of this Grand Commandery, provided that no subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, shall have any power or authority to discipline the Eminent Commander of subordinate commanderies nor of the elected Grand Officers of this Grand Commandery.

6. To appeal to the Grand Commandery from the decision of the Eminent Commander or the presiding officer of a subordinate commandery.

7. To select, name and designate the time and place of its

meeting, provided that such is done by a provision in the by-laws of the commandery.

Sec. 10. The charter or warrant of authority of a subordinate commandery of this Grand Commandery may be suspended, forfeited or revoked and the commandery dissolved by the judgment of the Grand Commandery; as provided in the laws of this Grand Commandery, for contumacy to the authority of the Right Eminent Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery, for the violation of the laws and edicts of this Grand Commandery, or for the failure to hold meetings for a period of one year, or for violation of the general landmarks of Masonry, or for doing anything to lower the standing of the order in the jurisdiction where the commandery is located.

#### ARTICLE XIV

##### GENERAL PROVISIONS

All questions and matters arising in this Grand Commandery or in any subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, for which no provisions is made in the constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery, shall be decided and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, laws, rules and regulations of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois, so far as the same are applicable and expedient in the government of the order of Knights Templar, together with such Masonic parliamentary usages as may be recognized as bearing upon the same subject matters.

#### ARTICLE XV

##### AMENDMENTS

Sec. 1. The Constitution and the by-laws of this Grand Commandery may be altered or amended in the following manner only.

(a) The proposed alteration, addition or amendment must be submitted in writing at an annual conclave of this Grand Commandery, be signed by a representative of at least five separate subordinate commanderies, be read and laid over until the next annual conclave.

(b) The Grand Recorder shall, at least 60 days before the meeting of the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery, call the attention of the Grand Officers and each subordinate commandery to the proposed alteration, addition or amendment and give them sufficient information concerning the same, in order that they may understand what the proposed amendment, addition or alteration is.

(c) All such proposed alterations, additions or amendments shall be referred to the committee on jurisprudence and laws, who shall report on the same, and if they are adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the annual conclave of the Grand

Commandery, such alteration, addition or amendment shall become and be a part of the constitution or by-laws of this Grand Commandery, as the case may be, and shall take effect immediately upon its adoption. Provided that all revisions of the constitution and by-laws of this Grand Commandery presented by the committee on revision of the constitution and laws of this Grand Commandery shall be considered at the annual meeting to which they are reported by the committee, and if adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members present at such annual conclave, it shall become and be the laws of this Grand Commandery. In such case, there shall be no necessity of the proposed constitution or by-laws being laid over.

Sec. 2. The regulations, rules of order and standing resolutions may be adopted, repealed, altered or amended at any annual conclave by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

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B Y - L A W S  
of the  
PRINCE HALL GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
of the  
STATE OF ILLINOIS and JURISDICTION  
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CHAPTER I

RELATIVE TO GRAND COMMANDERY

ARTICLE I

ANNUAL CONCLAVE

Sec. 1. The annual conclave of the Grand Commandery shall be held on or before the second Thursday in August of each year, as provided in Section 1 of Article 3 of the Constitution.

Sec. 2. All conclaves of this Grand Commandery shall be opened in ample form at 10 o'clock A. M.

Sec. 3. Immediately after the opening of the annual conclave, the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall fill all vacancies and announce all committees. He shall appoint the following committees: Committee on Rules, Committee on Petitions, Committee on Charters and Dispensation, Committee on Obituary, Committee on Nominations, and such other committee or committees as may be deemed necessary for the transaction of the business of the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 4. All committees shall be composed of three members of the Grand Commandery, except the Committees on Nomination and Obituary, which shall be composed of five members each. The Grand Instructor shall be the chairman of the Committee on Obituary. Provided that whenever the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall find that the work of any committee requires an increase in the number then he shall have power to add other members to such committee. Provided further that the Right Eminent Grand Commander may consolidate the work of two or more committees into one whenever he deems it necessary to conserve the funds of the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 5. The Right Eminent Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, and Grand Treasurer shall be the Committee on Charity.

Sec. 6. The Right Eminent Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, and Grand Recorder shall be the Committee on Printing.

Sec. 7. The Grand Recorder shall be the librarian and the keeper of the archives and seal of the Grand Commandery. It shall be his duty to keep the records and archives of this Grand Commandery safe and in whatever place that may be provided by the Grand Commandery and submit the same for examination to any member of this Grand Commandery when examination is required to be made at a convenient time or reasonable hour of business of the Grand Commandery.



## ARTICLE II

### DUTIES OF GRAND OFFICERS

#### DUTIES OF THE RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER

Sec. 1. The Right Eminent Grand Commander shall perform the duties prescribed in Section 1 of Article 9 of the Constitution, and such other duties as are prescribed by the laws and the usages of the Order of Knights Templar.

Sec. 2. He shall submit with his annual report a financial statement of the expenses of his office, which statement shall be turned over to the auditing committee for its audit. He shall also submit to the Grand Commandery, at its annual conclave, all his decisions, official acts and doings; any decision not so submitted shall become null and void and of no effect at the close of the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery to which the same should have been submitted.

Sec. 3. Whenever the services of the Right Eminent Grand Commander are required by any constituent commandery, the commandery shall pay his traveling expenses from his place of residence and return and \$3.00 per diem for each day's service necessary for him in going, remaining and returning to his place of abode, and in addition thereto, his board while in the services of the Commandery. The per diem shall include the time it takes to go to the meeting place of the commandery and returning by the shortest route.

#### DUTIES OF THE GRAND TREASURER

Sec. 2. 1. The Grand Treasurer shall perform the duties required of him in Section 4 of Article 9 of the Constitution and shall attend all annual and special conclaves with all his books, records and documents appertaining to his office. He shall submit with his annual report a typewritten detailed statement of the receipts and an itemized statement of the expenses of his office, which shall be referred to the auditing committee for its audit. He shall submit monthly statements to the Right Eminent Grand Commander, giving him the true status of the condition of the finances of the Grand Commandery, accompanied with a detailed statement of his receipts and disbursements.

#### DUTIES OF THE GRAND RECORDER

Sec. 3. 1. The Grand Recorder shall perform the duties prescribed in Section 5 of Article 9 of the Constitution, and such other duties as may be required of him by the Right Eminent Grand Commander pertaining to the business of the Grand Commandery, and shall attend all conclaves of this Grand Commander with all his books, records and documents pertaining to his office. All business performed by him on behalf of the Grand Commandery shall be under the seal of the Grand Commandery.

2. He shall furnish the Right Eminent Grand Commander monthly with a true, accurate and itemized statement in writing



of all the receipts of his office and of all orders drawn on the treasurer for disbursement, and state accurately the date on which he remitted any moneys of this Grand Commandery to the Grand Treasurer. He shall submit with his annual report a typewritten itemized statement of all expense of his office, which shall be turned over to the auditing committee for its audit.

3. For failure to make a true, accurate and itemized monthly statement in writing to the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the moneys collected by him and of his remittance to the Grand Treasurer, he shall be subject to be removed from office by the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

#### DUTIES OF THE GRAND INSTRUCTOR

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the Grand Instructor to instruct the members of the order in the ritualistic work and to perform the duties required of him by the Grand Commandery. Whenever the services of the Grand Instructor are required by any constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery, said commandery shall pay for such services the sum of \$3.00 and the necessary traveling expenses of the Grand Instructor to and from the meeting place of the commandery by the shortest routes and in addition thereto whatever necessary expenses that shall be incurred by the Grand Instructor while in the service of such commandery.

#### DUTIES OF GRAND TRUSTEES

Sec. 5. The Trustees of this Grand Commandery shall perform the corporate duties of this Grand Commandery. Provided that whenever there is any deed, contract or document to be executed in the corporate name of this Grand Commandery, the trustees may delegate their authority to the Right Eminent Grand Commander and Grand Recorder.

#### DUTIES OF OTHER OFFICERS

Sec. 6. The other officers of this Grand Commandery shall perform such duties as are prescribed in the Constitution, the ritual and the usages of the Order of Knights Templar.

### ARTICLE III

#### DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

##### Committee on Rules

Sec. 1. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Rules to fix the hour of opening and closing the various sessions of the Grand Commandery at its annual conclave and limit the time that each member should speak on any subject.

#### COMMITTEE ON GRAND OFFICERS' REPORTS

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports to divide the same, and refer the several matters contained therein to the proper committees. All special

matters contained therein, which have not been referred to any committee, may be passed upon by the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports and they may make such report to the Grand Commandery as they shall deem just and expedient.

#### COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE AND LAWS

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Jurisprudence and Laws to examine all by-laws and amendments to the by-laws of subordinate commanderies referred to them, and to see that they are in conformity with the laws of this Grand Commandery and the usages of the order; and it shall also be their duty to examine any and all propositions of law that may be referred to them, and to report to the Grand Commandery, in writing, their conclusions and recommendations concerning the same.

#### COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Credentials to carefully examine the credentials of all members claiming the right of membership at any conclave of this Grand Commandery, and the credentials of all legal representatives and proxies of subordinate commanderies to any conclave of this Grand Commandery, and make a report to the Grand Commandery in writing concerning the same; provided that no proxy shall be recognized unless the same is appointed pursuant to the laws of this Grand Commandery; and provided further that no credentials of a member shall be recognized unless he is a qualified voter as prescribed by law.

#### COMMITTEE ON APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances to thoroughly examine and consider all matters of appeals and grievances submitted to them. They shall carefully examine all evidence that may be submitted to them pursuant to the laws of this Grand Commandery, and shall make such findings and recommendations, as to them, shall seem just and equitable.

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

Sec. 6. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Finance and Accounts to audit the accounts, books and records of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder and of all bills and obligations submitted against the Grand Commandery, and shall make a true audit to the Grand Commandery. Provided that no bill against this Grand Commandery shall be allowed unless warranted by law, or by vote of this Grand Commander.

#### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Sec. 7. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence to examine the proceedings of other Grand Commanderies and to communicate with other Grand Commanderies and report in writing the conclusions which they may reach.

### COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Sec. 8. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Petitions to examine and report upon all petitions to the Grand Commandery and make such recommendations as in the judgment of the Committee the case requires.

### COMMITTEE ON CHARTERS AND DISPENSATION

Sec. 9. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Charters and Dispensation for new charters to examine all matters presented to them, and make such recommendation to the Grand Commander as they shall deem just and equitable; provided that no recommendation can be made for a charter until the required fees are paid, and the full compliance with the laws of this Grand Commandery relative to commanderies under dispensation.

### COMMITTEE ON OBITUARY

Sec. 10. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Obituary to report upon all matters relating to deceased members of the order, arrange a commandery of sorrow and the program connected therewith, provided that no program shall be undertaken which shall call for the opening of more than one commandery of sorrow at one and the same time.

### COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

Sec. 11. 1. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Printing to solicit bids for printing and to open and compare the same and to award the contract for printing to the lowest, best and most responsible bidder.

2. To print the proceedings of the Grand Commandery whenever ordered by a vote of the Grand Commandery.

3. To print all documents and matters for which this Grand Commandery is obliged to have printed.

This Grand Commandery shall not be responsible nor pay for any printing which has not been done through or by orders of the Committee on Printing.

### COMMITTEE ON CHARITY

Sec. 12. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Charity to investigate all applications to the Grand Commandery for charity and to make such recommendations as the committee shall deem expedient and proper. No subordinate commandery shall recommend to this Grand Commandery or to any of their members for charity, nor shall the committee consider any application coming from a subordinate commandery for charity for any of its members. Provided, however, if any misfortune shall come to a subordinate commandery, or to the people of the community in which the subordinate commandery and the people in the vicinity in which it is located subject to charity, then in such cases the committee may consider the application for charity for such

subordinate commanderies or for any of the members of any such subordinate commandery and shall recommend what they deem to be just and equitable.

#### COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Sec. 13. Before the closing of the morning session of the second day, the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall appoint a Nominating Committee, whose duty it shall be to prepare a ticket of the elective officers of this Grand Commandery. No one shall be nominated to an office who is not eligible to be elected to the same. The Nominating Committee shall make their report at the reconvening of the Grand Commandery in its afternoon session of the second day or at such other time as shall be designated by the Right Eminent Grand Commander. Other nominations may be made from the floor.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### DISTRIBUTING WORK AMONG COMMITTEES

It shall be the duty of the Right Eminent Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder to distribute or cause to be distributed among the chairmen of the various committees, the respective work of each committee, at least 10 days before the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery. The chairmen shall call their various committees at pleasure, and at such meeting they shall consider and prepare their work for submission to the Grand Commandery when called for and put in writing their reports, and have them ready for submission to the Grand Commandery whenever the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall call for the same.

#### ARTICLE V

##### COMPENSATION OF GRAND OFFICERS

Sec. 1. The Grand Officers are to be paid annual salaries as follows:

|                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Right Eminent Grand Commander | \$ 50.00 |
| Deputy Grand Commander        | 25.00    |
| Grand Generalissimo           | 10.00    |
| Grand Captain General         | 10.00    |
| Grand Treasurer               | 20.00    |
| Grand Recorder                | 75.00    |
| Grand Instructor              | 15.00    |

The appointed Grand Officers shall be paid \$ 4.00 each.

Sec. 2. In addition to the salaries mentioned in Section one (1) hereof, each elected Grand Officer shall receive a per diem of \$1.50 while in the actual service of the Grand Commandery during any of its annual conclaves and also their traveling expenses to and from the place where the annual conclave is held and all the legitimate expenses of their respective offices. Provided that any elected Grand Officer of the Grand Commandery holding an elective office in the Grand Chapter shall receive only one-half of his mileage.



Sec. 3. (a) In no case shall the per diem be paid any officer, unless the funds of the Grand Commandery are sufficient to liquidate all of its obligations, as submitted at any annual conclave by the committee on finance and account and approved by this Grand Commandery.

(b) Whenever the funds of this Grand Commandery are not sufficient to pay the per diem to its elected officers, then such officers shall have no claim against this Grand Commandery for any per diem that may be due them.

(c) Whenever the funds of this Grand Commandery are insufficient to pay all of its obligations and by reason thereof only a portion of the salaries of the various officers can be paid, the officers shall receive a pro rata share of their salaries and they shall have no right or claim against this Grand Commandery for any unpaid portion of his salary.

#### COMPENSATION OF COMMITTEES

Sec. 4. The committees on Grand Officers' Reports, Annual Returns, Finance and Account, Jurisprudence and Law, Credentials, Appeals and Grievances, Warrants and Dispensation shall receive \$3.00 each for their work. The chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence shall also receive \$3.00 for his expense and work. All other committees shall receive no compensation unless the same is recommended by the committee on finance and account, which recommendation is approved by this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 5. Where there is no work to be placed in the hands of any committee, such committee shall not receive any compensation.

Sec. 6. The Grand Commandery reserves the right to reduce the compensation of its committees whenever the finances of the Grand Commandery require such reduction, in order to meet its obligations. Provided that any representative, who is working on a committee, and whose expenses are paid by a subordinate commandery, shall receive no compensation for his services.

#### ARTICLE VI

##### ELECTION - QUALIFIED VOTERS

Sec. 1. The annual election of this Grand Commandery shall be held as provided in Section 4 of Article 4 of the Constitution.

Sec. 2. (a) No Past Grand Commander or Past Elected Grand Officer shall be qualified to vote in this Grand Commandery, unless the grand tax and assessment levied by the Grand Commandery, if any, of such member is paid in full, unless excused by the Grand Commandery for good reason shown.

(b) No legal representative or proxy of a chartered commandery is entitled to vote in this Grand Commandery, unless the commandery so represented has paid its taxes and assessments levied by this Grand Commandery, if any, except when said comman-

dery has been excused from the payment thereof by a two-thirds vote of the other members present at the annual conclave of this Grand Commandery.

## ARTICLE VII

### REVENUE

Sec. 1. The revenue of this Grand Commandery shall be derived from the following sources:

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| 1. For every dispensation for a new charter  | \$ 15.00 |
| 2. For every charter for a new commandery  | 25.00    |
| 3. For every duplicate charter   | 10.00    |
| 4. For every degree conferred  | 1.00     |
| 5. For dispensation to confer more than one degree on a candidate at the same time | 2.00     |
| 6. For every dispensation for any other lawful purpose                             | 2.00     |
| 7. For each member of a chartered commandery, an annual tax of                     | 4.00     |
| 8. Initiation fee  | 25.00    |

except for those who have been exempted from the payment of dues and assessments on account of their being old, indigent and financially unable to pay their dues and assessments and those who have been admitted to and are inmates of any charitable institution, and those who have been adjudged insane.

8. From the sale of rituals, blanks, or from any other matter with which the Grand Commandery decides to supply its subordinate Commanderies.

9. From any special assessment which may be levied by this Grand Commandery or the Right Eminent Grand Commander, as provided by law.

Sec. 2. Every subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery shall pay on or before the 31st day of July each year, shall pay its per capita tax to this Grand Commandery for each member that the commandery reports on its returns, and also for each person who was a member of the commandery at any time during the fiscal year beginning on the first day of August and ending on the 31st day of July, except those members who have died or are suspended or expelled before the commandery collects the per capita tax from them; provided, however, that whenever a member has been suspended before he pays his per capita tax, such person cannot be reinstated until the Grand Per capita tax is paid and that upon the receipt of payment of such Grand per capita tax, the same shall be immediately forwarded to the Grand Recorder.

Sec. 3. Each subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, shall at its first meeting in January of each year begin to collect from its members the per capita tax mentioned in Sections one and two of this Article, and shall remit the same to the Grand Recorder, as provided in Section two of this Article. The failure of any commandery to collect the per capita tax shall be no excuse for their nonpayment of the same to the Grand Commandery, if the member who owes his per capita tax

is still a member of the commandery. The commandery which fails or neglects to pay their per capita tax and all monies due from it to the Grand Commandery on or before the 31st day of July, as provided in this Article, shall be denied all representation in the annual conclave of this Grand Commandery, unless excused for nonpayment by a two-thirds vote of the other members present at the annual conclave of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 4. This Grand Commandery or the Right Eminent Grand Commander when the funds of this Grand Commandery are exhausted, and it becomes necessary to protect the interest of the Grand Commandery, may levy a special assessment upon each of the subordinate commanderies, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, for the support and maintenance of this Grand Commandery, and for the furtherance of the objects thereof, and none other, in which case the special assessment shall be by per capita tax upon the members of the subordinate commandery. When such a special assessment is levied, as aforesaid, it must be paid by the subordinate commandery within the time that may be specified by the Grand Commandery or the Right Eminent Grand Commander; provided that the time for payment cannot be extended beyond the next annual conclave as provided in the Constitution. Whatever time is specified for the payment of such special assessment, the member shall pay his pro rata tax within that time.

Sec. 5. The fiscal year, during which the Grand Commandery's per capita tax and all monies due from subordinate commanderies to this Grand Commandery shall be paid, begins on the first day of August and ends on the 31st day of July of each year.

#### ARTICLE VIII

##### FUNDS

Sec. 1. The funds of this Grand Commandery shall be deposited in a bank or banks in the name of and to the credit of this Grand Commandery, and shall only be withdrawn by checks or drafts drawn and signed by the Grand Treasurer and countersigned by the Right Eminent Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder. These funds shall be deposited whenever so directed by the Grand Commandery or the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

Sec. 2. No funds of this Grand Commandery shall be expended for any purpose except pursuant to an order which has been previously drawn by the Grand Recorder and attested under the seal of the Grand Commandery and signed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, and then only for the purpose of paying some obligation of this Grand Commandery pursuant to the laws of this Grand Commandery and the purpose of payment must be especially stated in the order.

CHAPTER II  
RELATIVE TO SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES

ARTICLE I  
OF WHOM COMPOSED

Every subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, shall consist of an Eminent Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Prelate, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Recorder, Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer, Warder, Sentinel, Assistant Recorder whenever deemed necessary by the Commander, and of as many other members as may be found convenient.

ARTICLE II  
CONCLAVES - QUORUM

Sec. 1. The conclaves of the subordinate commanderies are regular and special.

Sec. 2. The regular conclaves are those held at the time prescribed in the by-laws of the commandery, and at such conclaves all general business must be transacted; such as receiving petitions and balloting on candidates for the degrees of the Order, or for membership, conferring degrees of the order, making appropriations of the funds of the commandery or considering and voting the payment of bills or obligations of the commandery, transacting the general business of the commandery, enacting legislation relative to the Order of Knights Templar; all of which shall be done by a duly organized and open commandery, pursuant to the laws of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 3. (a) Special conclaves may be called at the discretion of the Commander, by giving due notice to the members, but no business other than that specified in the notice shall be transacted at any special conclave. No business can be transacted at a special conclave which must be transacted at a regular conclave, without a dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander or his deputy.

(b) Special conclaves (meetings) shall be called by the Commander upon the order of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, in which case the members of the commandery shall be given due notice.

(c) No special meetings shall be called by the Commander without giving the members at least one week's notice, such notice to specify the time and place of the meeting, and the business to be transacted, except where the special conclave is called at the instance of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, and in such case the business to be transacted need not be specified.



Sec. 4. The Eminent Commander shall convene his commandery in special conclaves to receive any officer or deputy of the Grand Commandery when notified to do so by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, and all courtesies incident to such person shall be extended by the officers and members of the commandery.

Sec. 5. (a) The time for holding the regular conclave as prescribed by the by-laws of the commandery, cannot be changed or altered, except by an amendment to the by-laws of the commandery.

(b) Each commandery shall hold a regular conclave at least once every month, except the week in which the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery is held, and except excused from so holding by a dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander or his deputy, and except as provided in part (b) hereof. Such dispensation can only be granted upon a unanimous request of the members present at a regular conclave of the commandery, of which all members shall have been duly notified of the intended action.

Sec. 6. No constituent commandery shall move its place of meeting from the city, town or village named in its charter, except by special authority from the Grand Commandery, granted upon the written petition signed by all the members of the commandery, and the reason given for such intended action. No removal shall be granted where the jurisdiction of another commandery may be affected, if within five mile limit of the place where the commandery whose jurisdiction will be affected is located, without the consent of the commandery whose jurisdiction may be affected; such consent must be given upon a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular conclave of the commandery.

Sec. 7. A commandery may change its place of meeting from one hall to another within the same city or jurisdiction of the commandery; provided that due notice is given to all its members of such intended action, and then only by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the regular conclave, at which the action is taken; provided, further, that no hall shall be selected as a meeting place which is not suitable for holding the meetings of a chartered commandery and for the conferring the degrees of the order, without exposing any of the secrets of the order, or ceremonies of the order to public view.

Sec. 8. (a) In the absence of the Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General, the commandery cannot open. Provided, however, the Right Eminent Grand Commander may appoint his Deputy to open a commandery in any emergency when the Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General are unable to do so.

(b) In the absence of the Eminent Commander, the Generalissimo may open the commandery, provided he has the charter. In the absence of the Eminent Commander and Generalissimo, the Captain General may open the Commandery, provided he has the charter.

(c) A constituent commandery cannot be opened for any

purpose without the presence of the charter, except by dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander or his deputy.

Sec. 9. No constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery shall be opened for the transaction of business unless there is present a quorum. Provided that a commandery may be opened for the conferring of the degrees of the order, if there are present twelve members of the order.

Sec. 10. No constituent commandery shall call of the regular conclave for a longer time than 24 hours.

Sec. 11. The records of the proceedings of the commandery, after having been regularly approved by the commandery, shall not be altered, or any part thereof expunged at any subsequent meeting, except by unanimous consent of the members present, and upon a dispensation of the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

Sec. 12. The first regular conclave of the commandery in November in each year shall be the annual meeting of the commandery, at which all annual reports of the officers and of the Auditing Committee shall be made. Such reports shall be made prior to the election of officers.

#### QUORUM

Sec. 13. Seven members of the commandery constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the commandery; provided there are present nine members of the order for the opening of the commandery. A commandery cannot open unless there are present nine members of the order.

### ARTICLE III

#### POWERS AND DUTIES OF A COMMANDERY

Sec. 1. Every subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, shall possess and exercise such powers and authority as are prescribed in Article 13 of the Constitution of the Grand Commandery, its charter or warrant of Constitution and its own by-laws, so far as they are not in conflict with or contrary to the laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Commandery, and also:

1. To be represented at all conclaves of the Grand Commandery, as prescribed by law.
2. To increase its membership by the admission of new members, under the restrictions of the Grand Commandery.
3. To exclude a member on written charges, temporarily, from a regular or special meeting of the commandery, except the elected officers of the Grand Commandery, and except the Eminent Commander, the deputy of the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of each constituent commandery to make and have a code of by-laws for the local government of the commandery, subject to the approval of the Grand Commandery.

Provided, that in no case shall such by-laws be in conflict with any of the general laws of this Grand Commandery. In all such cases, they are void.

Sec. 3. No constituent commandery shall adopt, alter or amend its by-laws or make any rule or regulation by less than a two-thirds vote of the members present, and not even then, unless such proposed by-laws, alteration, amendment, rule or regulation shall have first been offered in writing at a regular meeting of the commandery, laid over until some subsequent regular meeting, of which all members of the commandery shall have been duly notified in writing of the proposed new by-law, change, alteration, amendment, rule or regulation, and the time of action thereon.

Such proposed new by-law, alteration, amendment, rule or regulation, when adopted by the commandery, shall not have any force and effect or be in force until approved by this Grand Commandery. Upon its or their approval by this Grand Commandery, it or they shall be immediately in full force and effect.

Sec. 4. No subordinate commandery shall have the power or authority to create new laws, rules or regulations, or to suspend or nullify any of its laws, rules or regulations, or to alter or in any manner change any of its by-laws, rules or regulations without the approval of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 5. Each subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, shall have power to exercise concurrent jurisdiction over its own members and the members of the order residing in its jurisdiction, except the elective officers of this Grand Commandery and the Eminent Commander, over whom they shall have no jurisdiction.

Each constituent commandery shall have power to select a name for itself, with the approval of the Grand Commandery, designate and change its time and place of meeting in manner as provided by law, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, after all members shall have been duly notified of such intended action.

Sec. 6. The annual or special dues and assessments levied by a commandery shall be uniform, each member paying the same amount, and no commandery shall levy special taxes or assessments upon its members other than those prescribed in its by-laws.

Sec. 7. It shall be the duty of each subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, to have all its official communications from the Right Eminent Grand Commander read in open commandery at the regular succeeding conclave next following their receipt.

Sec. 8. (a) It shall be the duty of each constituent commandery to hold at least one regular meeting every month, except as provided in part (b) of Section 5 of Article 2 of this chapter.

(b) To elect and install its officers annually.

(c) To provide for its meetings a safe and suitable



hall with proper ante rooms.

(d) To keep a full, proper and accurate record of its transactions in bound books of record of the commandery, and to make its annual returns to the Grand Commandery as prescribed by law, and also to keep all of its finances in bound books of the commandery, all entries of which shall be made in ink.

(e) To have a code of by-laws in conformity with the general laws of the Grand Commandery.

(f) To admit no one in its meetings, over the age of 2 years, except candidates, other than members of the order known to be such, either by being properly vouched for or by due investigation.

Sec. 9. Each constituent commandery shall have a seal with the name and number of the commandery engraved thereon, and also the year of its being chartered engraved thereon. An impression of such seal shall be filed with the Grand Recorder of this Grand Commandery. All documents emanating from the commandery shall be under the seal of the commandery. The Recorder of the commandery shall be the custodian of the seal.

Sec. 10. All notices emanating from the commandery of the Eminent Commander shall be sent to the members under sealed cover, provided the bare notice of the time and place of meeting may be published or sent by postal card, but no details of work of the business of the commandery shall be made public.

Sec. 11. No constituent commander shall transact any business involving final action by a vote of the commandery at any conclave, after the work of conferring the degrees of the order has been begun, except in cases of extreme emergency.

Sec. 12. (a) It shall be the duty of each constituent commandery to contribute to the relief of its poor, indigent and distressed members as the finances of the commandery may warrant. Provided, that no member of the commandery shall have a legal right to enforce the commandery to pay them or either of them any stipulated amount of relief in any case. All such payment of relief by the commandery shall be absolutely voluntary as a matter of charity.

(b) No commandery shall force any of its members to sit up with or nurse any sick member. The action of caring for the sick by any member of the commandery shall be voluntary.

(c) The contributing of anything toward the burial of any of the deceased members of the commandery shall be voluntary at the discretion of the commandery.

Sec. 13. No constituent commandery shall permit discussions of sectarian, political or other subjects not appertaining to the affairs of the order in any open meeting of the commandery.

Sec. 14. No commandery or any officer thereof shall grant any kind of recommendation or document whereby any member of the order may apply to the various commanderies or members thereof for relief.

Sec. 15. Each commandery, under the jurisdiction of this



Grand Commandery, shall keep a copy of the constitution and by-laws, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery, a copy of its own by-laws with the signatures of the members thereto attached, the record book in which the proceedings and minutes of the commandery are transcribed by the recorder of the commandery, a ledger containing the names of each member with the date of his initiation or affiliation and also the cause of the termination of the membership of any member, and all other books as may be necessary for the transaction of business of the commandery, and a true and complete record of the same.

Sec. 16. It shall be the duty of each constituent commandery to make annual returns to the Grand Commandery upon blanks furnished for that purpose by the Grand Recorder; such returns must be made within the time prescribed by law.

Sec. 17. Each constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery shall have their treasurer and recorder bonded in some good and reliable bonding company, in such sum as may be prescribed by the commandery. Each constituent commandery shall place a provision in its by-laws for the bonding of their recorder and treasurer. The expense of such bond is to be paid by the commander; the bonds so secured are to be exhibited to the commandery and retained in the custody of the Eminent Commander.

Sec. 18. No constituent commander of this Grand Commandery shall dispose of any of its property, whether personal or real, or any interest therein, except by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular conclave, of which all members shall have been given 10 days printed or written notice of the time and place at which such contemplated action is to be taken. No commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, shall mutilate or destroy any of its records or evidence of property, but shall preserve all records in the archives of the commandery.

Sec. 19. All monies of the commandery deposited in bank or banks shall be deposited in the name and to the credit of the commandery, and shall only be withdrawn by checks or drafts drawn and signed by the treasurer and countersigned by the Eminent Commander and the Recorder of the commandery. It shall be the duty of the commandery to designate what bank or banks shall be the depository of its funds.

Sec. 20. It shall be the duty of each constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery to have the accounts of its treasurer and recorder audited at least twice a year. The first audit shall be made at the regular conclave of the commandery held in May of each year. The annual audit shall be made at the regular annual conclave in November of each year, at which time the treasurer and recorder shall make a full and complete report of the financial transactions of the monies received and all disbursements for the full term of their respective offices, and the audit shall cover the same, as shown by the books, documents and vouchers of the recorder and treasurer for the full term of their respective offices.

Sec. 21. The wilful violation of this article or any part thereof shall subject the offending commandery to have its charter revoked by the Grand Commandery, or suspended by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, until the next annual conclave of the Grand Commandery, and then subject to such further punishment as the Grand Commandery may deem equitable and just..

#### ARTICLE IV Officers

Sec. 1. The elective officers of a subordinate commandery are: Eminent Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Prelate, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Recorder, who shall be elected annually by separate ballot.

Sec. 2. The appointive officers are: Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer, Warder, Sentinel, Assistant Recorder, whenever deemed necessary, who shall be appointed by the Eminent Commander elect.

#### ARTICLE V.

##### ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE - ELECTION AND INSTALLATION

Sec. 1. No person shall be eligible to be elected to the office of Eminent Commander except one who has been elected to and served in the office of Generalissimo or Captain General, or who is a Past Eminent Commander, and then he must be a contributing member of the commandery and have a voice and vote in the affairs of the commandery.

Sec. 2. Any member of the commandery who is a contributing member and has a voice and vote in the business of the commandery may be elected to any office except that of Eminent Commander. Provided, that no one shall be elected or appointed to any office in the commandery who is not a contributing member thereof.

Sec. 3. Each constituent commandery shall elect its officers by a written ballot and by a majority vote in each case. Such election shall be held at the annual conclave in November of each year.

Sec. 4. The officers of the commandery, elected and appointed, may be installed at the annual conclave of the commandery, immediately after the election, or the commandery by a two-thirds vote may have a public installation; such installation must occur in the jurisdiction of the commandery, and if the public installation is to be had at a time subsequent to the annual meeting, a special meeting must be called for that purpose by a dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander. The installation must take place before the next monthly conclave of the commandery, after the annual conclave, and on or before the 27th day of December of each year.

It shall be the duty of the Eminent Commander to see that a Past Eminent Commander's Council is formed for the purpose of conferring the Past Commander's Degree upon the Eminent Commander-elect before his installation. No Eminent Commander can be in-

stalled until there is conferred upon him the Past Eminent Commander's Degree.

Sec. 5. If, for any reason, a commandery cannot hold its election at its annual meeting in November, then it must apply to the Right Eminent Grand Commander for a dispensation to hold the election, which must be held as soon as possible. No election shall be held at any other time than that at the annual conclave in November, except by a dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander. No election shall be held at a special meeting, except by a dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

Sec. 6. All officers, elected and installed, shall hold their office until the next annual conclave of the commandery, and until their successors are duly elected and installed.

Sec. 7. No one is eligible to hold an election and install the officers of a chartered commandery, except the present or Past Right Eminent Grand Commander, the present or a Past Eminent Commander.

#### VACANCIES

Sec. 8. Upon the death of the Eminent Commander or if for any reason he is absent or is not able to attend the meetings of the commandery, or is out of the jurisdiction of the commandery, or is disqualified, the Generalissimo shall preside and assume the prerogatives and perform the duties of the Eminent Commander.

Upon the death of the Eminent Commander and Generalissimo and upon their absence and if for any reason the Eminent Commander and Generalissimo cannot attend the conclaves of the commandery or are out of the jurisdiction of the commandery, or disqualified, then the Captain General shall assume the duties of the Eminent Commander.

No election can be had to fill the vacancies in the office of Eminent Commander, Generalissimo or Captain General until the next annual election. All vacancies may be filled temporarily by the Eminent Commander.

#### ARTICLE VI

##### DUTIES OF OFFICERS

##### DUTIES OF THE EMINENT COMMANDER

Sec. 1. The Eminent Commander shall exercise the executive duties of his commandery when not in session, and he has power:

1. To convene his commandery in any special meeting whenever he may deem it for the best interest of his commandery in the case of any emergency.

2. He shall preside at all meetings of his commandery, except in the case of his own election and installation.

3. He shall cause to be issued all notices and summons which may be required.



4. He shall cause all official communications from the Right Eminent Grand Commander or Grand Recorder to be read to his commandery at the next conclave after the receipt of such notice.

5. He shall appoint all committees, except otherwise provided by law, and shall be ex-officio member of the same, and shall see that the committees perform the work assigned to them.

6. He shall fill all vacancies of any office at any meeting for the term of the meeting.

7. He shall convene and open his meeting at the time prescribed in the by-laws of commandery.

8. He shall superintend the official acts of all officers of his commandery and shall see that their work is properly and faithfully performed.

9. He shall guard carefully against any infraction of the by-laws of his commandery, the Constitution and General Laws of the Grand Commandery, and see that there is no departure therefrom on a plea of expediency or convenience, except in case of emergency, and then only upon a dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander. He shall represent his commandery in the Grand Commandery and shall see that the returns required to be made to the Grand Commandery are punctually and properly made, pursuant to the laws of the Grand Commandery, and shall see that all taxes and assessments due from his commandery to the Grand Commandery are punctually paid as required by the laws of the Grand Commandery.

10. He shall cause summons to be issued only when the welfare of his commandery and the rights of the members demand it, and shall see that all duly served summons are faithfully obeyed, and shall also see that those who wilfully refuse to obey a duly served summons are punished, pursuant to the laws of the Grand Commandery.

11. He shall permit no appeal to be made from his decision to the Commandery.

12. He shall make the work of his commandery conform to the Ritual and the usages of the Order, as approved by the Grand Commandery, and suffer no departure therefrom.

13. He shall pay homage to the Right Eminent Grand Commander and the other elected officers of the Grand Commandery, and shall see that proper respect is paid to them, or either of them who visit his commandery on official business, or when they are present in his commandery at any conclave of his commandery.

14. He shall have possession of the charter (warrant) of his commandery, and shall have it present at all meetings of his commandery and shall duly transmit it to his successor in office at the expiration of his term in office. Whenever he is not able to attend any regular meetings of his commandery, he shall turn the charter over to the Generalissimo or the next highest officer who is present, so that the meetings of his commandery may be held. Provided, that as soon as possible after the holding of such meeting, the charter must be immediately returned to his possession.

15. He shall require all members present to vote on all propositions and questions that may be submitted to the commandery for a vote, except in the case where a member desires to be excused from voting, and then such excuse can only be granted by a two-thirds ( $2/3$ ) vote of the members present.



16. He shall see that a semi-annual audit of the books of the Recorder and Treasurer is made in May of each year, and that an annual audit of the books and accounts of the Recorder and Treasurer is made in November of each year; and in order that there may be a true and correct audit, he shall cause all books, documents, vouchers and papers to be submitted to the auditing committee in sufficient time for them to prepare and make a complete and true audit. The annual audit must be made and submitted at the annual conclave in November before the election of officers can be had.

17. He shall see that all moneys of his commandery are deposited in a bank or banks as required by the by-laws of the commandery or a vote of the commandery, and that the same is withdrawn only in manner as prescribed by law. He shall sign all orders on the treasurer for the payment of the legitimate bills of his commandery when an order for the payment of the same shall have been drawn, attested and signed by the Recorder, as required by law. When the monies of the commandery are deposited in a bank, he shall sign all checks or drafts for the withdrawal of any money so deposited, and shall see that all checks and drafts are drawn only for the purpose of paying the legitimate bills of his commandery, after the payment of the same shall have been voted by the commandery, or appropriated by the commandery for a particular purpose.

18. He shall examine each month all accounts, cancelled checks and vouchers and shall see that the moneys disbursed by the commandery are paid to the person or persons entitled to the same.

19. He shall punctually pay his own dues, taxes and assessments required of him by law, and shall see that the other members of his commandery do likewise, and he shall perform all other duties required of him by the laws of the Grand Commandery and the usages of the order.

#### DUTIES OF THE GENERALISSIMO

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the Generalissimo to assist the Eminent Commander in the performance of the duties of his office, and in the case of his death, absence, disability or disqualification, to assume and exercise the duties of the office of the Eminent Commander, as required in Section 8 of Article 5 of this chapter.

#### DUTIES OF THE CAPTAIN GENERAL

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the Captain General to assist the Eminent Commander in the performance of the duties of his office and those required of him by the ritual of the order and in the case of the death, absence, disability or disqualification of the Eminent Commander and Generalissimo, he shall perform the duties of the Eminent Commander as required of him in Section 8 of Article 5 of this chapter.

#### DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer:

1. To receive all monies of the commandery from the

Recorder and give his receipt for the same and to keep a true and correct record of the moneys received in bound books of record of the commandery. All entries of monies shall be made in ink.

2. To pay out the funds of the commandery only upon a vote of the commandery and upon an order drawn and attested by the recorder under the seal of the commandery and signed by the Eminent Commander.

3. To deposit all monies of the commander in such bank or banks as may be designated by a vote of the commandery within 24 hours after the receipt of the same. All such monies so deposited shall be deposited in the name and to the credit of the commandery, to be withdrawn only on checks or drafts drawn and signed by the treasurer and countersigned by the Eminent Commander and the Recorder.

4. To submit his books, vouchers, records and all documents relating to the finances of the commandery whenever directed to do so by the commandery or the Eminent Commander for examination and audit. He shall keep the Eminent Commander informed as to the financial condition of the commandery.

5. To make at the regular conclave in May of each year a semi-annual report in writing and to make at the regular conclave in November of each year, an annual report in writing of all the monies received by him and all disbursements, itemized, and all properties in his hands or under his control belonging to the commandery, and state where the same may be found or had.

6. Within thirty days after his installation, he shall give a surety bond in such sum as may be designated in the by-laws of the commandery, or by a vote of the commandery; the commandery to pay the premium on the bond. The bond is to be presented to the commandery and retained in the custody of the Eminent Commander.

7. For the faithful performance of the duties of his office he shall receive such compensation as may be prescribed in the by-laws of the commandery. Provided that no compensation shall be paid until all of his indebtedness to the commandery shall have been first paid.

8. At the end of his term of office, he shall deliver all monies, books, documents, vouchers and properties belonging to the commandery in his possession or under his control to his successor in office, immediately. He shall be paid all the legitimate expenses of his office, the provision for which shall have been provided in the by-laws of the commandery.

9. The failure to turn over to his successor at the expiration of his term of office any document, money, paper or evidence of any financial transaction of the commandery or property belonging to the commandery in his possession or under his control shall subject him, upon trial and conviction, to be expelled or suspended from the Order.

#### DUTIES OF THE RECORDER

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of the Recorder:

1. To attend the conclaves of the commandery and to record the proceedings of the commandery in bound books of record of the commandery, and to carefully preserve the same.

2. To receive and collect all monies due the commandery and pay the same over promptly to the treasurer at each regular conclave of the commandery and take his receipt for the same.

3. He shall keep a true and correct record of all the finances received by him on behalf of the commandery in bound books of record of the commandery. All entries of money and records shall be made in ink.

4. He shall keep a register of all members of the commandery, and a ledger, in which he shall keep and record the financial standing of each member, the date of the initiation, demission or death. The ledger and register shall be bound books of the commandery, and the entries therein shall be made in ink.

5. He shall make out all reports and returns required by his subordinate commandery and this Grand Commandery, and shall keep a register of the delinquents, rejections, suspensions, expulsions, deaths, demissions, and shall perform all other duties required of him by the laws of his commandery, and this Grand Commandery. He shall draw all vouchers upon the treasurer for the payment of money, when the same has been voted out by the commandery, and shall sign and attest the same under the seal of the commandery. He shall conduct all correspondence required of him, either by the commandery or the Eminent Commander.

6. He shall keep in his custody, the seal of the commandery and shall affix the same upon all documents required to be sealed. He shall countersign all drafts and checks drawn by the treasurer for the payment of monies, pursuant to a vote of the commandery, and the orders drawn by himself, and signed by the Eminent Commander.

7. Within thirty (30) days after his installation, he shall give a surety bond in some good and reliable surety company, in such sum or sums as may be provided by the by-laws of the commandery, or by a vote of the commandery. The expenses and premium on the bond are to be paid by the commandery. When a bond is secured, it shall be presented to the commandery and turned over to the Eminent Commander, who shall retain it in his custody.

8. He shall make in writing at the regular conclave in May of each year, a semi-annual report and at the annual conclave in November of each year an annual report of all monies received by him, and an itemized and detailed statement of all disbursements and orders drawn for disbursements, and a complete statement of all suspensions, rejections, demissions, deaths and initiations, and of the books and records, and of all properties of the commandery within his possession or under his control.

9. He shall make a true and correct annual return of his commandery as required by the laws of the Grand Commandery. It shall be his duty to properly notify the members when they are in arrears and to keep the Eminent Commander informed as to the financial standing of the members.

10. At the end of his term of office, he shall turn over to his successor in office all properties of the commandery in his possession or under his control, and shall perform such other duties as shall be required of him by law, the usages and customs of the Order.

11. For the faithful performance of the duties of his office, he shall be paid whatever compensation as may be prescribed in the by-laws of the commandery, provided that no compensation shall be



paid him until all of his indebtedness to his commandery shall have first been paid. Payment for services can only be made in manner as prescribed by the by-laws of the commandery.

12. The failure to turn over to his successor in office the books, records, documents, properties and effects of the commandery in his possession or under his control shall subject him to the penalty of expulsion or suspension, upon trial and conviction.

#### DUTIES OF OTHER OFFICERS

Sec. 6. The other officers of the commandery shall perform the duties required by the laws of the Grand Commandery, the Ritual of the Order and the by-laws of the commandery and shall receive such compensation as may be prescribed in the by-laws of the commandery. Provided that no compensation can be paid unless all indebtedness of such member to the commandery is paid in full. Provided, further, that no officer of the commandery shall be exempt from dues. Every officer of the commandery shall pay the same rate of dues prescribed for other members, and all dues not paid shall be an indebtedness of the officer to the commandery, until such dues are paid.

#### ARTICLE VII

##### COMMITTEES

Sec. 1. The Eminent Commander, as soon after his installation as conveniently may be, shall appoint a committee on investigation, consisting of three (3) competent members of the commandery, an auditing committee consisting of three (3) competent members of the commandery, and such other committees as may be prescribed by the by-laws of the commandery, or found within the judgment of the Eminent Commander are needed for the furtherance of the work of the Commandery.

Sec. 2. The duties of each committee shall be prescribed in the by-laws of the commandery.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the auditing committee to make a true and accurate audit of the accounts of the treasurer and recorder, and submit a semi-annual audit in writing at the regular conclave in May of each year, and an annual audit in writing at the annual conclave in November of each year. The annual audit of the auditing committee shall be made at the annual conclave in November before the election of officers.

#### ARTICLE VIII

##### RESIGNATION AND VACANCIES

Sec. 1. No elective officer of the commandery, after having been duly elected and installed, can resign his office, nor demit or join in the formation of a new commandery, until the expiration of their term of office.

Sec. 2. An appointed officer may resign for a good reason, and the Eminent Commander may accept the resignation and appoint some other member to fill the vacancy. Whenever any such appointment



is made, a commandery must obtain a dispensation for installing the newly appointed officer.

Sec. 3. (a) The Eminent Commander shall fill all vacancies in any office, temporarily, for any meeting.

(b) Whenever an appointed officer has been absent from his post of duty for four (4) meetings in succession, the Eminent Commander may remove him from office and appoint another in his stead. Provided that in all such appointments, the commandery must obtain a dispensation for the installation of a newly appointed officer.

## ARTICLE IX

### QUESTIONS - HOW DETERMINED

Sec. 1. All questions coming before the commandery for its decision shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present, except as otherwise provided by the laws and regulations of this Grand Commandery; provided that no question can be legally submitted to a vote of the commandery which would require something to be done in violation of the laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 2. The presiding officer shall have the deciding vote in all cases of a tie, except in cases of election of officers.

Sec. 3. No appeals from the decision of the Eminent Commander or presiding officer shall lie to the commandery, but may be taken in manner as prescribed in Section 10, Article 9 of Chapter 3 of the by-laws of this Grand Commandery.

## ARTICLE X

### MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 1. The membership of a constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery shall only be acquired by the applicant having been first elected to membership by affiliation or legally initiated in the commandery and upon his signing the constitution and laws of the Grand Commandery, and the by-laws of the commandery and agreeing to be governed by the constitution, laws, rules, regulations and edicts of the Grand Commandery now in force, and those which may be subsequently enacted or adopted.

Sec. 2. If one desires the privileges of membership, he cannot deny the responsibilities thereof and shall be dropped from the roll of membership or suspended from the Order upon his refusal to sign the by-laws of his commandery, the constitution, laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Commandery, and upon his refusal to agree to abide by the same and also to abide by any by-laws, rules or regulations that may be hereafter enacted or adopted by either his subordinate commandery or by the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 3. (a) A member can have membership in but one commandery at a time.

(b) One can become an honorary member of another

commandery, other than his own commandery, but shall have no voice or vote in the affairs of the commandery in which he holds honorary membership and shall not be enrolled among the members thereof, and shall not be charged any dues, taxes or assessments by the commandery in which he holds honorary membership.

(c) In order for a member to retain membership in his commandery, he must retain membership and be in good standing in his symbolic Masonic Lodge, recognized as regular by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois, and also in a legal Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Whenever a member loses his membership or good standing in his Masonic Lodge or Royal Arch Chapter, he automatically loses his membership or good standing in his commandery. Whenever a member of a subordinate commandery has been expelled, suspended or dropped from the roll of membership by his Masonic Lodge or Royal Arch Chapter, he shall be automatically expelled, suspended or dropped from the roll of membership from his commandery, without any affirmative action on the part of his commandery. Provided that sufficient evidence must be given to the commandery of such expulsion or suspension and upon the evidence being sufficient the recorder shall note the facts opposite the name of the expelled or suspended member, as the case may be.

(b) When a member has been tried for a Masonic offense and expelled, he cannot be reinstated into his commandery without the action of the Grand Commandery, in manner as provided by law for the restoration of an expelled member. When he has been suspended by his Masonic Lodge or Royal Arch Chapter for an offense other than that for nonpayment of dues, he cannot be reinstated into his commandery without a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting of the commandery, in manner as provided by law. When he shall have been suspended by his Masonic Lodge or Royal Arch Chapter for nonpayment of dues, he shall automatically be reinstated in his commandery upon his having been reinstated in his Masonic Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter, upon such reinstatement having been officially made known to his commandery.

Sec. 4. The membership in a commandery may be terminated by voluntary demission, by death, expulsion or suspension, or when a member unites in the formation of a new commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery and a charter is granted to this new commandery. Whenever a charter is granted for the formation of a new commandery, the membership of all members whose names are included in the charter shall automatically terminate in their old commandery, and they shall ipso facto be members of the new chartered commandery.

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of each member of the commandery to respect and pay homage to the elected officers of his commandery and to the Right Eminent Grand Commander and elected officers of the Grand Commandery, to serve on all or any committee of his commandery on which he may be requested by the Eminent Commander, attend all the conclaves of the commandery, when he can conveniently do so, and to do whatever is in his power to further the interest of his commandery and to so conduct himself as a member of the Order, in order that he may bring honor and credit to the Order in the community in which his commandery may be located.

## ARTICLE XI

### JURISDICTION OF THE COMMANDERY

Sec. 1. Every subordinate commandery of this Grand Commandery shall have certain personal and territorial jurisdiction.

(a) The personal jurisdiction shall extend over all of the members, and members who reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the commandery. Provided that it shall have no jurisdiction over the Eminent Commander nor over any elected officer of the Grand Commandery.

(b) The territorial jurisdiction of the Commandery shall extend in direct lines halfway to the actual location of the meeting place of the commandery and the meeting place of the nearest commandery; without any regard to the geographical lines of the county, city or town. Provided, that commanderies located in the same city shall have concurrent jurisdiction. It shall have jurisdiction over all petitions of applicants residing in the territorial jurisdiction, and no one residing in the jurisdiction of one commandery can petition another commandery in another jurisdiction for the degrees of the order, except upon a waiver of jurisdiction by the commandery in whose jurisdiction the petitioner resides.

Sec. 2. All petitions for waiver of jurisdiction must come from the commandery which the applicant has petitioned, and jurisdiction is transferred to the commandery petitioned, if the request is granted.

Sec. 3. All petitions for waiver of jurisdiction, whether over original petitions or the petitions for the degrees by rejected applicants, shall be read at one regular meeting and be laid over until the next regular meeting of the succeeding month before being acted upon; and waiver can only be granted by a unanimous vote of the members present, upon a secret ballot of black and white balls. (White balls are for granting the waiver and black balls are against granting the waiver.)

Sec. 4. If the waiver of jurisdiction is rejected, it cannot be renewed until after the lapse of 3 months. Provided, that if the waiver of jurisdiction is rejected and there appears a good reason why it should be granted, the Grand Commandery has power to order the subordinate commandery petitioned to grant the waiver of jurisdiction and in such case, the waiver must be granted within the time prescribed by the Grand Commandery.

## ARTICLE XII

### QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES

Sec. 1. All applicants for degrees of the Order shall be qualified as follows:

(a) Applicants for the degrees of the Order must be Master Masons in good standing in some Masonic Lodge of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois or in a Masonic Lodge of a Grand Lodge which is in affiliation with said Prince Hall Grand Lodge, and also must



belong to and be in good standing in a Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons, and must be a person of good moral character and of good repute.

Sec. 2. Every candidate for the degrees of the Order must be a believer in God and possess no defects in his body which will render him incapable of conforming to the requirements of the several degrees of the order and must be of sound mind and possessed of all his senses. No provision of this section shall be set aside, suspended or waived in favor of any one.

Sec. 3. A candidate to be eligible to take the degrees of the order in addition to the qualifications above mentioned must have resided within the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery at least 12 months, in the jurisdiction of the commandery petitioned at least six (6) months and must not have been convicted of a felony in any criminal court and must have a fixed place of abode. An applicant for membership on demit must have a fixed abode and be a resident of the territorial jurisdiction of the commandery petitioned.

Sec. 4. A person who has no legal residence is not qualified to petition a commandery for degrees of membership.

If it be ascertained either before or after the election of a candidate that he is disqualified for lack of residence as required under the laws of this Grand Commandery, his petition shall be returned, together with all monies paid by him. Provided, however, if it shall be ascertained that any applicant is disqualified by reason of the lack of any of the other qualifications hereinabove mentioned (except that of residence) he shall be rejected.

Sec. 5. If any person shall have been initiated by any commandery under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, who, under the laws of this Grand Commandery, is disqualified, such person shall not by reason of his initiation become a member of the Order, but upon discovery of the fact of his disqualification, such person shall be tried and upon conviction shall be expelled from the Order. Provided, that the initiation was made by fraud or deception on the part of the applicant. Provided, further, that the applicant made known all the facts and circumstances in which inquiry was made and if, afterwards, he is initiated, such applicant's name shall be dropped from the roll of membership of the commandery initiating him, and the commandery shall be punished for such initiation. All monies paid the commandery in such cases shall be forfeited to the Grand Commandery and shall be immediately turned over to the Grand Recorder. Provided that whenever an applicant who has not resided in the territorial jurisdiction of the commandery petitioned the required length of time, and is initiated by a commandery and the applicant is otherwise qualified, the initiation fee of such applicant shall be forfeited to the Grand Commandery and shall be immediately paid over to the Grand Recorder.



ARTICLE XIII

## PETITIONS

Sec. 1. All petitions for degrees or membership shall be made upon blanks or forms furnished by the office of the Grand Recorder of this Grand Commandery and none other. All petitions for degrees or membership shall be made in writing and shall be signed by the applicant with his full name and the place of residence. The petition for membership shall state the length of time the applicant has resided in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery and in the jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned and whether the petitioner believes in God. All petitions for degrees shall be accompanied by one half of the initiation fee or so much thereof as may be designated by a vote of the commandery, and be recommended in writing by two members of the commandery and must be read at the regular meeting of the commandery. It shall also be accompanied by a certificate from his Masonic Lodge and another from his Royal Arch Chapter showing his good standing in his Lodge and Chapter respectively.

Sec. 2. Every petition for membership on demit must be accompanied with a minimum fee of \$5.00 and be referred to an investigating committee, who shall report upon the same at the next succeeding meeting, provided four weeks intervene, except in a case of dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander giving a shorter time. The petitioner for membership is not required to have resided in the jurisdiction of the commandery any definite length of time, so long as his permanent residence is within the jurisdiction of the commandery.

Sec. 3. Upon the reading of the petition for the degrees, if it is received by the voice of the commandery, either tacitly or formally given, it shall be referred to an investigating committee of three who shall diligently investigate the applicant with reference to his eligibility or qualification, standing and character and see whether or not the applicant is qualified as required by the laws of this Grand Commandery and make a due written report thereon at the next regular meeting of the commandery, provided four weeks intervene before the next regular meeting, except in case of the dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander granting a shorter time. A report of the majority of the committee is not sufficient. The whole committee must report. Whenever a petition shows on its face that the commandery has no jurisdiction over the applicant, the petition shall not be received, but be returned to the applicant for want of jurisdiction. If the committee finds, upon investigation, that the applicant has not resided in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery, or in the jurisdiction of the commandery, the required time, they shall return the petition to the commandery, giving them that information and thereupon the commandery shall return the petition to the applicant for want of jurisdiction.

Sec. 4. All petitions for membership shall state the name, number and location of the commandery of which the applicant was last a member, and the name, number and location of the commandery in which the applicant was initiated in the Order and the name of

the Grand Commandery under which the commandery which initiated him was working and if that is not the commandery in which he was last a member, then the name of the Grand Commandery under which the commandery which issued him his demit was working. Such petition shall be accompanied by a demit or satisfactory evidence that the petitioner has lawfully withdrawn from the commandery of which he was last a member. The petition must also be accompanied by a certificate from the applicant's Masonic Lodge and one from his Royal Arch Chapter, showing his good standing in his lodge and Royal Arch Chapter respectively. The petition shall be accompanied with the membership fee and shall be read and if received shall be referred to an investigating committee, who shall investigate the applicant in the same manner as in petitions for degrees. If the petitioner is accepted, the documentary evidence submitted to the commandery showing his standing in the order shall be cancelled and filed in the archives of the commandery. If the petitioner is rejected, his documentary evidence shall be returned to him, together with the membership fee, but his petition shall be retained in the archives of the commandery.

Sec. 5. Every petitioner for the degrees must present himself for initiation when notified so to do by the commandery within three months from the date of his election. In case of failure to do so, after being notified, then said election shall become null and void and the fee which accompanied the petition shall be forfeited to the commandery, unless some good and sufficient reason is given for such failure, in which case the time hereinabove mentioned may be extended by a two-thirds vote of the members of the commandery present at a regular meeting of the commandery. No petition for the degrees shall be withdrawn or returned after having been received by the commandery. Neither shall the fee accompanying the petition be returned upon the request of the petitioner. If the petition is rejected, the fee accompanying it shall be immediately returned to the petitioner.

#### ARTICLE XIV

##### BALLOTING

Sec. 1. No ballot shall be taken upon a petition for the degrees or membership until four weeks shall have elapsed after the reception of the petition and the committee on investigation shall have made its report, except by dispensation of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, granting a shorter time.

Sec. 2. In balloting upon a petition, there must be sufficient white and black balls for each member of the commandery present to make his choice and it shall be the duty of the Eminent Commander to see that this requirement is carried out.

Sec. 3. A separate ballot must be taken upon all petitions for degrees or membership and no person can be elected for the degrees or membership except by a clear or unanimous ballot. All persons present must vote unless excused by a unanimous vote of the members present.

Sec. 4. After all members shall have voted and the ballot

closed, the ballot-box shall be examined by the Captain General, Generalissimo, and finally by the Eminent Commander. The Eminent Commander shall declare the findings. One or more black balls cloud the ballot. One black ball is sufficient to reject the applicant. If, however, only one black ball appears, the Eminent Commander shall immediately take another balloting on the candidate. If one or more black balls again appear on the second balloting, he shall declare the applicant rejected. If, on the first balloting, two or more black balls appear, the applicant shall be declared rejected, and no second balloting shall be had. No second balloting shall be had in any case, except where on the first balloting, only one black ball appears, and then this second balloting must be had immediately, the results of which shall be final, and must so be declared by the Eminent Commander.

Sec. 5. Under no circumstances shall the ballot be declared clear when it is cloudy or when a black ball appears. If it is so done, any member present may immediately challenge the accuracy or truthfulness of the declaration of the person who made the examination.

Sec. 6. The right of every member of the commandery to a secret ballot for the degrees or membership is inherent and absolute and cannot be denied to the member, either by the commandery or the Grand Commandery or any Grand Officer. A member cannot be punished for the legitimate exercise of such ballot. Provided that if the member shall wilfully use the ballot to interrupt the legitimate labors of the commandery or to mar the peace and harmony of the commandery, or to wilfully impede the numerical growth of the commandery, such member may be punished by expulsion or suspension, upon conviction and any one who knows of the facts may testify and by so testifying shall not be liable for stating any of the facts and circumstances which may tend to show the wilful act of such member.

Sec. 7. No debate of any kind whatever shall be permitted in open commandery upon the merits or demerits, qualifications or disqualifications of any petitioner for degrees or membership at or before the time the ballot is to be taken. The use of the secret ballot is the means by which the judgment of each member must be expressed.

#### ARTICLE XV

#### REJECTIONS

Sec. 1. Any applicant for degrees, who has been rejected, may renew his application at the expiration of three months from the date of such application. In such case, he shall present a new petition, which shall be treated and acted upon in the same manner as the original petition.

Sec. 2. When the applicant is declared rejected, notice of such shall, if practicable, be given to the applicant by the recorder, who shall at the same time return the fee paid by the applicant.

Sec. 3. No commandery shall reject an applicant for want of



personal jurisdiction, but in such case, the fee and petition must be returned and the applicant shall be at liberty to petition the commandery which has jurisdiction over him, but if he is residing in the jurisdiction of the commandery petitioned and has not had his residence therein sufficient time to give the commandery jurisdiction, he must wait until the commandery acquires jurisdiction and then again petition the commandery. Personal jurisdiction which a commandery has over an applicant by rejecting his petition for the degrees is not affected by the lapse of time or by his removal elsewhere, and he cannot petition any other commandery for the degrees unless the commandery which rejected him waives jurisdiction. Provided, however, he may petition a commandery to request the commandery which rejected him to waive jurisdiction, so that his petition may be accepted by the latter commandery.

Sec. 4. The rejection of a petitioner for membership shall not affect the petitioner's standing in the order and such petitioner may immediately petition another commandery in whose jurisdiction he may reside.

Sec. 5. Whenever a petition for degrees has been rejected, it shall be the duty of the recorder of the commandery to immediately report the same to the Grand Recorder, as required by law. When a petition for membership has been rejected, no report of it shall be made to the Grand Recorder.

Sec. 6. Any member of the order who shall conceal the fact that a petitioner for degrees has been rejected and shall knowingly recommend the rejected petitioner for the degrees to a commandery other than the commandery which rejected him shall be deemed guilty of an offense and upon conviction may be expelled or suspended from the Order, except in the case where there is a waiver or jurisdiction.

Sec. 7. When a petitioner is rejected for want of good character, the facts showing his lack of good character, may be reported to his blue lodge.

#### ARTICLE XVI

Sec. 1. Any member of the order has the right to object to the conferring of the degrees of the Order upon an applicant. Provided that when such objections are made known, they must be sustained by a majority vote of the members present and if sustained the fee shall be returned to the applicant, and the applicant may, after three months, renew his petition for the degrees.

Sec. 2. Any member of the order shall express to the Eminent Commander an objection to the initiation of a candidate, after such candidate has been elected, such objections shall be respected, and entered of record, if found to be reasonable and meritorious. The name of the objector shall not be revealed to the members, but such objection must be of such nature as to warrant the Eminent Commander to declare that the candidate cannot be initiated by reason of the objection. When such objection



is made, it shall be a bar for three months and the fee shall be returned and the candidate must make another petition to the commandery, which shall be treated as the original petition. That is to say, in all cases where the applicant must make a new petition, it shall be treated and acted upon in the same manner as the original petition.

Sec. 3. Any objection to the initiation of a legally elected candidate to be operative must be made before the candidate is prepared for initiation. Provided that if the candidate is disqualified by reason of not possessing the qualifications as required by the laws of this Grand Commandery, the objection may be made before or after the preparation for initiation and thereupon the candidate shall be declared rejected, and the fee for initiation shall be returned. Provided, further, that before initiation is begun, the Eminent Commander shall announce aloud the names of the candidates to be initiated and ask whether or not there is any objection to the initiation. No objection being made, the commandery shall proceed to perform the initiation ceremony.

Sec. 4. When initiation of a candidate is stayed by an objection, when objection in the judgment of the Eminent Commander is not sufficient to cause the candidate to be rejected, the candidate may be initiated after the lapse of three months without a new petition and election for degrees, unless the objection is again made at the end of three months, and a new objection made by the same or other members. In either case, it shall hold good for three months from the time of the renewal or making. Whenever the initiation fee is returned, it must be again paid before any initiation can be had. Whenever the initiation of a candidate is stayed by an objection, and the candidate is not declared rejected, his name shall not be reported to the Grand Recorder as a rejected candidate. Provided, further, that if such candidate is, after the staying of his initiation, declared rejected, his name shall be reported to the Grand Recorder as required by law.

## ARTICLE XVII

### CONFERRING DEGREES

Sec. 1. No commandery shall be permitted to confer more than one degree upon a candidate at the same conclave, except in case of great emergency, and then only by a dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander. The request for the conferring of more than one degree upon a candidate at one conclave must state the emergency and the Right Eminent Grand Commander may grant the same if in his judgment it is for the best interest of the order.

Sec. 2. After a candidate has been initiated in the first degree, he cannot be advanced to the second or higher degree without a satisfactory examination of his proficiency in the preceding degree, or unless he is excused from such examination by a vote of the commandery.

Sec. 3. No commandery shall confer the degrees of the Order

upon any person who declines to obligate himself to the requirements of the order and to agree to obey the laws of the Grand Commandery and the laws of the commandery initiating him, and four weeks shall elapse between the time of the conferring of the various degrees of the order, except by a special dispensation granted in the case of emergency as stated in Section 1 of this Article.

## ARTICLE XVIII

### FEES

Sec. 1. No commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, shall confer the degrees of the order upon a candidate for a less sum than \$25.00. The commandery may, in its by-laws, make apportionment of said sum for each degree and may charge a greater sum, but in no case shall the degrees be conferred unless the minimum sum of \$25.00 be paid in advance. If the same is proportioned, the requirement for each degree must be paid in advance. The degrees of Knights Templar shall not be conferred upon any candidate or applicant unless the entire initiation fee has been paid in full in advance, except as hereinabove provided in the case of apportionment of the fee and except upon dispensation from the Right Eminent Commander. Such payments must be paid in cash.

Sec. 2. No promissory note or anything of value can be accepted by a commandery in lieu of the actual cash for conferring the degrees.

Sec. 3. No Eminent Commander of a constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery shall cause or permit the degrees of the order to be conferred upon a candidate or applicant for a less sum than that prescribed in Section 1 hereof. Provided that if the by-laws of the commandery apportioned the fee, they shall not permit any degree to be conferred upon an applicant unless such applicant pays the proper amount in advance in cash. Provided, further, that if the commandery has a greater fee prescribed in its by-laws than that prescribed in Section 1 hereof, it can lower the same by dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander, provided that the minimum fee shall not be less than that prescribed in Section 1 hereof, or that granted by dispensation from the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

The violation of this Article subjects the Eminent Commander to be removed from office.

## ARTICLE XIX

### RIGHT OF VISIT

Sec. 1. Every member of the order of Knights Templar in good standing shall have the right to visit commanderies, subject, however, to the right of the commandery or any member thereof to object to the admission of any visitor. The objection made at any meeting shall not bar the same person from visiting at a

subsequent meeting, unless the objection is renewed.

Sec. 2. No objection shall be made to the right of any elected officer of the Grand Commandery or deputy appointed by the Right Eminent Grand Commandery visiting the commandery at any time such elected officer or deputy desires to visit.

Sec. 3. Demitted members shall not have the right to visit a commandery for a longer period than one year after demission, without the unanimous consent of the members present.

Sec. 4. No visitor shall be permitted to visit a commandery in the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery unless such visitor is lawfully vouched for as a member of the order in good standing. Documentary evidence alone shall not be sufficient to justify an avouchment. The visitor must be put through an examination, together with his documentary evidence to show that he is in good standing. He must also take the test oath.

Sec. 5. The application of a member of the order to visit can only be entertained when he shall have been lawfully initiated into the order. The right to visit is possessed only by those who have been lawfully initiated into a regular recognized commandery of the order of Knights Templar existing under and by virtue of a commandery granted by a regular recognized Grand Commandery and during the period only while such person remains in good standing in the order. No one possesses the right to visit who does not possess these qualifications.

## ARTICLE XX

### DEMISSIONS

Sec. 1. All applications for demits must be in writing and made at a regular meeting of the commandery and shall lay over for thirty (30) days or until some subsequent regular meeting of the commandery to be held in a subsequent month when, if the applicant has paid all his dues and assessments due and owing up to that date and there are no formal charges against him, the demit may be granted and a record made thereof.

Sec. 2. All applications for a demit may be withdrawn by the applicant at any time before a vote is taken thereon and an announcement of the vote has been made. After the vote has been taken and the announcement made, the application for a demit cannot be withdrawn.

Sec. 3. A demit shall date from the time the commandery's records show that the demit was granted, and membership ceases from and after that date. The applicant demitted shall be entitled to a copy of such record, but should the recorder or commandery neglect to furnish such record, or the applicant refuses to receive the same, the neglect or refusal shall not in any case invalidate the joint action of the applicant and the commandery in applying for and granting the demit.

Sec. 4. If any demitted member shall lose his certificate or record of his demission, the recorder of the commandery shall furnish a duplicate certificate upon request, and satisfactory evidence showing that the original certificate or record was lost. The duplicate certificate shall bear the same date as was borne by the original certificate and a record made of the issuance of the duplicate certificate and the cause of such issuance.

Sec. 5. A vote to grant a demit of any applicant is final and cannot be reconsidered. A member is demitted upon a vote of his application for a demit carried in the affirmative and such member can only regain membership by a petition in the same manner as required by a non-affiliated member.

## ARTICLE XXI

### NON-AFFILIATED MEMBERS

Sec. 1. Non-affiliated members shall be subject to the discipline of the Grand Commandery or of the commandery in whose jurisdiction they may reside for any violation of the moral law, the criminal laws of the State or City in which such person may reside or of the violation of the laws of the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 2. Non-affiliated members of the order shall not be permitted to take part in any of the processions or ceremonies of the order or of the commandery, nor shall they be entitled to any of the privileges or benefits of the order, except as provided in Article 19, which gives a demitted member the right to visit a commandery after the date of his demission.

## ARTICLE XXII

### SPECIAL DISPENSATION

Sec. 1. All applications to the Right Eminent Grand Commander for dispensation to confer any degree shall emanate from a chartered commandery at a regular conclave and be carried by a unanimous vote of the members present. Such application shall set forth full and clearly the emergency under the seal of the commandery and be signed by the Eminent Commander and attested by the recorder.

Sec. 2. All applications for dispensation for special purposes not otherwise provided for may emanate from the Eminent Commander.

Sec. 3. The fee for dispensation shall accompany the petition therefor to the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

Sec. 4. All dispensations granted a subordinate commandery shall be entered upon the records of the commandery and prompt reports shall be made to the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the doings by authority thereof. The number of dispensations granted the commandery and the amount of money paid for the same shall be reported annually to the Grand Commandery as part of the returns of the commandery.



ARTICLE 23

DISPENSATIONS FOR A NEW COMMANDERY

Sec. 1. A dispensation for a new commandery shall only be granted in manner as prescribed in Article 12 of the Constitution of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the Right Eminent Grand Commandery to see that a commandery under dispensation makes full returns to the Grand Commandery of the work done under the dispensation.

Sec. 3. Where a commandery under dispensation has been granted a charter, it shall be the duty of the Right Eminent Grand Commander to see that the old chartered commandery dropped from the roll of its members who join in the petition for a charter for a new charter and whose names are included in the new charter issued. This action of the commandery shall be taken immediately upon their receiving notice from the Right Eminent Grand Commander that certain of its members now belong to the new commandery by reason of the issuance of the charter by the Grand Commandery. Provided that if any member of a chartered commandery joining in the petition for a new charter who does not want to become a member of the new commandery, he must make that fact known to the Right Eminent Grand Commandery before the charter is granted; otherwise his membership is automatically transferred from the old commandery to the new commandery.

Sec. 4. No new commandery shall be organized and chartered with persons who belong to or are affiliated with commanderies of clandestine members of the order of Knights Templar. All such persons must be legally initiated if they are to be eligible under the laws of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 5. No commandery under dispensation can receive members by affiliation or on demission unless such non-affiliated member of the order is demitted from a legally recognized commandery.

Sec. 6. In a petition for a charter all members of the commandery under dispensation must join in the petition, if they desire to be members of the commandery when chartered. The petition for a charter must be signed by the members themselves and no one's name shall be placed on the petition without the specific instruction of the person or persons themselves.

Sec. 7. If the petition for the charter is denied and the dispensation taken up, then in that case all the members of the chartered commanderies who join in the petition shall remain members of their respective commanderies and all of those who are initiated in the commandery under dispensation shall be given certificates signed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander and attested by the Grand Recorder under the seal of the Grand Commandery, which certificate shall have the same force and effect as a demit.

Sec. 8. All affiliated petitioners for a dispensation to

form a new commandery shall pay a fee of \$5.00. All persons initiated in a commandery under dispensation shall pay a fee of \$10.00. These fees shall be in addition to the regular dues required of the affiliated members by his commandery, as well as those required by his commandery under dispensation.

Sec. 9. All monies collected on behalf of the commandery under dispensation shall go into the treasury of the commandery under dispensation and shall only be paid out for the legitimate expenses of operating the commandery under dispensation and whatever taxes and monies are due from the commandery under dispensation to the Grand Commandery. It shall be the duty of the Right Eminent Grand Commander to see that this section is strictly observed and that the monies of the commandery under dispensation are safeguarded and a true account made of the same.

Sec. 10. If the petition for a charter for a commandery under dispensation is not granted, all the monies and properties of the commandery under dispensation shall be the monies and properties of the Grand Commandery and shall not be divided among the members of the commandery under dispensation, but shall be immediately turned over to the Grand Recorder by those in whose custody it is.

#### ARTICLE XXIV

#### ANNUAL RETURNS

The fiscal year of all constituent commanderies shall commence on the 1st day of August and end on the 31st day of July of each year, and the returns of the work in the payment of Grand Commandery dues, taxes and assessments, unless otherwise provided, shall be made accordingly. Said returns, together with the Grand Commandery dues, taxes and assessments of each subordinate commandery shall be filed with and the money due from the commandery paid to the Grand Recorder on or before the 31st day of July of each year, unless otherwise provided by law. The returns shall embrace a complete list of officers, Past Commanders and members, number of all dispensations granted and the amount of money paid for the same, of all initiations, passing and knighting of the number of degrees conferred, of all admissions, demissions, rejections, expulsions, suspensions, reinstatements and deaths, with their respective dates: the amount of monies taken in or received by the commandery during the year, the amount paid out for disbursements, amount paid out for charity or relief, total amount of liabilities, total amount of assets, total cash on hand and a complete inventory of all the properties of the commandery and such other matters as may be required by the blank forms for the returns; such returns shall be under the seal of commandery and signed by the Eminent Commander and attested by the Recorder. The returns shall also state the number of members of the commandery reported at the previous annual conclave of the Grand Commandery and the number of persons subsequently becoming members and the total number reported at the present conclave, the amount of money paid to the Grand Recorder and the amount due to the Grand Commandery.

Provided that every constituent commandery must make the annual returns whether it has any money to pay taxes, dues and assessments or not. There can be no excuse for a failure to make out annual returns as herein provided. If a commandery is not financially able to pay its dues, taxes and assessments to the Grand Commandery as herein required, it must state this fact on the returns and give the reasons, if any, for its inability to pay. The failure to make the returns and to pay the taxes, dues and assessments to the Grand Commandery as herein provided shall subject the delinquent commandery to the penalties prescribed in Section 3 of Article 7 of Chapter 1 of the By-Laws of the Grand Commandery. The failure of the commandery to make returns and to send the same to the Grand Recorder as herein provided subjects the Eminent Commander and the Recorder to be removed from office, and there can be no excuse for the failure to perform this part of their duty.

#### ARTICLE XXV

##### REPRESENTATION IN GRAND COMMANDERY AND PROXIES

Sec. 1. The Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General are the legal representatives of their commandery in the Grand Commandery. Whenever the Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of a commandery shall be unable to attend the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery, a commandery may depute any Past Eminent Commander, who is a member of the commandery in good standing as proxy to represent the commandery in the Grand Commandery and the proxy so deputized shall be entitled to the same privileges and subjected to the same penalties as the legal representatives of the commandery; such deputizing shall be in writing and signed by the Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General and attested by the Recorder under the seal of the commandery.

Sec. 2. Only one person can be deputized to represent a commandery at one and the same conclave of the Grand Commandery. When a legal representative of a commandery is present, no one can act as representative by proxy for that commandery. No one shall represent more than one commandery at the same conclave, either as the legal representative of the commandery or as a representative by proxy.

No one shall represent a commandery as proxy except the commandery of which he is a member in good standing. No one shall represent his commandery as proxy except he be a Past Eminent Commander in good standing in the commandery. All commissions or proxies shall expire with the closing of the Grand Commandery's conclave.

Sec. 3. No one but a chartered commandery can be represented by proxy in any conclave of the Grand Commandery. The right of legal representatives to represent their commandery in the Grand Commandery cannot be denied or abridged by the commandery, nor by the Grand Commandery, as long as the commandery complies with the laws of the Grand Commandery.



Sec. 4. A chartered commandery in a regular conclave may, by a majority vote, instruct its representatives on any subject to be considered in the Grand Commandery and such instructions shall be binding upon its representatives.

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of the commandery to pay and advance the reasonable expenses of the legal representatives incurred or to be incurred in attending a conclave of the Grand Commandery. A constituent commandery cannot refuse to send all of its legal representatives to the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery, if its finances will warrant it.

It is an imperative duty of the legal representatives of a commandery to attend the conclave of the Grand Commandery. The wilful refusal to perform this duty is a violation of the moral law.

#### ARTICLE XXVI

##### DISSOLUTION OF CHARTERED COMMANDERIES

Sec. 1. A constituent commandery may be dissolved:

1. By the voluntary surrendering of its charter,
2. By the revocation of its charter by the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 2. The charter of a commandery may be surrendered if the resolution for that purpose be presented at a regular conclave of the commandery and the same be acted upon at a subsequent regular conclave, of which all the members are notified; provided, that no charter can be surrendered as long as nine Knights Templars are members of the commandery and desire to continue to work under the commandery in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 3. The charter of a commandery may be revoked and the commandery dissolved for the causes contained in Section 5, Article 15 of the Constitution.

Sec. 4. No charter shall be suspended or revoked except for cause of which the commandery shall have due notice and an opportunity to be heard. Provided, the Right Eminent Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery may suspend the charter of a commandery until the sitting of the next annual conclave of the Grand Commandery, as provided in the Constitution.

Sec. 5. Upon the revocation of the charter of dissolution of the commandery for any cause, the charter, books, papers, jewels, furniture, paraphernalia, monies and all properties of whatever description or character, belonging to the dissolved commandery shall be forthwith and immediately turned over to the Grand Commandery and whoever has the property in charge or in his possession shall immediately surrender the same to the Grand Recorder, and all such surrendered property shall become and be the absolute property of the Grand Commandery, in manner as



provided in the Constitution.

Sec. 6. At any time it shall be found necessary to revoke the charter of any commandery under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, the members of such commandery implicated in any misconduct shall be subject to discipline by the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 7. Upon the dissolution of a commandery for any cause, its members, who are not subject to the provision of the last preceding section, upon the payment of all arrearages to the Grand Commandery shall be entitled to a certificate signed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander and attested by the Grand Recorder, under the seal of the Grand Commandery, which certificate shall be recognized in this jurisdiction as a demit.

Sec. 8. Whenever any commandery shall cease to work for one year, the nearest commandery or commanderies may exercise jurisdiction over the territory and act upon petitions from Royal Arch Masons residing therein, unless the cause of such cessation shall be presented to and deemed satisfactory by the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

Sec. 9. When the commandery has taken action in any matter and has afterwards ceased to exist, any further action required or authorized by law, including the completion of unfinished work shall be performed by the commandery acquiring jurisdiction, but those who have been initiated in any of the degrees of the Order of Knights Templar cannot become members of the commandery completing their initiation without being duly elected therein.

Sec. 10. When a commandery ceases to exist, its rejected material can petition any commandery having territorial or concurrent jurisdiction. Personal jurisdiction belongs to the commandery and ceases when it becomes defunct.

Sec. 11. Any Knights Templar who shall be present at or assist in the work of the commandery, knowing its commandery or warrant to have been revoked or suspended shall be liable to discipline by expulsion or suspension.

Sec. 12. When any charter of the commandery shall have been declared revoked by the Grand Commandery, such commandery shall be erased from the register and its number shall not be again used upon a charter, except upon the restoration of the revoked charter, and upon it only.

## ARTICLE XVII

### CONSOLIDATION OF COMMANDERIES

Sec. 1. Any two or more commanderies may consolidate their membership into one commandery, provided that the proposition for such consolidation shall be presented at a regular conclave of the commanderies interested, and shall not be acted upon until some subsequent regular conclave, of which all the members

shall have due notice, and such consolidation shall only be effected by a three-fourths vote of the members present when such proposition shall be acted upon; provided that if a quorum vote against consolidation to either commandery, then there cannot be any consolidation.

Sec. 2. When the consolidation shall have been accomplished, as provided in Section 1 of this Article, the matter shall be reported to the Grand Commandery and if approved by the Grand Commandery consolidation shall be declared perfected and a new special charter shall be issued upon the payment of a fee of \$10.00 containing the names of the new officers and members joining in the application for the new consolidation and bearing the number of one of the consolidated commanderies, the new name to be selected by the consolidated commanderies.

Sec. 3. The title to all property and effects of the commanderies so consolidated shall be vested in the commandery named in the new charter. Such new commandery shall be duly constituted and its officers installed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander of his proxy before it shall lawfully act under said charter.

An inventory of all the property and effects of the commanderies desiring to consolidate shall be made by their respective recorders and the Eminent Commander thereof. The inventory shall also contain all of the liabilities of the commandery desiring to consolidate, which inventory shall be submitted to the Grand Commandery, along with the application for leave to consolidate and for a new charter.

#### ARTICLE XXVIII

##### CHARTER OR WARRANT

Sec. 1. Whenever the charter of a commandery shall be destroyed, stolen or surreptitiously taken and detained without the fault of the commandery, or Eminent Commander, it shall be the duty of the Grand Commandery or Right Eminent Grand Commander to cause a duplicate charter to be issued upon the payment of \$5.00, bearing the original name and number, together with the names of the original Grand Officers and charter members supplemented with the cause of its reissuance and signed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, and attested by the Grand Recorder, under the seal of the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 2. Whenever the charter of a commandery shall become so defective or illegible as to be unfit for use, the Grand Commandery or the Right Eminent Grand Commander may upon satisfactory proof of such fact and the payment of \$5.00 to the Grand Recorder, cause a new charter to be issued in manner as provided in Section one of this article.

Sec. 3. The Eminent Commander shall have the custody and care of the charter of his commandery at all times and it shall be present at all meetings of his commandery.

Sec. 4. Whenever the Commandery desires to change its name,

a resolution to that effect embodying the new name shall be introduced at a regular conclave and action thereon deferred to the next or some subsequent regular conclave of which notice shall be given to all the members, of the time and place of the proposed action, and if carried by a two-thirds vote of all the members present, the Recorder shall, under the seal of the Commandery, certify the fact to the Grand Recorder 30 days previous to the next annual conclave of the Grand Commandery, and he shall also transmit to the Grand Recorder all facts and circumstances relating thereto. The Eminent Commander shall sign the certificate. If the Grand Commandery consents to the change, a new charter shall be granted, in accordance with the prayer of the petition upon the payment of a fee of \$5.00. Such new charter shall be issued in accordance with the provisions of Section one hereof.

#### ARTICLE XXIX

##### OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS - PUBLIC APPEARING

Sec. 1. Every document or paper, whatever, emanating from a chartered Commandery to be valid shall have an impression of its seal affixed and be attested by the Recorder thereof and shall be under the signature of the Eminent Commander.

Sec. 2. No Sir Knight or member of the Order under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery shall appear in any public procession, nor in any private or public assembly in the Regalia of the Order, unless under the auspices of some regular commandery or at the funeral of a deceased member; nor shall any commandery, unless by special dispensation of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, take part in any public procession, and not then, except when the public procession is of a strictly Masonic character.

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B Y - L A W S  
of the  
PRINCE HALL GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
of the  
STATE OF ILLINOIS AND JURISDICTION

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CHAPTER III

RELATIVE TO DISCIPLINE AND PROCEDURE

ARTICLE I

PENAL POWERS

Sec. 1. This Grand Commandery has the power and authority to discipline and punish any member of a subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, and non-affiliated members of the Order and members of the Order residing in the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, except the Right Eminent Grand Commander, and may exercise any and all penal powers and authority granted by the Constitution of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 2. Each subordinate Commandery of this Grand Commandery, when the Grand Commandery does not assume original jurisdiction, shall have the power, and it shall be its duty, to exercise discipline over all its members and non-affiliated members and affiliated members of the Order sojourning and residing within its jurisdiction, for the violation of the moral law, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery, or for the commission of any offense that will tend to lower the standard of the commandery or the Order within the vicinity where the commandery is located, except the Right Eminent Grand Commander and the other elective officers of this Grand Commandery, and the Eminent Commanders. A subordinate commandery has no power or authority to discipline the Right Eminent Grand Commander or Eminent Commanders or any elective officers of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 3. Any member of this Grand Commandery may prefer charges, in this Grand Commandery against any member of the Order, except the Right Eminent Grand Commander; which said charges with specifications shall be in writing and filed with the Right Eminent Grand Commander or they may be filed with the Grand Recorder, in which case he shall immediately forward them to the Right Eminent Grand Commander; upon the receipt of the charges and specifications by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, he may appoint a commission of not less than seven Past or Present Eminent Commanders to fairly, impartially, hear and receive all evidence and report the same together with their findings and recommendations to the Right Eminent Grand Commander, who may pass upon the same and report his decision at the next Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery, or he may report the charges, together with the findings and recommendations of the commission, to the next Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery which shall dispose of the matter as it may see fit. Provided,



that if the findings and recommendations of the commission are reported to the Right Eminent Grand Commander within 60 days of the convening of an Annual Conclave, the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall not pass upon the same but report the entire case together with the findings and recommendations of the commission to the Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 4. In all cases, when the charges are preferred against any Eminent Commander or an elective officer of this Grand Commandery, except the Right Eminent Grand Commander, the charges shall be referred to and heard by a commission as provided in Section 3 of this article. In all other cases, the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall transfer the charges to the subordinate commandery, of which the accused is a member, and in whose jurisdiction the accused resides, for trial. The trial must be had, however, in the subordinate commandery in whose jurisdiction the offense is alleged to have been committed.

Sec. 5. Any member of the commandery may prefer charges against an offending member, but to further the administration of justice, it shall be the duty of the Captain General in the absence of other accusers, to take steps to bring to trial all who commit offenses unbecoming a member of the Order, over whom the commandery has jurisdiction.

Sec. 6. In all cases of offending members, who are members of any other commandery, the commandery in whose territorial jurisdiction the offender resides or is sojourning, shall, in case the offender shall be expelled or suspended, given notice to the commandery of which he may be or shall last have been a member.

Sec. 7. Non-affiliated member, residing within the jurisdiction of one commandery and having his place of business in another, is sojourning in the latter and is amenable to the subordinate commandery for any offense committed therein.

Sec. 8. A suspended member, charged with a crime, or an offense which, if established, would justify a greater punishment than that he is undergoing, may be arranged for trial, and if found guilty, adequate punishment shall be inflicted. A subordinate commandery cannot by its by-laws or by any rule or regulation deprive a member of his rights, except as the result of a trial and judgment by the tribunal having jurisdiction and laws of this Grand Commandery; nor can the relation a member sustains to the Order, at the time of his death, be changed.

Sec. 9. No constituent commandery, or member thereof, shall publish in any newspaper, magazine, pamphlet, circular or otherwise make public the details of any trial, except the results, decision, sentence or judgment of the commandery.

Sec. 10. The presence of visitors in the commandery during any of the proceedings of a trial shall be prohibited, except by the unanimous consent of all the members present, and except those who appear as attorney, either for the prosecution or for the accused. In case of trial before a commission, appointed by

the Right Eminent Grand Commander, the presence of visitors, except the accused, accuser, and their attorneys, is prohibited unless otherwise granted by the authority of the Right Eminent Grand Commander. Witnesses for either the accused or the accuser shall not be deemed visitors.

Sec. 11. When the Grand Commandery or the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall transfer the charges filed in the Grand Commandery to a subordinate commandery for trial of the accused, it shall be the duty of such commandery, within thirty (30) days from the time the charges were transferred to it, to proceed and fairly and impartially try the accused in the same manner as if the charges had been filed in the commandery in the first instance. Provided that in such cases the Captain General, in his official capacity, shall sign the charges as accuser and the Eminent Commander shall see that his name is so attached and that the case is impartially and fairly tried with as much speed as justice will require. When the Captain General signs any charge in his official capacity, he cannot be deemed an accuser.

Sec. 12. When the Eminent Commander of a commandery is in fact the accuser, being directly connected with the subject matter of the charges preferred against a member of his commandery, he shall lay the matter before the Right Eminent Grand Commander; the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall appoint his deputy or specially deputed a present or past Eminent Commander to preside at the trial of such accused member. In no case shall a constituent commandery place a member on trial with the Eminent Commander sitting as the presiding officer and the accuser; provided that this section shall not apply in cases of contumacy.

## ARTICLE II

### OFFENSES

Sec. 1. An offense, of which cognizance shall be taken, is the violation of one's obligation or oath, as a member of the Order, the violation of the criminal law, the moral law, the constitution, laws and edicts, rules and regulations of this Grand Commandery, or the commission of any act which tends to impair the good name of the Order, or which tends to lower the standard of the Order in the community where the offender resides. Every member of the Order guilty of the commission of any of such offenses shall be punished by expulsion, suspension, or be reprimanded, upon trial and conviction.

Sec. 2. For the commission of an offense, as defined in Section One (1) of this Article, the Commandery shall take cognizance and shall give the accused a fair and impartial trial, and, upon conviction, shall administer adequate punishment in all cases where the Commandery has jurisdiction; provided that in such cases, where the Grand Commandery has taken over the jurisdiction for the trial of the accused, the subordinate commandery shall have no jurisdiction to try the accused; but the decision and judgment of the Grand Commandery shall be conclusive and binding both upon the subordinate Commandery, and the accused.

Sec. 3. The Grand Commandery may take cognizance of any or all offenses described in Sec. 1 of this Article and may take jurisdiction over the accused and try him and may inflict such punishment upon the guilty as it shall deem just and adequate.

### ARTICLE III

#### PRESENTATION OF CHARGES AND SPECIFICATIONS

Sec. 1. All charges of offenses shall be made in writing, with reasonable certainty, the character of the offense alleged to have been committed and the time and place of the commission, as near as may be practicable, and be signed by the accuser, who must be an affiliated member. The charges must be so explicit that the accused shall have a fair understanding of what he shall have to answer. If the Eminent Commander discovers that his Commandery has entertained charges manifestly too vague for the accused to have a clear understanding of the offense with which he is charged, he should, in his official capacity, refuse to proceed with the trial until the charges are properly framed; and likewise, if the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall discover that the charges filed with him or in the Grand Commandery are manifestly too vague for the accused to make answer thereunto or understand with what offense he is accused, he shall refuse to proceed with the trial until the charges can be properly framed. All charges must be properly framed before the accused can be called upon to answer the same. They are said to be properly framed when the charges and specifications are sufficient to inform the accused of what offense he is called upon to answer.

Sec. 2. All charges and specifications of trials, in subordinate commanderies, shall be filed with the Recorder of the Commandery. If received at a regular meeting, they shall be then and there read and the question shall be put as to whether or not they shall be accepted. If received during the recess of the Commandery, they shall be read at the next regular conclave of which meeting all the members shall have due notice; provided that, in the case where the magnitude of the offense demands or where the Commandery or the Eminent Commander shall deem it for the best interests of the Order, the matter may be laid before the Right Eminent Grand Commander and by his authority through dispensation, said charges may be received and read at a special meeting of the commandery, called for that purpose of which at least ten (10) day's notice shall be given to the members thereof.

Sec. 3. The trial of charges may proceed at any meeting appointed for that purpose and may be continued from time to time until completed; provided that, before any member can be placed on trial in a subordinate commandery, the commandery must vote to accept the charges.

Sec. 4. When a member is charged with an offense, he being at the time in confinement for an offense against the State of Municipality, neither the subordinate commandery, nor the Grand



Commandery nor a commission of the Grand Commandery need, after giving notice and a reasonable time and an opportunity for the accused to appear or to prepare his defense, wait for his term of punishment to expire, it may proceed with the trial to a final hearing without his presence, as provided in Section 3 of Article 4 of these by-laws.

Sec. 5. In the trial of offenses of which cognizance is to be taken, there is no statute of limitations.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### RECEPTION OF CHARGES AND NOTICE

Sec. 1. In case of charges of members for an offense, upon receipt of such charges, the accused shall not be placed on trial unless it appears from the charges and specifications that an offense has been committed. When the charges have been received and accepted and it appears from the charges that an offense has been committed, the charges cannot be withdrawn; neither can charges be withdrawn in cases where they are transferred to subordinate commanderies by the Right Eminent Grand Commander or Grand Commandery for the trial of the accused.

Sec. 2. Immediately upon the acceptance of the charges by the subordinate commandery, the Eminent Commander shall state the time and place for the trial. It shall be the duty of the Eminent Commander to cause the accused to be served with a duly attested copy of the charges and specifications and a citation stating the time and place appointed for the trial, and give sufficient notice of the trial, to all members of the commandery; provided, that the accused shall be entitled to twenty (20) day's notice or a reasonable time and an opportunity to prepare his defense.

Sec. 3. If the accused shall neglect or refuse to attend in person, after notice having been duly served upon him, or if notice cannot be served on him personally, by reason of his residence being unknown, such notice shall be sent to him, by registered mail, addressed to him at his last known place of residence, and upon proof that the notice has been sent to him, as hereinafter provided, the commandery, at the time specified in such notice for trial, may proceed with the trial without the presence of the accused. Provided that in trials by the Grand Commandery, a similar procedure shall be followed. Provided further, that in either case where the notice is given by registered mail, twenty (20) days shall intervene between the time of the mailing of such notice and of the time of the hearing and proceeding with the trial. In such case, the commandery shall appoint a competent member to act as attorney for the accused; but this shall not be construed to give such an attorney or representative any claim against the commandery for services, unless the commandery shall specifically agree to pay for such services at the time of appointment; and likewise in trials before the Grand Commandery or commissioners. In cases where the accused is confined in prison, then notice may be sent to him by registered mail, in the same manner as above provided for, giving



of notice by registered mail, in subordinate commanderies.

Sec. 4. In every case where a flagrant offense shall have been committed by a member present, while the commandery is at labor, the foregoing rules requiring notice and delay may be dispensed with and the Eminent Commander may order the offending member to show cause instantly why he should not be punished; and likewise in the case of offenses committed in the Grand Commandery during any of its sessions.

No subordinate commandery shall have jurisdiction to discipline a member for any offense committed in the Grand Commandery during any of its sessions; such offenses are cognizable by the Grand Commandery only.

Sec. 5. Any member against whom charges shall have been preferred shall be summonsed to make answer thereunto on or before a certain date and he may deny or admit any portion of the whole of the said charges in said specifications, but upon his refusal to plead to the charges and specifications, a plea of not guilty shall be entered for him. If his whereabouts are unknown, or if he is confined in prison, instead of issuing a summons for him, a notice shall be mailed to him by registered mail to his last known place of residence, and if in prison to the prison where he may be confined, as hereinabove provided, and in such case a plea of not guilty shall be entered for him.

Sec. 6. If an accused member shall plead guilty to either of the charges or specifications, such plea may be accepted as evidence and the Commandery or Commissioners may take such other evidence as they may desire. An authorized plea of not guilty, entered in the absence of the accused by an attorney who had been appointed to defend the accused, cannot be accepted by the Commandery or Commissioners as a bar to the taking of evidence; such plea must be disregarded.

#### ARTICLE V

##### WITNESSES AND TESTIMONY

Sec. 1. Every member of the Order, in good standing, shall give his testimony upon his honor as a member. He shall be a person of sound mind and have due regard for his oath and obligation.

Sec. 2. All witnesses in trials, who are not members of the Order, shall be persons of sound mind and of such religious belief as to feel the obligations of an oath which may be administered by any competent legal officer.

Sec. 3. The evidence of both the accuser and the accused, if offered, shall be received at any trial of a member of the Order. The status of a member of the Order, under charges, is not affected until after conviction and judgment.

Sec. 4. The testimony of witnesses, who are members of the Order, may be taken in open commandery or by a special committee

appointed by the Eminent Commander, upon a unanimous vote of the Commandery. Witnesses who are not members of the Order shall be examined by a committee or their deposition may be taken before an officer legally authorized to administer an oath. In either case the accused and accuser, in person or by attorney, shall be entitled to be present and propound such relevant questions as they may desire. The attorney must be a member of the Order in good standing. A member of the Order employed as attorney by the accused on trial, or by the accuser, or by the Commandery or Commissioners, is not to be considered as a visitor during such trial, and, therefore, cannot be excluded. If an accused member, whose trial is pending, appears before the Commandery, Commissioners or committee for taking evidence, and persists in such boisterous and indecorous conduct as to prevent the taking of evidence in his presence, the Commandery, Commissioners, or Committee, as the case may be, will be warranted in excluding and in taking the evidence in his absence.

The committee or commissioners appointed to take evidence in a trial cannot quash or modify the charges and specifications. The committee can only take evidence and report the same without any findings or recommendations.

Sec. 5. The testimony of any witness, unable to attend the trial, may be taken by deposition before a properly authorized person or persons to administer the oath. Due and sufficient notice of the time and place of taking of such deposition shall have first been given the opposite party before any deposition can be taken.

Sec. 6. It shall be the duty of the accuser and accused to secure the attendance of their witnesses who are not members of the Order. The Eminent Commander, of the Commandery holding the trial, when necessary shall cause to be summoned a member of the Commandery as a witness in any trial before the Commandery.

The Right Eminent Grand Commander, through the Grand Recorder, may summon any member of the Order, as a witness in the trial, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery, in all cases where the trial is had before the Grand Commandery or its Commissioners, and in cases of subordinate commanderies where the witness resides outside of the jurisdiction of the commandery holding the trial.

Sec. 7. When trials are held in an open Commandery, the Eminent Commander, or the presiding officer, shall decide all questions arising as to the relevancy or competency of the evidence and the regularity of the proceedings; and the Recorder shall take down, or cause to be taken down, in writing, all the evidence submitted by both the accuser and the accused and note the objections made by either party and the rulings of the presiding officer; the record thereof shall be filed in the archives of the Commandery and the main facts of the case shall be entered upon the record of the Commandery.

In case of the Commissioners, appointed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander to conduct the trial, the Chairman of the Com-

mission shall decide all questions as to the relevancy and competency of the evidence and the regularity of the proceedings. He shall appoint a recorder for the commission who shall take down in writing or cause to be taken down in writing all the evidence submitted by both parties and note all objections made by either party and the rulings of the Chairman of the Commission thereof; and that after hearing all of the evidence and the arguments of counsel in the case, the Commissioners shall exclude all parties not members of the commission and consider their verdict and recommendations.

The records of the trial and conviction of the accused member of the Order of a felony in a criminal court of record, which judgment stands unreversed, shall be prima facta evidence of the guilt of the accused and be sufficient to warrant a conviction in trials of subordinate commanderies or in trials before a commission of the Grand Commandery or in trials of the Grand Commandery; but the same shall not preclude the accused from showing a miscarriage of justice and his innocence.

Sec. 8. In all trials, the case must be conducted according to the rules laid down by the Grand Commandery, which require the commissioners to hear and consider all the evidence before voting upon the question of guilt or innocence or the degree of punishment; and which require in trials before subordinate commanderies that the members of the commandery, who sit as jurors in the case, shall hear and consider all the evidence before voting upon the question of the guilt or innocence or the degree of punishment of the accused.

Hearsay evidence shall not be admitted or considered in any trial.

At the conclusion of the taking of evidence, the accuser and the accused, in person or by their attorneys, may, if they desire, address such relevant remarks to the tribunal holding the trial, upon the merits of the case, as may be deemed proper, after which the accused and the accuser shall retire from the tribunal and remain in the ante-room until a final decision of the trial; provided that, if the Captain General shall be the accuser, in his official capacity, he shall not be required to retire. After the retirement of the accuser and accused, any member entitled to vote may exercise his views of the case and of the law and facts involved. No member shall be permitted to withdraw from the commandery room or tribunal until after a final action on the case, except for urgent and necessary cause and then only by the consent of two-thirds of the members present.

Sec. 10. When a committee is appointed to take evidence, as provided in Section 4 of this Article, it shall consist of not less than five (5) members of the commandery, if objection is made to either of them by either the accused or accuser, such person to whom objection is made may be removed and another member appointed in his place by the Eminent Commander; provided that such objection must be made before the matter is set for the taking of testimony by the committee. No objection can be made for the purpose of delay. All objections must be meritorious or



otherwise they should be disregarded by the Eminent Commander.

Whenever an objection is made against the appointment of a commissioner by either party, the accused or the accuser, the Right Eminent Grand Commander may remove the commissioner against whom the objection is made and appoint another in his stead; provided the Right Eminent Grand Commander deems the objection of sufficient cause to warrant such removal; provided further that all such objections must be made before the day set for the taking of testimony by the commissioners. No objection can be considered by the Right Eminent Grand Commander when if frivolous or made for the purpose of delay.

Sec. 11. When a committee shall have been appointed for the taking of testimony the Eminent Commander shall name the chairman and the committee shall meet and select one of their number to be recorder of the committee and when so organized shall have power to take and hear all the testimony of the witnesses produced by either the accuser or accused, and shall thereafter report the same without recommendations to the commandery.

Sec. 12. The proceedings before the committee shall be reduced to writing and turned over to the commandery within the time required by the commandery or the Eminent Commander.

Sec. 13. The committee may set whenever and as often as it may deem best for the interests of the Order and shall proceed with as much dispatch as the law governing the case will justify in full justice to the accuser and the accused.

## ARTICLE VI

### VERDICT AND JUDGMENT

Sec. 1. Upon the conclusion of trial by the commissioners for the Grand Commandery, they shall vote upon the question of guilty or not guilty, and it requires the unanimous vote to find the accused guilty.

In trials before subordinate commanderies, after the conclusion of taking of the evidence, and the arguments, they shall vote upon the question of guilty or not guilty. In taking such vote, the members present shall vote by ballot of white and black balls, and it shall require a two-thirds vote of the members present to find the accused guilty. In taking such ballots, white ball shall be for not guilty and black ball shall be for guilty.

Sec. 2. In the case of the commissioners, if their verdict is guilty, the question shall be put as to the amount of punishment beginning with that of expulsion, if that is not sustained, then indefinite or definite suspension, if neither of these is sustained, then reprimand.

In cases of trials before subordinate commanderies, if the accused is found guilty, then the Eminent Commander or presing officer shall put the question as to the amount of punishment,



beginning with that of expulsion, if that is not sustained, then indefinite or definite suspension, if neither of these is sustained; then reprimand. A vote of two-thirds of the members present by ballot of white and black balls shall be necessary to decide the degree of punishment. All members present must vote. If the commandery shall find the accused guilty they must administer some punishment.

Sec. 3. When the commissioners render a verdict and make recommendations, the Right Eminent Grand Commander, if the Grand Commandery is not in session, and the matter is placed in his hands more than sixty (60) days before the convening of the Grand Commandery, shall review the proceedings and may render such judgment as he deems just and proper. If his judgment is that of expulsion or suspension the same shall be entered upon the records of the subordinate commandery of which the accused is a member, upon notice from the Right Eminent Grand Commander of his actions in the case. Such judgment shall be conclusive and binding upon the accused and his subordinate commandery until the next succeeding annual conclave of the Grand Commandery. The judgment shall be reported by the Right Eminent Grand Commander to the Grand Commandery at its next annual conclave for its final action and disposition. Provided that if the report of the commissioners be made to the Right Eminent Grand Commander within sixty (60) days before the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery, the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall report the same to the Grand Commandery without any action being taken upon the report by him.

Sec. 4. When any member of the Order, after a fair trial, shall be found guilty of a commission of an offense, unbecoming a member of the Order, punishment shall follow which, in the judgment of the body trying him, is just and proper.

Sec. 5. When any member shall have been expelled or suspended by the Grand Commandery, the judgment of expulsion or suspension, as the case may be, shall be binding and conclusive upon both the accused and his subordinate commandery and he shall be automatically expelled or suspended from his subordinate commandery, as the case may be, without any action on the part of his subordinate commandery; but such expulsion or suspension shall be noted on the records of his subordinate commandery opposite his name, and the cause of his expulsion or suspension shall also be likewise noted on the record.

When a member shall have been expelled or suspended by a commandery after trial; he shall be notified of such action by the Recorder of the commandery, in person, if practicable, or by registered mail to his last known address. When the accused member shall have been acquitted, he shall be notified of the same by the Eminent Commander in open commanderies.

## ARTICLE VII PUNISHMENT

Sec. 1. The punishment to be inflicted by the Grand Commandery or a subordinate commandery, after a fair trial and conviction,

tion, shall be, in the discretion of the body trying the accused, either expulsion, indefinite suspension, definite suspension or reprimand.

Sec. 2. Expulsion deprives the expelled member of all rights, privileges and benefits of the Order he has ever enjoyed and he is forever barred from the rights, immunities and privileges of the Order of Knights Templar.

Suspension deprives the suspended member of all his rights, privileges and immunities of the Order and puts him, while the judgment of suspension is in force, out of the Order of Knights Templar.

Reprimand is the least punishment that a member can receive and can only be administer after fair trial and conviction. It shall be administered by the Right Eminent Grand Commander or his deputy in cases of trials by the Grand Commandery and by the Eminent Commander, or some one designated by him in cases of trials by subordinate commanderies. A reprimand of the accused is to be given in the open commandery of which the accused is a member or in which the trial is had, in cases of trials by subordinate commanderies. If the reprimand is to be given by the Right Eminent Grand Commander or his deputy, it may be given in any subordinate commandery in whose jurisdiction the accused resides. Whenever a reprimand is to be given the accused must be summoned and if he fails to obey the summons he shall be punished for the same unless some good excuse is given for his failure. The punishment in such case shall be either expulsion or suspension. Provided that whenever a member acts in a boisterous or indecorous manner in a meeting of an open commandery so as to create confusion and disorder in the meeting, the Eminent Commander shall be warranted and he may exclude the offending member from the remainder of the meeting; the Right Eminent Grand Commander may prohibit any member who is accused of the commission of a crime from attending any meeting of the Order until his trial shall be concluded.

Sec. 3. No constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery shall expel a member for nonpayment of dues.

Sec. 4. Indefinite suspension subjects an offending member, during such suspension, to the same penalties as are prescribed in the preceding Sec. 2 of this Article. The relation which a member sustains to his commandery, after having been suspended, either by his commandery or the Grand Commandery, is that of a member under disabilities, and the Grand Commandery and the subordinate commandery still retain jurisdiction over him, whether he resides in the territorial jurisdiction of the commandery or elsewhere.

Sec. 5. Any member violating the proprieties of a commandery's etiquette may be censured upon the motion and vote of a majority of the members present.

Sec. 6. The judgment of expulsion or suspension has the same force and affect whether rendered by the Grand Commander or subordinate Commandery.

Sec. 7. All expelled or suspended members of the Order are strictly denied the rights and privileges of visiting any constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery and of affiliating with or joining in any procession of the Order of Knights Templar, and re prohibited from receiving any assistance or relief from the Order.

Sec. 8. No member of the Order of Knights Templar shall hold affiliations with an expelled or suspended member under penalty of himself being expelled or suspended.

#### ARTICLE VIII

##### SUSPENSION FOR NONPAYMENT OF DUES

Sec. 1. The payment of dues and assessments is the duty incumbent upon every member of a subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, and the neglect and refusal to fulfill this duty shall be (except for good cause shown) a violation of the laws of this Grand Commandery and the violation of a covenant of a member and shall subject the delinquent member to the discipline of his commandery. Provided, however, that a subordinate commandery by a two-thirds vote of the members present, may remit the whole or any portion of the dues or assessments of any of its members, when past due, if the delinquent's pecuniary circumstances justify such action; provided that dues, taxes and assessments of the Grand Commandery must be paid unless the same are remitted by the Grand Commandery; provided further, a subordinate commandery may pay the dues, taxes and assessments of the Grand Commandery for any of its members.

Sec. 2. No member can be exempt from the payment of dues and assessments except for old age, poverty or indigent or where a member is afflicted with a disease which renders him incapable of work, and where, in all such cases, he is without funds or means of support and is a subject of charity.

Any member of the Order who is an inmate of a charitable institution or in an asylum, shall be exempt from all dues, taxes and assesments, both of his subordinate commandery and the Grand Commandery from payment of the same.

Sec. 3. Any member, who may be in arrears for dues and assessments to his commandery, according to the provision of its by-laws, except as provided in Sec. 4 of this Article, shall be notified of the amount thereof in writing by the recorder with a request for the payment of the same at or before some subsequent regular meeting of the commandery, and if the delinquent member neglects to make answer to such notice, at or before the time stated therein, he shall be notified in person, if possible, or summons to appear at some subsequent regular conclave of the commandery as may be deemed proper by the commandery, and show cause why he should not be suspended for nonpayment of dues, assessments or taxes. If the whereabouts of the delinquent member is unknown, a written notice shall be sent to him through the United States mail to his last known place of residence. This shall be deemed due notice, and the commandery may proceed without the delinquent member's presence to



try him for nonpayment of dues or his arrearages. If a member summonsed, as hereinbefore set forth, and he fails to answer, on proof that summons has been personally served, the offense of nonpayment of dues shall be held in abeyance until the delinquent member shall show cause for disobeying the summons, for which offense any member may be expelled or suspended, after a fair trial and conviction pursuant to the rules and regulations described in the preceding articles for the commission of offenses.

Sec. 4. No constituent commandery shall suspend a member for nonpayment of dues, except upon notice as hereinabove described in Sec. 3 of this Article. No constituent commander shall suspend a member unless he is at least six months in arrears for the nonpayment of dues and assessments, anything in their by-laws to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 5. A two-thirds vote of the members present, at a regular conclave of the commandery, shall be necessary to suspend a member for the nonpayment of dues. Such vote may be taken by a show of hands, standing or in any other manner that the Eminent Commander may decide, in order to get an accurate count.

Sec. 6. No dues or assessments, either of the Grand Commandery or subordinate commandery, shall accrue against a member during the time of his suspension.

Sec. 7. No constituent commandery shall, for any cause, abridge the rights, immunities or privileges of membership of any of its members in violation of the laws of the Grand Commandery; neither can the rights, privileges or immunities of membership be denied any member either by a subordinate commandery or the Grand Commandery except when those rights are taken away after a fair trial and conviction in manner as provided by the laws of this Grand Commandery, except as provided in part (c) of Sec. 3 of Article 10 of Chapter 2 of these by-laws, and also except as provided in Secs. 7 and 9 of Article 10 hereof.

Sec. 8. Compulsory process by a constituent commandery to force payment of dues and assessments lies only against a member of the commandery over whom the commandery has jurisdiction. If the member has been demitted from the commandery, he cannot afterwards be disciplined for the nonpayment of dues and assessments or for the nonpayment of arrearages existing at the time of his demission.

Sec. 9. No dues or assessments, either of a subordinate commandery or the Grand Commandery shall accrue against a member who has been legally declared insane, during the term of such insanity, nor can such person be disciplined for the nonpayment of dues and assessments.

#### ARTICLE IX APPEALS

Sec. 1. Appeals shall lie to the Grand Commandery to review the judgments, verdicts and decisions of its subordinate commanderies on any matter or subject. The accused or the accuser, or any member of the commandery has the right to and may appeal to



the Grand Commandery from any judgment, verdict, order or decision of his commandery or ruling or decision of the Eminent Commander or presiding officer of his commandery, and the commandery itself may also, by a majority vote, appeal from the decision or ruling of the Eminent Commander or presiding officer.

Sec. 2. All appeals from any constituent commandery shall be made in writing and may contain a statement of the case, the objections to and exceptions taken from the ruling, decision, verdict or judgment of the commandery or the decision or ruling of the Eminent Commander or presiding officer from which the appeal is taken, and may state the grounds upon which the appeal is based. The appeal shall be filed with the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery, otherwise disposition may be made of the appeal after the next annual conclave of the Grand Commandery by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, in which case he shall report his judgment and decision, to the next succeeding annual conclave; provided that the appeal may be carried over until the next succeeding annual conclave.

Sec. 3. The member taking the appeal shall give the commandery from whose judgment or decision an appeal is desired, notice of his intention within sixty (60) days after the decision or judgment. If the appeal is from the decision of the Eminent Commander or presiding officer, notice of the taking of the appeal shall likewise be given within sixty (60) days. After such notice has been given, the appeal cannot be withdrawn. The recorder of the commandery, from which the appeal is taken, shall transmit to the Grand Recorder an attested copy of the charges and specifications, a transcript of the judgment, verdict or decision, all papers, records, evidence and proceedings in the case, and, if required, furnish the appellant with a like attested copy and transcript at his cost. The transcript of these papers, documents and proceedings shall be sent to the Grand Recorder immediately upon the receipt of the notice of appeal and without delay. Whenever notice is given of an appeal from the decision of the Eminent Commander or presiding officer, the recorder shall immediately upon the receipt of such notice of appeal, forward to the Grand Recorder an attested transcript of all paper, documents, and records touching upon the subject matter, so that the Grand Commandery or the Right Eminent Grand Commander will have a clear understanding of the subject matter upon which the decision was given and what the decision was. Provided that if an appeal is taken from the decision of the Eminent Commander, and there remain more than sixty (60) days before the convening of the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery at the time the transcript of the appeal is filed with the Grand Recorder, then in such case the Grand Recorder shall transmit immediately the transcript and all documents to the Right Eminent Grand Commander who shall immediately pass upon the decision of the Eminent Commander and shall immediately thereafter notify the commandery of his action on the decision. Provided further if sixty (60) days or less intervene between the time the Grand Recorder receives the transcript of appeal from the decision of the Eminent Commander and the convening of the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery, he shall submit the appeal

together with all papers and documents, to the Grand Commandery for its disposition.

Sec. 4. Whenever an appeal shall have been taken from any subordinate commandery or decision of the Eminent Commander or presiding officer, the Grand Commandery shall have sovereign jurisdiction over the whole case or matter and may, upon trial of cases coming up by appeal dispose of the matter as it deems just and equitable in the following manner, to-wit:

1. Dismiss the appeal, approve the proceedings or affirm the verdict, judgment, order or sentence or decision from which the appeal is taken.

2. Modify or reverse judgment, decision or sentence, or inflict a penalty where the subordinate commandery failed to do so, or inflict a greater or less penalty than that inflicted by the subordinate commandery.

3. Set aside the proceedings of the commandery for irregularity and noncompliance with the laws of this Grand Commandery, and may remand the cause for a new trial or further proceedings as may be directed by the Grand Commandery, or it may acquit the accused.

4. Whenever a case has been reviewed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, under Section 3 hereof, he shall report his action to the Grand Commandery for its consideration and further action; provided that where the Right Eminent Grand Commander has granted a new trial, the subordinate commandery shall proceed immediately to give the accused a new trial as per order of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, and the Grand Commandery will not assume jurisdiction of the matter until after a new trial has been had and then only upon a further appeal.

5. Whenever the Grand Commandery shall modify or reverse a judgment, decision or sentence rendered by a subordinate commandery, the judgment and decision of the Grand Commandery shall be final and conclusive upon all parties concerned; and upon notice thereof, the subordinate commandery, from which the appeal was taken, shall cause such judgment or decision of the Grand Commandery to be entered upon its records and it shall thus become and be the judgment and decision of the subordinate commandery from which there can be no further appeal.

Sec. 6. When the Grand Commandery, on a review of the trial or other proceedings of a subordinate commandery, resulting in the expulsion or suspension of a member of the Order shall reverse or annul the judgment of the subordinate commandery, or shall order a new trial, the accused shall be thereby restored to all of his rights and privileges of a member; and likewise when a similar order for a new trial has been rendered by the Right Eminent Grand Commander. When a case is remanded for a new trial, no amendment shall be made to the original charge and specifications, unless the accused shall have due and timely notice thereof and a sufficient time to answer the charges and specifications as amended.

Sec. 7. Every constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery shall report to the Grand Recorder all suspensions and expulsions that may severally occur; such report to be made within thirty (30)

days after such suspension or expulsion is had. It shall be the duty of the Recorder of the subordinate commandery to make this report on behalf of his commandery.

Sec. 8. In all cases of trial by a commission of this Grand Commandery, the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall report to the Grand Commandery his actions upon the report of the commission and, if the accused is found guilty by the commissioners, he may petition the Grand Commandery for a new trial or for a rehearing upon the newly discovered evidence or for irregularities in the procedure had by the commissioners, that is, where the commissioners failed to proceed in accordance with the laws of the Grand Commandery, or where the accused alleges that the judgment and findings of the commissioners, are not supported by the law and the evidence or is manifestly against the law and the weight of the evidence. In such cases the Grand Commandery may grant a rehearing or a new trial. If a new trial is requested on the ground of newly discovered evidence, the newly discovered evidence must be set out in an affidavit or upon the information of a Master Mason in good standing and it must affirmatively appear that the discovery was had after the decision of the commissioners and that on diligent inquiry could not have been ascertained before. The newly discovered evidence must be sufficient to warrant the granting of a new trial. No new trial shall be granted on the ground of irregularities unless they are sufficient to prohibit the accused from having a fair and impartial trial.

In all cases of trials by commissioners the judgment and decision of the Grand Commandery shall be conclusive and binding upon the accused and the subordinate commandery of which the accused is a member; and upon notice of such judgment and decision it shall be entered upon the records of the subordinate commandery without any further action and all concerned shall be bound thereby.

Sec. 9. Whenever an appeal is taken from the decision of the judgment of a constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery, or from the rulings of the Eminent Commander or presiding officer, no further action shall be had in the matter at issue until the disposition is made of the appeal. Provided that whenever a member is expelled or suspended by the judgment of a subordinate commandery his appeal shall not affect the force and effect of the judgment during the pendency of the appeal.

Sec. 10. In all cases of appeal from the decision of the Eminent Commander or presiding officer, that matter shall be immediately referred by the Eminent Commander to the Right Eminent Grand Commander for his decision and no further action shall be taken in the matter until a disposition of the appeal is made by the Right Eminent Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery. A violation of this section shall subject the Eminent Commander to the penalty of being removed from office, if the gravity or the case, in the judgment of the Right Eminent Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery, warrant such action.

Sec. 11. In order that justice may be done, the Grand Commandery may, at any time, order a subordinate commandery to send up a



complete transcript of the record, proceedings and the evidence of the trial had before the commandery and may proceed to dispose of the matter, as in cases of appeal.

## ARTICLE X

### RESTORATION AND REINSTATEMENT

Sec. 1. No constituent commandery shall have the power to restore an expelled member to membership or to his former rights and privileges in the Order of Knights Templar, nor to reinstate a member suspended by the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 2. The Grand Commandery reserves to itself the sole right, by a majority vote, at any annual conclave, upon a petition and recommendation, as provided in the succeeding Section 4 of this Article, to restore an expelled member to good standing in the Order of Knights Templar as a nonaffiliated member only, but not to membership in any subordinate commandery. A restored member by the Grand Commandery shall be entitled to a certificate of that fact which shall be signed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander and attested by the Grand Recorder, under the seal of the Grand Commandery, which certificate shall serve in lieu of a demit and shall be considered as such by all subordinate commanderies in their consideration of the application of any such expelled member for membership.

Members, who have been suspended by the Grand Commandery and who have been reinstated by the Grand Commandery, shall resume their membership in the subordinate commandery from which they were suspended, without any action on the part of the commandery, unless the Grand Commandery shall otherwise direct.

Sec. 3. The resumption of membership in any constituent commandery by an expelled member, after having been restored to good standing in the Order of Knights Templar by the Grand Commandery, must be acquired in the manner provided for petitions of applicants for membership in Article 10, Chapter 2 of the By-Laws of this Grand Commandery, and shall not be acquired in any other manner.

Sec. 4. All expelled members seeking restoration may petition the Grand Commandery, upon a favorable recommendation of the Commandery from which he was expelled. The commandery from which he was expelled must recommend him for restoration before the Grand Commandery shall have jurisdiction to consider his petition for restoration. If the subordinate commandery denies his application for recommendation for restoration, the Grand Commandery shall not receive or consider his petition for restoration. All applications to a subordinate commandery for a recommendation to the Grand Commandery, for restoration, must be submitted at a regular meeting of the commandery and be acted upon at the next or some subsequent meeting of which all the members of the commandery shall be duly notified, when, if such request be concurred in by a two-thirds vote of all the members present at such regular meeting, by a ballot of white and black balls, the same shall be recorded in the records of the commandery and transmitted to the Grand Recorder, at least 30 days before the annual conclave of the Grand



Commandery. Provided that in case the commandery from which the member was expelled, has become extinct, said petition for restoration may be directed to the Grand Commandery with the statement of the facts of such commandery being extinct; in such case the Grand Commandery shall have jurisdiction to act upon the petition for restoration without the recommendation of the defunct subordinate commandery, and upon favorable action by the Grand Commandery the restored member shall be entitled to resume the status of a nonaffiliated member of the Order. Such restoration shall not be considered to give the restored member membership in the commandery upon the recommendation of which he has acquired the status of a nonaffiliated member of the Order of Knights Templar. Before membership can be acquired in any subordinate commandery, he must comply with the provisions of Section 3 of this Article.

Provided that any member of the order who has been expelled and who desires to petition the Grand Commandery for restoration, and desires to have the commandery from which he was expelled, to recommend him for restoration, must accompany his application for recommendation for restoration and also his petition for restoration with a certificate from his Masonic lodge showing that he is in good standing therein and also one from his chapter of Royal Arch Masons showing that he is in good standing therein; without such certificates the commandery has no jurisdiction to consider his application for recommendation for restoration. A non-affiliated Mason and Companion cannot petition the Grand Commandery for restoration or reinstatement nor can a subordinate commandery recommend a non-affiliated Mason or Companion for restoration.

Sec. 5. Any member, indefinitely suspended for nonpayment of dues or assessments, which suspension has been in force for a period of one year or more, may ask for a reinstatement at any time, and upon seeking reinstatement shall petition in writing the commandery having jurisdiction and shall accompany his petition with his arrearage or the sum for which he was suspended or the amount the commandery has stated by resolution necessary to be paid for his reinstatement. The petition shall be presented at a regular meeting of the commandery and lay over until the next regular meeting of the next succeeding month and be referred to an investigation committee and upon their favorable report and the payment of the sum required for reinstatement, as aforesaid, the petitioner may be reinstated by a ballot of two-thirds vote of white and black balls of all the members present at a regular meeting of the commandery. Provided that in all such cases the petitioner must accompany his application with a certificate from his Masonic Lodge showing that he is in good standing therein and also one from his Chapter of Royal Arch Masons showing that he is in good standing in his chapter.

Sec. 6. If any member has been indefinitely suspended for nonpayment of dues or assessments, which suspension has been in force for a period less than one year, he may be reinstated by a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting of the commandery, upon the payment of all arrearages due at the time of his suspension, without petitioning for that purpose; provided that

he must show that he is in good standing in his Masonic Lodge and also in his chapter of Royal Arch Masons, before his application for reinstatement can be entertained. Without a certificate from his Masonic Lodge and one from his chapter of Royal Arch Masons showing that he is in good standing in his Masonic Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter respectively, he cannot be reinstated.

Sec. 7. When a member has been suspended by his Masonic Lodge or Royal Arch Chapter, he is automatically suspended from membership in his commandery, and upon sufficient evidence of that fact such suspension shall be noted opposite his name. He shall not resume membership in his commandery until he shows by certificate from his Masonic Lodge and one from his Royal Arch Chapter that he has been reinstated and is in good standing in his Masonic Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter respectively. Upon the presentation of such satisfactory evidence he shall be automatically reinstated in his commandery and such reinstatement shall be noted opposite his name.

Sec. 8. A subordinate commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, cannot refuse to act upon an application for reinstatement in the case of suspension for nonpayment of dues, unless the applicant has committed some act during his suspension which makes him unworthy of membership in the Order of Knights Templar or unless he has failed to comply with the requirement prerequisite to the consideration of his application for reinstatement.

Sec. 9. Any member who has been expelled by his Masonic Lodge or Royal Arch Chapter shall be automatically expelled from the Order of Knights Templar, and upon sufficient evidence being submitted of that fact, such expulsion shall be noted opposite his name in his commandery. And he can only be restored to good standing in the Order of Knights Templar by the action of the Grand Commandery, and in manner as provided in Section 4 of this Article. In such case he shall only resume membership in a commandery as provided in Sec. 3 of this Article.

Sec. 10. In all cases where a constituent commandery declines to reinstate an applicant the amount of money accompanying the petition of the applicant for reinstatement shall be immediately returned to him.

Sec. 11. Definite suspension shall expire by limitation and any member so suspended shall be entitled to resume his membership and all the rights and privileges thereof at the expiration of the time fixed in his suspension, without any vote or action on the part of the commandery; provided that he must show a certificate from his Masonic Lodge and one from his Royal Arch Chapter that he is in good standing in the Masonic Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter respectively, before he can resume membership in his commandery.

Sec. 12. The reinstatement of a member indefinitely suspended by a constituent commandery of this Grand Commandery shall only be had by a two-thirds vote by ballot of white and black balls of all the members present at a regular meeting, in all cases, where a

suspension is had as the result of a trial for an offense other than that for nonpayment of dues. In cases of an indefinite suspension for an offense, other than that for nonpayment of dues, a resolution for reinstatement may be presented at any regular meeting of the commandery and acted upon at the next or some subsequent regular meeting of which the members shall have due notice, and can only be granted by a two-thirds vote of all the members present, by a ballot of white and black balls. If the applicant is denied reinstatement he may petition again at another regular meeting of the commandery, after the expiration of (13) weeks. His petition shall be treated in the same manner as the first and all members must be notified, as in case of his first petition. Provided that no petition for reinstatement in any case can be entertained by the commandery unless the applicant shows by a certificate from his Masonic Lodge and one from his Royal Arch Chapter that he is in good standing in his Masonic Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter respectively.

Sec. 13. No member shall be reinstated by any commandery, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, nor restored to good standing in the Order of Knights Templar, who, at the time of his application for reinstatement or restoration, is living in open violation of the moral law or who, while under the sentence of suspension or expulsion, has been convicted of a criminal offense by a court of record which judgment of conviction stands unreversed.

## ARTICLE XI

### EMINENT COMMANDERS-SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES- OFFICERS

Sec. 1. Eminent Commanders and elective officers of the Grand Commandery may be disciplined by his commandery after the expiration of their official term of office for the commission of an unmasonic offense or for the commission of any crime unbecoming a member of the Order, except for official misconduct or for the violation of his official obligation. All complaints for official misconduct must be made to the Right Eminent Grand Commander of Grand Commandery before the expiration of the term of the office of the offending member.

Sec. 2. Whenever a controversy shall arise between chartered commanderies or between a constituent commandery and the Eminent Commander thereof, charges may be preferred in such cases or informal complaints may be made. In all such cases the charges shall be filed with the Grand Recorder or presented to the Right Eminent Grand Commander. When charges are preferred, the Right Eminent Grand Commander will appoint a commission to try the accused or to adjudicate the controversy. When informal complaints are filed, the Right Eminent Grand Commander shall appoint a commission to investigate the matter and upon such investigation, he shall proceed to have the commissioners try the accused, if in his judgment such action is warranted.

Sec. 3. Whenever an Eminent Commander or an elected officer of the Grand Commandery is permanently removed from office he may be deprived of his rights and privileges of membership in the Order



upon trial and conviction, if the gravity of the case warranted it. Any such trial may be had by a commission as provided for trials in the Grand Commandery. Provided that, the commission for investigation may try the accused as provided in Section 2 of this Article.

Sec. 4. Whenever any trouble shall arise between members of a constituent commandery or between subordinate commanderies which shall require the presence of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, or the appointment of a commission, the commandery involved shall pay all the legitimate expenses incurred.

Sec. 5. An elected officer of a constituent commandery may be removed from office for misconduct, malfeasance in office, or for contumacy to the authority of the Right Eminent Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery, or for the commission of any criminal offense, or for conduct unbecoming a member of the Order.

## ARTICLE XII

### SUMMONS

Sec. 1. Every summons issued by the Grand Commandery or by a chartered commandery shall be written or printed, signed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander and attested by the Grand Recorder under the seal of the Grand Commandery, if issued by the Grand Commandery, and in cases when it is issued by a subordinate commandery it shall be attested by the Recorder of the Commandery under the seal of the Commandery, and signed by the Eminent Commander.

All summonses to be binding as such must be personally served or the person summonsed must actually receive the summons, otherwise it will act as a notice only.

Sec. 2. Every member of the Order shall faithfully obey the summons when personally served or when he has actual knowledge of the same, if it is within his power to do so, under the penalty of expulsion or suspension, unless he is excused by a vote of the members present at a regular meeting of the Commandery. In case of summons issued by the Grand Commandery he shall suffer a like penalty unless he is excused by a vote of the Grand Commandery, upon satisfactory evidence being given.

## ARTICLE XIII

### AMENDMENT

Sec. 1. The by-laws of the Grand Commandery may be amended as provided in Section 1 of Article 13 of the Constitution.

Sec. 2. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with the Constitution or these By-Laws are hereby repealed.

### REGULATIONS

1. The officers of this Grand Commandery and the officers



of every subordinate commandery under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, before being installed in their respective offices, shall take the following oath, to-wit:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly promise that I will support and maintain the Constitution, laws and general regulations of the Prince Hall Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of the State of Illinois and Jurisdiction, and that I will to the utmost of my knowledge and ability, discharge all the duties of the office to which I have been selected, so help me God.

#### BUSINESS

2. All business must be transacted in open commandery in the Knights Templar degree, except when conferring the various degrees of the Order.

3. After a commandery has opened according to the ritualistic ceremonies of the Order, the first thing to be done is the calling of the roll of officers and the reading of the minutes of the preceding conclave. These minutes are then to be corrected and confirmed by a vote of the commandery; after this is done, if there is any special conclave, the minutes of which must be read, corrected and confirmed by a vote of the commandery.

4. No commandery can, at any special conclave, alter or confirm or amend the proceedings of a regular conclave.

5. The commandery being open and the minutes read and confirmed, it may proceed to do business, which generally commences with the consideration of the unfinished business left over from the last conclave. But the order of business is strictly under the direction of the Eminent Commander, who may exercise his discretion in determining the matters which are to come before the commandery, provided that there is no arbitrary or oppressive control of the business, at any time which the commandery may deem appropriate.

6. No alarm should be answered at the door nor should any one be admitted to the commandery's asylum during the opening or closing ceremony of the commandery.

7. All votes, except those required by the laws of this Grand Commandery to be by ballot, may be taken by a show of hands or standing. All votes required to be taken by ballot, white and black balls only can be used, except in case of election, then the written ballot must be used.

8. No constituent commandery can be resolved into a committee of the whole.

9. The minutes of the meeting of a constituent commandery should be read at its close, in order that errors may at once be corrected and omissions supplied by suggestions of those present; but these minutes are not to be confirmed until the next regular conclave.

In case of the Grand Commandery the minutes of the previous session are to be read, corrected and confirmed at the opening of the next session and that before the close of the annual conclave the minutes of the closing session are to be read, corrected and confirmed. This should be the last thing done before the close of the annual conclave.

10. During the transaction of business of the commandery the members shall not entertain any private discourse nor in any other way disturb the harmony and decorum of the commandery.

#### RULES OF DEBATE

11. No member can speak more than once on any subject, until all the other members present, shall have had an opportunity to speak and then only with the permission of the presiding officer.

12. Every member, desiring to speak, must address the presiding officer standing, get his permission to speak, and must confine himself to the question under debate and avoid personalities.

13. Any member who transgresses the provision of Rule 12 may be called to order, in which case the presiding officer shall immediately decide a point of order from whose decision there is no appeal to the commandery.

14. When two or more persons rise at that same time to speak in a debate, the presiding officer shall name the person who is to speak first.

15. No motion can be put unless it is seconded, and if required, it must be reduced to writing.

16. Before the question is put on any motion, it should be distinctly stated by the presiding officer.

17. When a question is under debate, no motion can be made except to lay on the table, postponed until a certain time, to commit, to amend or to postpone indefinitely, which several motions, by parliamentary usages, have precedent in the order in which they are arranged; and no motion to postpone to a certain time, to commit or to postpone indefinitely, being decided, is again allowed at the same meeting.

18. When motions are made to refer a subject to different committees, the question must be taken in the order in which the motions are made.

19. When a motion has once been made and carried in the affirmative or negative, it is in order for any member who voted with the majority to move for a reconsideration thereof at the same meeting only. It takes a two-thirds vote of the members present to reconsider a motion.

20. When an amendment is proposed, a member, who has already

spoken on the main question, may again speak on the amendment.

21. Amendments may be made so as to totally alter the proposition and a new resolution may be drafted by way of amendment by the word "RESOLVED."

22. Any member may call for a division of a question, which division will take place, if a majority of the members present consent.

23. A motion to adjourn cannot be entertained. The Eminent Commander alone has the right of closing his commandery at will.

24. No motion for the "previous question" can be admitted or allowed.

#### COMMITTEES

25. All committees must be appointed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander on behalf of the Grand Commandery and by the Eminent Commander on behalf of his subordinate commandery, unless otherwise provided by law. The first name on the committee shall act as chairman unless the chairman is specifically named by the officer appointing the committee. A committee can only act when together, not by separate consultation and consent.

26. The majority of the committee constitutes a quorum.

27. The report of a committee must be in writing and signed by the committee or at least by a majority of them. The report may be read by the chairman of the committee or, in his absence, by any other member of the committee or by the recorder.

28. If the report embodies matters of legislation, the question must be on adoption of the report and on agreeing to the resolution, or recommendations, if a resolution and recommendations are appended.

The reports may be recommitteed at any time before final action thereon.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

29. In all election of officers in a Grand Commandery or in a subordinate commandery thereof, any member, who is qualified and eligible under the laws of this Grand Commandery for the office sought, shall have the right and privilege to run for any such office for which he is qualified and eligible to be elected thereto and any member of the body, holding the election, may nominate them and an opportunity shall be given for such nomination.

30. In all election of officers of the Grand Commandery and in subordinate commanderies thereof, the rules and regulations adopted and enacted by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free & Accepted Masons of Illinois, shall govern, except as otherwise modified by the Grand Commandery.

31. Written ballots only shall be used in all elections of officers in this Grand Commandery and in the subordinate commanderies thereof. It shall be the duty of the Grand Recorder and the Recorders of the subordinate commanderies to prepare and furnish ballots for such election of officers in their respective bodies; the ballots so furnished shall be the official ballot and none other shall be used.

32. In all elections in the Grand Commandery the Grand Recorder and likewise the recorders of their respective subordinate commanderies shall give each member, entitled to vote, the number of ballots he is entitled to cast and no more. The ballots to be used in all elections of officers in this Grand Commandery and in the subordinate commanderies thereof shall be such that the voter may place the name of the candidate for whom he desires to vote, on the inside of his ballot. The voter shall fold this ballot only once, if at all, and hand it to the judge, and the judge shall deposit in the ballot box in the presence of the voter. It shall be the duty of the judge to see that the voter casts no more ballots than those he is entitled to cast.

33. If the judge finds that the voter has cast more ballots than he is entitled to cast, the ballots so cast shall be void and shall not be counted. All spoiled ballots and those so illegible that the name of the candidate cannot be ascertained, and all ballots for candidates not nominated shall be void and shall not be counted, nor taken in consideration of the total number of legal ballots cast.

34. In all elections of officers in this Grand Commandery and in the subordinate commanderies thereof, all candidates running for the same office shall be voted for at the same time and if no one receives a majority of all the legal votes cast, then the two receiving the highest number of votes cast shall be eligible to a second balloting and the one receiving the majority of the votes cast on the second balloting, shall be declared elected.

#### CERTIFICATE TO BE ATTACHED TO AMENDMENTS

35. In all by-laws and amendments to by-laws sent to the Grand Commandery for its approval by a subordinate commander shall have attached thereto a CERTIFICATE in the following form:



WE, the UNDERSIGNED EMINENT COMMANDER and RECORDER of  
Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_ of KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, DO  
HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing (By-laws, or amend-  
ments, as the case may be) were read and submitted to the Com-  
mandery at a regular conclave held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
A. D., 19\_\_\_\_, laid over until the regular conclave of the Com-  
mandery, held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. D. 19\_\_\_\_, of  
which all members were duly notified and there were present  
\_\_\_\_\_ members. At this conclave the said (by-laws or amend-  
ments, as the case may be) were taken up, considered and  
adopted by \_\_\_\_\_ votes for and \_\_\_\_\_ votes against.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our names and  
caused the SEAL of the COMMANDERY to be affixed.

Done at the City of \_\_\_\_\_ County  
of \_\_\_\_\_ State of Illinois, this \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. D., 19\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eminent Commander

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recorder

#### AMENDMENTS

36. These rules and regulations may be altered or  
amended as provided in Section 2 of Article 13 of the Consti-  
tution.

37. Grants Manual shall be the governing regulation  
for Prince Hall Grand Commandery, except as otherwise provided  
by this Grand Commandery.

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COMMITTEE

( JAS. E. WHITE, Chairman  
(  
( ROBERT L. CARTER  
(  
( WM. H. JONES  
(  
( A. G. F. SIMS, JR.  
(  
( GEO. B. FORT

August

1936