

NOTICE OF CONCLAVE



GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

**Office of the Grand Recorder
5909 West Loop South, Suite 495
Bellaire, Texas 77401**

June 15, 2021

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar.

Greetings:

You are hereby notified to attend the Sixty-Eighth Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar to be held in the Minneapolis Marriott City Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota commencing on the 16th day of August 2021, at 8:00 A.M.

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 2. Its members are and shall be:

- a) All Past Grand Commanders of Grand Commanderies;
- b) The Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, and the Grand Captain General of each of the Grand Commanderies;
- c) The Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General of each of the Subordinate Commanderies;
- d) The Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment;

All Knights Templar from other sovereign Grand Jurisdictions who, at any Triennial Conclave, have been elected honorary members. Such election, however, shall not confer the right to vote.

CONDUCT OF CONCLAVES

SECTION 8. At all Conclaves each voting member shall be entitled to one vote.

PROXIES

SECTION 9. The members named in paragraphs (b) and (c) of Section 2 may be represented by proxies belonging to the same bodies. A proxy does not by virtue of such appointment become a member of the Grand Encampment. He shall before acting, produce acceptable evidence of his written appointment. Each member present in person or by proxy shall have only one vote.

NOTE: It is necessary that credentials and proxies of those specified in paragraphs (b) and (c) above be executed and filed at the time of registration with the Committee on Credentials. This Committee will be prepared to receive credential and proxy forms starting Saturday, August 14, 2021, at 1:00 p.m., in the assigned area at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota, concluding Monday, August 18, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. (Blank credential and proxy forms have been distributed by the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment to the Grand Recorders of the Grand Commanderies and the Recorders of the Subordinate Commanderies for this purpose.)

STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 93. The Standing Committees of the Grand Encampment shall be:

- 1) A Committee on Templar Jurisprudence.
- 2) A Committee on Finance.
- 3) A Committee on Foreign Relations.
- 4) A Committee on Printing.
- 5) A Committee on Religious Activities.
- 6) A Committee on Necrology.
- 7) A Committee on Triennial Conclave.
- 8) A Committee on The Educational Foundation.
- 9) A Committee on The Knights Templar Eye Foundation.
- 10) A Committee on Drill Regulations.
- 11) A Committee on Triennial Conclave Expense.
- 12) A Committee on Ritualistic Matters.
- 13) A Committee on Membership.
- 14) A Committee on Patriotic and Civic Activities.
- 15) A Committee on Public Relations.
- 16) A Committee on Holy Land Pilgrimage

These Committees shall perform such duties as the Constitution and Statutes prescribe and be subject at all times to the directions of the Grand Encampment and the Grand Master.

TIME AND PLACE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

SECTION 94. The Committee on Templar Jurisprudence shall meet at the place designated for holding the Triennial Conclave on the Thursday morning preceding the time fixed for the Conclave; provided, however, that the Grand Master or the Chairman of the Committee may call such Committee to meet at some other convenient time or place. (See below.)

SECTION 96. All Standing Committees except those for which express provision is made herein shall meet on the call of the Chairman of such committee at the place where the Triennial Conclave is held and at the time of the holding of such Conclave provided that other meetings of such Committees may be held at other times and places with the approval of the Grand Master.

NOTE: The following Committees will meet at times and places designated, at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Knights Templar Eye Foundation Trustees, Friday, August 13, 2021, 7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, Saturday August 14, 2021, 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

Committee on Finance, Saturday, August 14, 2021, 1:30 PM. To 2:30 P.M.

Committee on Educational Foundation, Saturday, August 14, 2021 – 3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

NOTE: Other Committees, including Special Committees and the Conclave Committees of the Grand Encampment, will meet Saturday, August 14, 2021, and/or during the sessions at time designated by the respective Chairman or the Grand Master, or on other days and times so designated in the Committee rooms at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

SECTION 114. All Officers of the Grand Encampment, Past Grand Masters, and Members of the Standing Committees shall be allowed mileage expense and per diem for attendance at the Triennial Conclaves. The Rates of one-way mileage and per diem for the number of days present at the official program of the Conclave shall be determined by the Grand Master each triennium.

Actual expense when approved by the Grand Master shall be allowed Members of any Standing Committee for attendance upon meetings called in the interim.

NOTE: Mileage shall be paid at the rate of \$0.40 per mile one way and per diem for the number of days present at the official program of the Conclave at the rate of \$50 per day as determined by the Grand Master.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
SUBJECT TO CHANGE
ALL EVENTS WILL BE HELD AT THE
MINNEAPOLIS MARRIOTT CITY CENTER HOTEL

ASSIGNED ROOMS WILL BE POSTED AT REGISTRATION

Thursday, August 12, 2021

Time

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Friday, August 13, 2021

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
 Registration 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
 Hospitality 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
 Vendors 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Saturday, August 14, 2021

KTEF Office..... 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
 Vendors 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
 Registration 9:00 AM – NOON
 Grand Recorder’s Office..... 9:00 AM – NOON
 Hospitality 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
 Jurisprudence Committee 11:00 AM – NOON
 Registration 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
 Credentials 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
 Grand Recorder’s Office..... 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
 Finance Committee 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM
 Knights Templar Educational Foundation 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Sunday, August 15, 2021

KTEF Office..... 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
 Vendors 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
 Hospitality 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
 Grand Recorder’s Office..... 9:00 AM – NOON
 Divine Service 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
 Grand Recorder’s Office..... 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
 Registration 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
 Credentials 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
 Templar History Program
 and book signing 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
 Grand Master’s Reception 8:00PM – 10:00 PM
 (Ticketed Event)

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Monday, August 16, 2021

Registration	7:30 AM – NOON
Grand Recorder’s Office	7:30 AM – NOON
First Business Session (Open)	8:00 AM – NOON
KTEF Office.....	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Vendors	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Credentials	9:00 AM – NOON
Hospitality	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Men’s Lunch (On you own)	NOON – 1:00 PM
Ladies Lunch (Ticket Required)	NOON – 2:00 PM
Registration	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Credentials	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Grand Recorder’s Office	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Second Business Session (Tiled)	1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
State and Department Dinners	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Grand Master’s Family Dinner (By Invitation)	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Registration	7:30 AM – 10:00 AM
Grand Recorder’s Office	7:30 AM – NOON
KTEF Office.....	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Vendors	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Third Business Session (Tiled)	8:00 AM – NOON
Hospitality	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Men’s Lunch (On you own)	NOON – 1:00 PM
Private Ladies Lunch (By Invitation)	NOON – 2:00 PM
Fourth Business Session (Tiled)	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Grand Master’s Banquet (Ticketed Event)	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

Grand Recorder’s Office	7:30 AM – NOON
Installation of Officers 69th Triennial	8:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Grand Master’s Reception (By Invitation)	6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Grand Master’s Family Dinner (By Invitation)	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**PAYMENT OF MILEAGE AND PER DIEM
TO OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Section 114. All Officers of the Grand Encampment, Past Grand Masters and Members of the Standing Committees shall be allowed mileage expense and per diem for attendance at the Triennial Conclaves. The Rates of one-way mileage and per diem for the number of days present at the official program of the Conclave shall be determined by the Grand Master each triennium. Actual expense when approved by the Grand Master shall be allowed Members of any Standing Committee for attendance upon meetings called in the interim.

NOTE: The rate for the 68th Triennial Conclave is \$0.40 per mile and \$50.00 per day.

NOTICE

**TO ALL OFFICERS, AIDES,
COMMITTEE MEMBERS,
GRAND COMMANDERY COORDINATORS,
AND JURISDICTIONAL DEPUTIES
OF THE COLLEGE OF HONORS**

The Grand Master's personal representatives
and all other appointees serve at the
pleasure of the Grand Master and as such said
appointments expire with the term of the
Grand Master on Wednesday, August 18, 2021.



**KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION, INC.
NOTICE OF TRIENNIAL MEETING**

To all members of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. a Maryland Corporation:

You are hereby notified that the Triennial and Annual Meeting of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., will be held on Tuesday, August 17, 2021, commencing at 10 a.m., at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center in Minneapolis.

By Direction of the Board of Trustees.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey N Nelson".

Jeffrey Norman Nelson
President

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence E. Tucker".

Lawrence E. Tucker
Secretary

GRAND MASTERS DECISIONS

Decision No. 1, Series 2019-2021

Quorum April 01, 2019

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar considered two proposed amendments to amend Section 66 of the Constitution, Statutes, Ritual and Disciplinary Rules of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, relating to the quorum of a Commandery, at the 67th Triennial Conclave. Proposed Amendment No. 201804 failed to pass while Proposed Amendment No. 2018-05, as amended, passed.

As submitted, Proposed Amendment No. 2018-05 amended Section 66 of the Constitution to read, quorum of a Commandery consists of nine members entitled to vote therein, including an Officer authorized to open the same. A Grand Commandery may by law provide for a lesser number for quorum purposes. [Underscore denotes new language] This version was not enacted. Proposed Amendment No. 2018-05 was subsequently amended on the floor, and, as amended and passed, reads “[a] quorum of a Commandery consists of nine members entitled to vote therein, including an Officer authorized to open the same. A Grand Commandery may by law provide for a lesser number for quorum purposes, provided that such number shall not be less than five.” [Underscore denotes new language]

QUESTIONS PRESENTED:

- 1.) Whether a number of Sir Knights, less than nine but not less than five, may conduct the business of a Commandery (assuming the Grand Commandery has enacted enabling legislation) or whether nine Sir Knights (a number less than nine but greater than four plus a number of "visitors" that together equal a minimum of nine) are required;
- 2.) Whether a Grand Commander may implement the change by executive action through a general order or whether the change must be enacted legislatively by the Grand Commandery.

ANALYSIS

Section 66 now reads "[a] quorum of a Commandery consists of nine members entitled to vote therein, including an Officer authorized to open the same. A Grand Commandery may by law provide for a lesser number for quorum purposes, provided that such number shall not be less than five."

The word quorum may be defined as "the minimum number of members of an assembly or society that must be present at any of its meetings to make the proceedings of that meeting valid." Merriam-Webster defines quorum as "the number (such as a majority) of officers or members of a body that when duly assembled is legally competent to transact business."

A canon or rule of statutory construction is that a legislative body does not engage in idle acts. In other words, in enacting legislation, a legislative body is presumed to have intended to effectuate some change. Generally, the interpreter of a statute is bound to apply the plain language of a statute to accomplish the intent of the entity enacting the statute.

The general rule is that, if the language is clear and unambiguous, the interpreter will not look to rules of construction or to legislative history, it will simply apply the language. But, if applying the plain language leads to an absurd result or a result that is contrary to the

obvious intent of the body enacting the statute, or, if the language is ambiguous, then the interpreter may apply rules of statutory interpretation to construe the statute.

Applying the plain language of the statute in this case does not lead to an absurd result or one that is clearly contrary to the perceived intent of the Grand Encampment. It seems clear that the Grand Encampment intended to authorize a Grand Commandery to change the number necessary for a quorum to conduct the business of a Commandery to a number less than nine but at least five.

It has been asserted that there may be other statutes that apply to this question and that are now in conflict with Section 66, as amended. Section 58 of the Constitution provides that Commandery consists of at least three Knights Templar, hailing from three separate Commanderies, and acting under a lawful warrant, or of nine or more Knights Templar acting under a lawful Dispensation or Charter." Section 60 of the Constitution provides in part, "[b]efore a Commandery can be formed or opened there are the following prerequisites: (a) 1. At least three Knights Templar hailing from at least three separate Commanderies, or 2. At least nine Knights Templar residing in the proposed Territorial Jurisdiction." It appears that these sections apply to the requirements for the formation of a new Commandery or the minimum number of Sir Knights that constitute a Commandery and not the quorum necessary to conduct the business of a Commandery.

To the extent possible, statutes should be harmonized and not read as creating a conflict. A conflict only exists if one statute allows what another prohibits or prohibits what another allows. As stated above, I believe that Section 66 relates to the quorum required to conduct the business of a Commandery while Sections 58 and 60 relate to the number of Sir Knights necessary to form a Commandery or that constitute a Commandery. Even if it were somehow determined that there is a conflict, the conflict would be resolved in favor of holding that Section 66 governs the issue of what constitutes a quorum. In resolving conflicts, the specific controls over the general and the statute that most recently took effect (later in time") controls. Applying one or both of these rules of statutory construction leads to the same result, Section 66 governs what constitutes a quorum.

It has been asserted that nine, or more, is the Constitutional number in Templary and that the Ritual requires nine Sir Knights to confer the Orders of Templary. The question of what constitutes a quorum for the purpose of conducting the business of a Commandery and what the Ritual requires to confer the Orders of Knighthood are two separate and distinct questions. The Grand Encampment chose not to amend the Ritual, so it must be presumed that it intended no change in the requirement that nine Sir Knights are required to confer the Orders of Knighthood. However, as noted above, statutes are to be harmonized and not read as creating a conflict. No conflict exists if Section 66 is read as only governing what constitutes a quorum for conducting the business of a Commandery.

The second question is whether a Grand Commander may implement the change by executive action through a general order or whether the change must be enacted legislatively by the Grand Commandery. The powers and duties of the Grand Commander are enumerated in Section 48 of the Constitution. This section provides, in pertinent part, Grand Commander shall have the following specific powers and duties but the enumeration shall not be deemed a limitation thereof The powers are extensive but not unlimited. Nowhere in the enumerated powers is the power to enact legislation by order. Even if it were somehow argued that this is an 'un-enumerated" power, Section 66 provides the answer. It states, in pertinent part, "[a] Grand Commandery may by law provide ...

(emphasis supplied) This provision clearly delegates the power to the Grand Commandery, itself, by specifying that the power must be exercised by the Grand Commandery legislatively and not by executive action of the Grand Commander.

DECISION

Section 66 allows a Grand Commandery to reduce the number of Sir Knights necessary to constitute a quorum for conducting the business of the Commandery to a number less than nine but not less than five. A Grand Commandery may only implement this provision legislatively. Nine Sir Knights constitute a Commandery and are required to establish a Commandery or confer the Orders of Knighthood.

Decision of Jeffrey Norman Nelson, GCT, GM, April 1, 2019

GRAND MASTERS DECISIONS

Decision No. 2, Series 2019-2021

Residency Requirements

January 20, 2020

DECISION

A petitioner for the Orders, who does not reside within the Territorial jurisdiction of the Commandery, is, with limited exceptions, ineligible to receive the Orders without a waiver of jurisdiction from the Commandery or other Templar body having Territorial jurisdiction over the petitioner's place of residence. A petitioner who received the Orders despite such ineligibility was illegally Knighted and never became a Knight Templar. The provisions of Section 82, Sojourners, apply only to Grand Commanderies and Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies under the Grand Encampment. When the petitioner's residence is outside the Territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment, the requirement for a prior waiver of jurisdiction from the Great Priory or other Templar body within whose jurisdiction he resides is absolute.

Decision of Jeffrey Norman Nelson, GCT, GM, January 20, 2020.

GRAND MASTERS DECISIONS

Decision No. 3, Series 2019-2021

Committee

February 4, 2021

BACKGROUND

On March 15, 2016, then Grand Master Duane Lee Vaught issued his Decision No. 6 which declared, "Multi-year committee appointments are allowed in part specifically to prevent a single person from exercising excessive control over such a committee."

ISSUE

Section 48 of the Constitution, Statutes, Disciplinary Rules, Standing Resolutions, Ceremonies, Forms and Approved Decisions of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America states, in pertinent part

Section 48. The Grand Commander shall have the following specific powers and duties but the enumeration shall not be deemed a limitation thereof:

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

Were a Grand Commander permitted to appoint a committee member to a term longer than his own, he would deprive his successor of the ability to exercise his right of appointment under Section 48 as to that committee member and any other committee member whose term had not yet expired since "t [a] committee member ... who has been appointed for a statutory term extending beyond that of the Grand Commander ... cannot be removed before the expiration of his term, unless for cause shown." DeLamater Decision No. 7.

Grand Commandery committees with staggered, multi-year terms for members are not prohibited by the Constitution. Indeed, they may tend to produce salutary results, by preserving institutional knowledge among their members and ensuring continuity of effort as members are replaced. These qualities may be especially useful for committees charged with oversight and preservation of a Grand Commandery's investments and physical properties or for execution of long-term projects, such as centennial observances. However, in order to be consistent with Section 48, members of such committees must be elected, not appointed, notwithstanding Grand Master DeLamater's assertion, in his Decision No. 7, "The Grand Commander is authorized to appoint all committees... ."

DECISION

Grand Commandery committees with staggered, multi-year terms for members are permitted, but their members must be elected, not appointed. To the extent that they are inconsistent with this Decision, Norris Decision No. 5, DeLamater Decision No. 7, and Vaught Decision No. 6 are hereby rescinded.

Where under a Grand Commandery law a committeeman is appointed for a fixed term and that term has not expired, a subsequently elected Grand Commander may not remove such a committeeman except after charges, trial and proof. (1940, p 64 & 340, No. 5, Norris

The Grand Commander is authorized to appoint all committees, such appointees to serve during his pleasure or until their successors have been appointed. Such appointees, however, cannot serve beyond the term of the Grand Commander making the appointment, unless the law under which they hold provides for a longer term. A committee member, however, who has been appointed for a statutory term extending beyond that of the Grand Commander, cannot be removed before the expiration of his term, unless for cause shown. (1958, p. 233 & 268, No. 7, DeLamater)

Grand Commandery committee with staggered multi-year appointments is not effective until the close of the conclave at which it is created unless specifically provided otherwise. Multi-year committee appointments are allowed. (2018, No. 6, Vaught)

Decision of Jeffrey Norman Nelson, GCT, GM, January 11, 2021.

GRAND MASTERS DECISIONS

Decision No. 4, Series 2019-2021

Mileage and Per Diem

April 19, 2021

BACKGROUND

Section 13 of the *Constitution, Statutes, Disciplinary Rules, Standing Resolutions, Ceremonies, Forms And Approved Decisions Of The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America* provides for the establishment of a Permanent Fund for the Grand Encampment the investments and government of which are vested in a Board of Trustees. Section 16 of the *Constitution* states,

The Board shall render to the Grand Encampment *at each Triennial Conclave*, and oftener if required by it or the Grand Master, a true and correct account in detail of all of its receipts and disbursements, together with a descriptive inventory covering all of its investments and funds and shall submit its books for examination by the Committee on Finance. (emphasis added)

ISSUE

Section 15 of the *Constitution* states,

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

Section 114 of the *Statutes* provides payment of mileage expense and per diem for “All Officers of the Grand Encampment, Past Grand Masters and Members of the Standing Committees” whose attendance at the Triennial Conclave is required. Provision is not made for payment of mileage expense and per diem for Trustees whose attendance at the Triennial Conclaves is also required.

DECISION

Payment of mileage expense and per diem is not “pecuniary compensation or remuneration for [investment or management] services” of the kind precluded by Section 15 of the *Constitution*, which is, in fact, a prohibition against self dealing. Trustees are no less entitled to payment of mileage expense and per diem than Officers and Committeemen for attendance at the Triennial Conclave.

Decision of Jeffrey Norman Nelson, GCT, GM, April 19, 2021.

Proposed Amendment 2021-01

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Whereas, the language of Section 18 concerning the Educational Foundation should be updated and revised to provide more opportunities to aid deserving students.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 18 of the Grand Encampment *Constitution* **be amended to read as follows:**

“Section 18. The Educational Foundation ~~or~~ of the Grand Encampment, created at the Conclave in 1922 by transferring One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) from the Permanent Fund of the Grand Encampment as an endowment and augmented by the assessment of One Dollar (\$1.00) on each member of the Order, part of which was to be endowment and part to be used by the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies for loans to deserving students, the whole fund arising from the assessments equal to Nine Dollars (\$9.00) for each member having been returned to the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies for administration and use by them constitutes a ~~Permanent Fund~~ fund for the purposes for which it was created and no others, and ~~shall~~ must be continued under the supervision of the Educational Foundation Committee of the Grand Encampment, *provided*, that no transfer of ~~such~~ these funds from one jurisdiction to another ~~shall~~ may be made without the consent of the Grand or Subordinate Commandery upon which the request is made, and ~~Provided~~ provided further, that the interest ~~only, arising from, income, and principal of the Permanent Fund~~ fund, whether in the hands of the Educational Foundation Committee of the Grand Encampment or under the management of bodies of Grand or Subordinate Commanderies may be used for student grants or scholarships, or grants to educational institutions to provide student grants or scholarships, under such rules ~~and regulations~~ as the Educational Foundation Committee of the Grand Encampment may prescribe.”

Added words and punctuation are underlined. Deleted words are struck through.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-02

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

Whereas, the language of Section 18 ½ concerning the Knights Templar Eye Foundation should be updated and revised to provide clarity and to ensure that Trustees are members of the Grand Encampment.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 18 ½ of the Grand Encampment *Constitution* **be amended to read as follows:**

“Section 18½. A Foundation is hereby created for the ~~establishing and maintaining establishment and maintenance~~ of a project to be known as the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., for the research, surgical treatment, and hospitalization of those who suffer from diseases of, or injury to, the eye, which, if untreated, might result in blindness and for the correction of strabismus in children. That admission for treatment of such ~~persons shall~~ individuals must be without regard to race, color, creed, age, sex, or national origin. That the treatment of patients for this purpose ~~shall~~ must be free and limited to those ~~persons~~ individuals unable to pay. That all matters in connection with the launching of this project, including the ~~establishing and maintaining establishment and maintenance~~ of hospitalization, research, and treatment of these ~~persons shall~~ individuals must be in existing facilities, and ~~shall~~ must be handled by the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., a non-profit corporation, to be formed for this purpose, by a Board of Trustees consisting of the following officers and members of the Grand Encampment: Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, and all Past Grand Masters and six members of the Grand Encampment elected at large, ~~two for a three year term, two for a six year term, and two for a nine year term and thereafter with~~ two members ~~shall be~~ elected at large at each Triennial Conclave to serve for a ~~period~~ term of nine years. All appropriate corporate duties, responsibilities, and provisions ~~shall~~ must be included in the ~~Charter and By laws~~ articles of incorporation and bylaws of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., by action of the Board of Trustees. Trustees must maintain membership in a Constituent or Subordinate Commandery under the authority of the Grand Encampment and are subject to removal in accordance with the articles of incorporation and the bylaws of the corporation. (1958, p. 390-391) (1964, p. 381-382) (1964, p. 446-448)

For the ~~purpose~~ purposes of this project, and in accordance with Section 10 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, an annual assessment of One Dollar (\$1.00) per ~~member~~ Knight Templar each year, except -

- a) ~~Members whose dues have been remitted because of their inability to pay the same; (1958, p. 394-398)~~
- b) ~~Members~~ Knights Templar who have purchased Life Sponsorship Certificates; and
- c) ~~Members~~ Knights Templar who are Patrons or Associate Patrons of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

is hereby levied upon each Grand and Subordinate Commandery ~~of the Grand encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America~~ based on the membership therein.

Exemption to the annual assessment for a Knight Templar holding Life Sponsorship ~~shall~~ does not apply in more than one Commandery. If a Life Sponsor becomes a dual member, he assumes assessment responsibility in the second Commandery. A Life Sponsor demitting from one Commandery and affiliating with another Commandery carries his exemption status with him and the Commandery with which he affiliates then credits his exemption on its roll. The

Commandery from which he demits then removes his exemption status from its reports.

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

The Grand Treasurer of the Grand Encampment shall within thirty (30) days after receipt pay over all ~~money monies~~ received by him for this purpose to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., ~~a nonprofit corporation,~~ and accept its receipt therefore. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., may solicit and receive gifts, contributions, and bequests from any source for the purpose of augmenting the funds available for this purpose. Full and complete reports of all of the affairs and activities of this project ~~shall~~ must be rendered annually, as of July 1, each year, to the Grand Encampment by the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., so that each Knight Templar in all of the Grand, Constituent, and Subordinate Commanderies may have an account of the service that ~~shall be~~ is rendered ~~man kind~~ mankind in the name of Templar Charity.”; and Be it further resolved that Section 23 (b) of the Grand Encampment *Constitution* **be amended to read as follows:**

(b) To fill all vacancies which may occur in the membership of the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund or the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and in any office of the Grand Encampment other than that of Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General, save as provided in Section 26. All such appointees shall serve during the pleasure of the Grand Master and until their successors shall have been elected or appointed and duly installed, save that an appointee on ~~the~~ either Board shall in no event serve longer than until the next Triennial Conclave, when a Trustee shall be elected for the unexpired term.

Added words and punctuation are underlined. Deleted words and punctuation are struck through.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)

Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-03

**Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)**

MEMBERSHIP OF THE EYE FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

Whereas, the language of Section 104 ½ concerning the Knights Templar Eye Foundation should be updated and revised to provide clarity and to ensure that Trustees are members of the Grand Encampment.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 104 ½ of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* **be amended to read as follows:**

“Section 104½. The Committee on The Knights Templar Eye Foundation ~~shall consist~~ consists of the following officers and members of the Grand Encampment: The Grand Master, ~~the~~ Deputy Grand Master, ~~the~~ Grand Generalissimo, ~~the~~ Grand Captain General, all Past Grand Masters holding membership in a Constituent or Subordinate Commandery under the authority of the Grand Encampment, ~~the~~ Grand Treasurer, ~~the~~ Grand Recorder and six members of the Grand Encampment elected ~~two for a three year period, two for a six year period, and two for a nine year period, and thereafter at each Triennial Conclave there shall be elected at large two trustees for a period at large, with two members elected at each Triennial Conclave to serve for a term~~ of nine years. ~~It shall have~~ The Committee has general oversight of the practical working of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. It shall, from time to time, transmit to the Grand Encampment matters of interest and recommendations for the administration of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.”

Added words and punctuation are underlined. Deleted words are struck through.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-04

**Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)**

ELECTRONIC PROCEEDINGS

Whereas, modern business practices and technology have rendered printed copies of reports and proceedings obsolete or less desirable.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 52(d) of the *Grand Encampment Constitution* **be amended as follows:**

“(d) To transmit annually to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment one copy of all the ~~Printed~~ Proceedings and of the Laws adopted by the Grand Commandery; this copy may be submitted electronically or in commonly used, digital format.”

Added words and punctuation are underlined. Deleted words and punctuation are struck through.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-05

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

PUBLIC APPEARANCES IN UNIFORM

Whereas, it is important for Sir Knights and Knights Templar to be active and visible in public and to the public;

Whereas, Sir Knights participate in any number of public activities as Sir Knights, including parades and flag presentations;

Whereas current law makes it cumbersome to obtain permission to appear in public or results in Grand Commanders issuing blanket dispensations to permit public appearances; and

Whereas no matter whether a dispensation is required to appear in public, each Sir Knight is responsible for adhering to the law concerning knightly conduct and decorum.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Sections 214 and 215 of the *Grand Encampment Constitution and Statutes* be repealed in their entirety.

~~“Section 214. Reserved. Commanderies or groups from Commanderies shall not appear in public without a Dispensation except upon funeral occasions or to attend religious services, or to attend upon invitation the meetings or sponsored activities of other Masonic or Masonic related bodies. A public appearance shall be an occasion where the function is not controlled by Templar authority and the Sir Knights present purport to represent the Commandery or Templary. An appearance, in or out of uniform by one or more individual Sir Knights is not a public appearance unless it is sanctioned or appears to be sanctioned by Templar Authority.~~

~~Section 215. Reserved. Such dispensations being entirely within the discretion of the Grand Master or Grand Commander may be for specific events, occasions or for selected types of events or occasions.”~~

Added words and punctuation are underlined. Deleted words and punctuation are struck through.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-06

**Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)**

VIRTUAL GRAND CONCLAVES

Whereas, the events of the past two years have shown that extraordinary circumstances may make holding an in-person Grand Conclave impractical or impossible; and

Whereas, flexibility in the law ought to allow for addressing local problems.

Therefore, be it resolved that Section 36 of the Grand Encampment Constitution **be amended to add the following:**

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

To hold a virtual Conclave, it shall be necessary to obtain a dispensation or order so to do from the Grand Master to authorize the holding of such Conclaves upon such other direction as he may require.”

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-07

**Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)**

VIRTUAL CONCLAVES

Whereas, the events of the past two years have shown that extraordinary circumstances may make holding a Conclave inadvisable or impossible; and

Whereas, flexibility in the law should allow for addressing local problems.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 65 of the Grand Encampment *Constitution* **be amended to add the following:**

“(d) Virtual – In the event of extraordinary circumstances, a Commandery may conduct a Stated or Special Conclave virtually. Such virtual Conclaves may be for the transaction of business only. A virtual Conclave shall be held by means of video teleconference or webcast, provided that the necessary facilities are widely available to the members of the Commandery, and the Conclave shall be conducted in full compliance with the requirements of Sections 65 and 66 of the Constitution.

No ritual shall be performed, and no Orders shall be conferred during any such virtual Conclave.

In the absence of a General Order authorizing the holding of a virtual Conclave, it shall be necessary to obtain a dispensation from the Grand Master for Subordinate Commanderies, and the Grand Commander for Constituent Commanderies, upon such additional conditions as he may determine.”

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)

Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-08

**Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)**

SUMMER UNIFORM

Whereas, a conflict exists in Grand Encampment law, insomuch as Section 259 of the *Statutes* and Grand Master Jones’ Decisions Nos. 2 and 3 (2003) conflict with each other.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 259 of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* **be amended to read as follows:**

“Section 259. Each Grand Commandery may, in ~~their~~ its discretion, adopt the uniform herein described, making use of the optional sections as it chooses. ~~Further this uniform may only be used for the period beginning with Memorial Day, and continuing through Labor Day.~~ The Grand Commander of each jurisdiction may set the dates for the wearing of Summer Uniforms in his jurisdiction. Grand Encampment officers may wear the Summer Uniform on appropriate occasions. The Summer Uniform shall in no event be worn when conferring the Orders.”

Added words and punctuation are underlined. Deleted words and punctuation are struck through.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)

Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-09

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

SHORT-FORM OPENING RITUAL

Whereas, confusion has arisen in implementing the quorum legislation adopted in 2018;

Whereas, clarity as to the procedures to be used when opening a conclave of a Commandery with less than nine is desired; and

Whereas, the two most recent Grand Encampment-approved *Rituals* of 1979 and 2019 contain an identical, Short-Form, opening ceremony.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 66 of the Grand Encampment *Constitution* **be amended to read as follows:**

“Section 66. A quorum of a Commandery consists of nine members entitled to vote therein, including an Officer authorized to open the same. A Grand Commandery may by law provide for a lesser number for quorum purposes; provided that such number shall not be less than five. If a Commandery is permitted to be opened with less than nine members and there are not nine or more Sir Knights present, the Short-Form Opening in the 2019 *Ritual* shall be used.”

Added words and punctuation are underlined.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)

Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-10

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

RETENTION OF RANK

Whereas, clarity is desired on the retention of rank earned by a Knight Templar, regardless of where he may be affiliated within the Grand Encampment.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 235 of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* **be amended to read as follows:**

“**Section 235.** One who has filled by installation and completion of term of service and who maintains membership in a Commandery under the authority of the Grand Encampment, the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Prelate, or Department Commander in the Grand Encampment; Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, or Grand Captain General in a Grand Commandery; or Commander in a Commandery; ~~shall is entitled to~~ retain the title of the highest office attained by him in the Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery, and Commandery, with the word, “Past” immediately preceding and qualifying the official title. Past rank is limited to the offices named in this section, and may include ~~the~~ Administrative Offices as authorized in Sections 43 and 55 of the *Constitution* ~~provided that the provisions of this section shall apply to all~~”

~~Department Commanders who have served their term of office” prior to the 49th Triennial Conclave. Provided that an An officer who is installed and thereafter dies during his term of office ~~shall be~~ is considered to have completed his term of office.”~~

Added words and punctuation are underlined. Deleted words are struck through.
Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-11

**Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)**

RETENTION OF HONORS

Whereas, clarity is desired on the retention of honors and awards received by a Knight Templar, regardless of where he may be affiliated within the Grand Encampment.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Grand Encampment *Statutes* **be amended** by the addition of Section 237 (d) which reads as follows:

“RETENTION OF HONORS

Section 237 (d). A Knight Templar shall retain all honors and awards granted to him by the Grand Encampment, a Grand Commandery, or a Commandery only as long as he retains his membership in good standing in a Commandery under the authority of the Grand Encampment.”

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-12

**Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)**

GRAND COMMANDER STATUS

Whereas, many Sir Knights move their permanent residence and desire to move their Masonic affiliations without penalty; and

Whereas, current Grand Encampment law does not permit Sir Knights to move and retain their status, if they transfer membership to a different jurisdiction under some circumstances.

Therefore, be it resolved that Section 2(a) of the Grand Encampment *Constitution* **be amended to read as follows:**

“All Past Grand Commanders of Grand Commanderies having membership in a Commandery under the authority of the Grand Encampment;”

The following Decision of Grand Master Rugg and the 1910 Jurisprudence Committee is hereby rescinded and vacated by adoption of this resolution:

“A Past Grand Commander who demits from membership in his Grand Commandery and affiliates in a Commandery under another Grand Commandery forfeits and loses his standing as a Past Grand Commander and his membership in the Grand Encampment and that standing can only be regained by serving in office in his new affiliation. (1910, p 108 & 248, No. 16, Rugg)”

The following Decision of Grand Master Gaylord is hereby rescinded and vacated by adoption of this resolution:

“A Past Grand Commander who demits from his Commandery and affiliates in a Commandery under a different Grand Commandery does not remain a member of the original Grand Commandery. He must retain membership in a Commandery under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery where he was Grand Commander in order to remain a permanent member. (1952 p 78 & 233, No. 14, Gaylord)”

Added language and punctuation are underlined. Deleted language is struck through.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-13

**Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)**

DEMISE OF A GRAND COMMANDERY

Whereas, clarity is desired on what happens in the event that a Grand Commandery demises.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 125 of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* **be amended to read as follows:**

“**Section 125.** A Grand Commandery once formed continues in existence as long as it has Three Commanderies; when the number of its Commanderies is less than Three, it becomes extinct, and its remaining Commanderies become Subordinate Commanderies. The former Grand Commandery’s property and effects vest in the Grand Encampment.”

Added words and punctuation are underlined.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-14

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

OFFICES IN MULTIPLE COMMANDERIES

Whereas, the membership in some places has declined to the point that it may be advisable to allow a Sir Knight to serve as an officer in more than one Commandery; and

Whereas, flexibility in the law ought to allow for addressing local problems.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 190(a) of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* **be amended to read as follows:**

“Section 190(a). A Knight Templar may be admitted to membership in any Commandery regardless of his residence ~~but cannot and may be a~~ dis an elected officer in more than one Commandery at the same time, provided he may not be Commander of more than one Commandery at the same time.”

Added words and punctuation are underlined. Deleted words are struck through.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-15

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

TRIAL OF OFFENSES POST ADJUDICATION BY A PREDICATE BODY(IES)

Whereas, clarity is desired on what may occur, if a Knight Templar is acquitted, suspended, or expelled by a predicate body relative to Templar Discipline.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 204 of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* **be amended to read as follows:**

“Section 204. Acquittal by a Lodge or acquittal, suspension, or expulsion by a ~~Lodge or~~ Chapter, or Council where required, on a charge of un-Masonic conduct, does not deprive a Commandery of the right to try a member thereof for the same or other offenses committed either before or after his trial in the Lodge or Chapter or Council.”

Added words and punctuation are underlined. Deleted words are struck through.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-16

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

HOLDING COMMANDERIES

Whereas, it would be beneficial to allow the chartering of Holding Commanderies to retain the membership of Sir Knights whose Commandery has demised.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 3 of the Grand Encampment *Constitution* **be amended** by replacing Paragraph (c) which currently reads, “intentionally blank (2012)” with the following:

“(c) It may create and charter one or more Holding Commanderies for the purpose of retaining Sir Knights who were members of a Subordinate Commandery which demised, under such terms and conditions it deems advisable. Membership in such Holding Commandery shall only be obtained by affiliation. The Grand Master shall appoint the officers of a Holding Commandery, except that the offices of Recorder and Treasurer shall be held by the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer respectively, and the elected Grand Encampment officers shall be *ex officio* members of the Holding Commandery exempt from payment of dues or assessments. All other members of the Holding Commandery shall be subject to 1/2 the payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Grand Encampment and the Commandery and shall be subject to discipline as otherwise provided by law. A Holding Commandery shall not be required to have a suitable Asylum, to meet quarterly, or to create new Sir Knights. The Commander of a Holding Commandery does not obtain the rank of Past Commander by virtue of such service.”

Be it further resolved, that a new Section 176 1/2 of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* be added, as follows:

“**Section 176 1/2. Holding Commanderies.** A Grand Commandery may create and charter one or more Holding Commanderies for the purpose of retaining Sir Knights who were members of a Constituent Commandery which demised. Membership in such Holding Commandery shall only be obtained by affiliation. A Holding Commandery may create Sir Knights. The Grand Commander shall appoint the officers of the Holding Commandery, except that the offices of Recorder and Treasurer shall be held by the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer respectively, and the elected Grand Commandery officers shall be *ex officio* members of the Holding Commandery, without payment of dues or assessments. All other members of the Holding Commandery shall be subject to the payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery, and Commandery and shall be subject to discipline as otherwise provided by law. A Holding Commandery shall not be required to have a suitable Asylum, to meet quarterly, or to create new Sir Knights. A Commander of a holding commandery does not obtain the rank of Past Commander by virtue of such service.”

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-17

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

SPECIAL PURPOSE COMMANDERIES

Whereas, the chartering of special purpose commanderies, such as research commanderies, would provide more opportunities for Sir Knights to be involved in Templary.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 3 of the Grand Encampment *Constitution* **be amended** by replacing Subsection (c) (2) which reads, “intentionally blank (2012)” with the following:

“(c) (2) It may create and charter special-purpose Commanderies, such as research Commanderies, for such purposes and under such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate. Membership in such a special-purpose Commandery shall only be by affiliation and may not be a Sir Knight’s sole membership. All members of a special-purpose Commandery shall be subject to the payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Grand Encampment and the Commandery and shall be subject in all other respects to Templar law. A special-purpose Commandery shall not be required to have a suitable Asylum, shall not be required to meet quarterly, and shall not be required to create new Sir Knights. A Sir Knight serving as Commander of a special-purpose Commandery does not obtain the rank of Past Commander by virtue of such service.”

Be it further resolved, that a new Section 1761/2 of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* be added as follows:

“**Section 176 1/2. Special Commanderies.** A Grand Commandery may create and charter special purpose Commanderies, such as a research commandery, for such purposes, and under such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate. Membership in such a special purpose Commandery shall only be by affiliation and may not be a Sir Knight’s sole membership. All members of a special-purpose Commandery shall be subject to the payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery, and Commandery and shall be subject in all other respects to Templar law. A special-purpose Commandery shall not be required to have a suitable Asylum, to meet quarterly, or to create new Sir Knights. A Sir Knight serving as Commander of a special-purpose Commandery does not obtain the rank of Past Commander by virtue of such service.”

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-18

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

AUXILIARY UNITS

Whereas, allowing for the formation and approval of auxiliary units for Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies would provide more opportunities for Sir Knights to be involved in Templary.,

Therefore, be it resolved that a new Section 176 D of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* be added as follows:

“Section 176 D. Auxiliary Units. A Grand Commandery may authorize the formation of auxiliary units of a Constituent Commandery for such purposes as deemed advisable, and under such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate. Auxiliary Units are subordinate to the Constituent Commandery under which they are formed and must be composed only of members of the Constituent Commandery under which they are formed.

- A. No auxiliary unit may be organized, or continue to exist, without the express, written approval of the Grand Commander.
- B. No auxiliary unit may be organized until its bylaws have been approved in writing by the Grand Commander. No amendments to such bylaws shall be effective until approved in writing by the Grand Commander. The Grand Commander may direct such modifications to the bylaws as he deems appropriate.
- C. Auxiliary units shall elect their officers for the ensuing year no later than November 30. The list of the elected officers is to be presented to the Grand Commander by the last day of December for approval by the Grand Commander. Service as an officer of an auxiliary unit does not confer any rank upon the Sir Knight serving as an officer.
- D. Auxiliary units shall keep such financial records and inventories as directed by the Grand Commander and shall make such periodic reports as reasonably required by him.
- E. The assets of auxiliary units belong to the Constituent Commandery under which they are formed. However, the Grand Commander may allow assets to be in the custody of the auxiliary unit. Moneys in the custody of the auxiliary unit shall be deposited into accounts in the name of the auxiliary unit.
- F. Auxiliary units are governed by the provisions of Grand Encampment and Grand Commandery law and the bylaws of the Constituent Commandery under which they operate which are not inconsistent herewith.
- G. An organization of Knights Templar meeting as such, as defined by Grand Encampment law, is governed by such law.”

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-19

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

KNIGHT TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR

Whereas, many deserving Sir Knights are excluded from consideration for the Knights Templar Cross of Honor by having been elected to serve in non-line offices in their Grand Commandery such as Grand Prelate, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Recorder.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that subsections (a) and (c) of Section 237(b) of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* **be amended to read as follows:**

“(a) The following items ~~shall~~ must be presented to ~~the recipients~~ a recipient of the ‘Knights Templar Cross of Honor.’ An award consisting of a gold medal upon the center of which ~~shall be~~ is a Patriarchal Cross in purple. Around the cross ~~shall~~ are to be inscribed the words ‘Knights Templar Cross of Honor.’ The ~~metal shall~~ be medal is suspended on a red neck ribbon. A lapel pin in the form of the ~~metal~~ medal as described above ~~shall~~ must also be provided. A suitable certificate of award issued by the Grand Encampment and signed by the Grand Master and the Grand Recorder bearing the seal of the Grand Encampment thereon ~~shall~~ must set forth the citation. Although ~~it is~~ not a part of the established presentation package, a recipient may wear the previous style of jewel as an alternative.”; and

“(c) The award ~~shall~~ may be made only for exceptional and meritorious service rendered to the Order, far beyond the call of duty, and beyond the service usually expected of an officer or ~~member~~ Knights Templar. No present or past elected Grand Officer in the advancing line of a Grand Commandery ~~shall be~~ is eligible for the award.”

Added words are underlined. Deleted words are struck through.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-20

Proposed by S.K. Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
And Sir Knight Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

TEMPLAR APRON

Whereas, many Sir Knights have expressed enthusiasm for resuming use of a Templar Apron.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Grand Encampment *Statutes* **be amended** by a new Chapter, consisting of two new Sections, as follows:

CHAPTER XXII

APRONS

Section 260. It is permissible for Grand Encampment Officers and members of Grand, Constituent, and Subordinate Commanderies to wear an apron with Templar Uniforms as described in Sections 247, 248, 250, 250a, 251, and 259 as follows:

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



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



- C. Grand Encampment Officers may wear such aprons and others, as deemed appropriate, from time to time, by the Grand Master and in accordance with his directions. and
- D. If a Sir Knight appears in uniform in a tyled, Masonic Lodge, he shall wear such apron as is in accord with local Masonic custom or approved by the presiding officer.

Section 261. A Grand Commandery may provide for the wearing of a Templar Apron in its Uniform Regulations similar to those in Sections 260 A, B and C. A Grand Commandery may specify with which of its authorized uniforms a Templar Apron may be worn.”

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Harper, II, P.G.C. (Texas)
Jeremy C. Vaughn, P.G.C. (Idaho)

Proposed Amendment 2021-21

**Proposed by S.K. Michael Burke Johnson, P.G.C. (Wyoming)
And S.K. David J. Kussman, P.G.C. (California)**

ATTESTATION OF FAITH AND UNIFORM PETITION

Whereas, Section 177 (b) of the *Statutes* of the Grand Encampment requires that a petitioner for the Orders must be a “firm believer in the Christian religion”;

Whereas, Section 178 requires a petitioner to declare on his petition that he is a “firm believer in the Christian religion”; and

Whereas, inconsistency in application, interpretation, and petition forms throughout the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment has caused confusion and has potentially permitted the admission of members who may not meet the requirements of our law.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 178 of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Section 178. From and after September 1, 2021, every Subordinate, Constituent, and Grand Commandery shall use the uniform *Petition for Chivalric Orders*, as adopted by the Grand Encampment and distributed by the Grand Recorder’s office, for all new candidates to receive the Orders of Knighthood. No Subordinate, Constituent, or Grand Commandery may use an alternative or local form of petition. Each Petitioner for the Orders of Knighthood shall provide the information required by the *Petition for Chivalric Orders* and shall, by his signature, declare that all the information contained therein is true and correct, including the Attestation of Faith. This section shall not affect any petition submitted prior to September 1, 2021 or any petition for restoration, affiliation, or transfer from a Sir Knight who has already received the Orders of Knighthood from a Commandery under the Grand Encampment.

And be it further resolved, that the *Petition for Chivalric Orders* attached hereto as Exhibit A, including the Attestation of Faith, be adopted as the uniform *Petition for Chivalric Orders* to be distributed by the Grand Recorder.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Burke Johnson, P.G.C. (WY)

S.K. David J. Kussman, P.G.C. (CA)

ATTESTATION OF FAITH

I am a Christian – as defined in the four Gospels – and accept Jesus Christ, who was born of a virgin, as my personal Lord and Savior. (Matthew 16:16, John 3:15-17, Acts 4:10-12, Romans 10:9-10)

I believe that He died on the cross as the only sacrifice acceptable for our sins, (Romans 5:8, Romans 5:10, Romans 8:1, Galatians 2:20) that after three days He rose and presented Himself, bodily, in physical form, and breathed the gift of the Holy Spirit into those present in the room with Him.

I believe that because of His resurrection, we too receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, and that one day He will return in just the same way as His Apostles watched Him go. (John 20:22, Acts 1:4-5, 1 Corinthians 12:11, Acts 1:10-11)

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Printed: _____



GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Petition for Chivalric Orders

To the Eminent Commander and Sir Knights of _____ Commandery No. _____,
Knights Templar of the state of _____:

The undersigned respectfully represents that he is a member in good standing of _____
Lodge No. _____, F. & A. M., under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of _____; that he is a
member in good standing of, or has petitioned to receive the Capitular Degrees in _____
Chapter No. _____, R. A. M., under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of _____; that he is a
member in good standing of, or has petitioned to receive the Cryptic Degrees in _____
Council* No. _____, C. M., under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council of _____; that he desires to
receive the Orders of Knighthood; that he is a firm believer in the Christian religion; that he has been a resident of the State of _____
_____ for six months preceding the date of this petition; that he has not, within six months past, made application to and
been rejected by any Commandery of Knights Templar** and that he promises, if found worthy, to conform to all usages, customs, laws and
regulations of the above named Commandery and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of _____.

*Applicable only in jurisdictions wherein Council membership has been adopted as a prerequisite for the Orders.
** If such application has been made, state the name and location of the Commandery on the line above.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE RECOMMENDERS TO BE SURE THAT THE PETITIONER HAS READ, UNDERSTANDS, AND SIGNED THE ATTESTATION

ATTESTATION OF FAITH

I am a Christian – as defined in the four Gospels – and accept Jesus Christ, who was born of a virgin, as my personal Lord and Savior. (Matthew 16:16, John 3:15-17, Acts 4:10-12, Romans 10:9-10)

I believe that He died on the cross as the only sacrifice acceptable for our sins, (Romans 5:8, Romans 5:10, Romans 8:1, Galatians 2:20) that after three days He rose and presented Himself, bodily, in physical form, and breathed the gift of the Holy Spirit into those present in the room with Him.

I believe that because of His resurrection, we too receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, and that one day He will return in just the same way as His Apostles watched Him go. (John 20:22, Acts 1:4-5, 1 Corinthians 12:11, Acts 1:10-11)

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Printed: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

Occupation: _____

Residence Address: _____ City: _____ State: Zip+4: _____

Residence Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Business Address: _____ Print Name: _____

First Name Middle Name Last Name

Dated: _____ Signature: _____

RECOMMENDED BY:

REFERS TO:

Sir Knight _____ Name _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Phone: _____ City: _____ Phone: _____

Sir Knight _____ Name _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Phone: _____ City: _____ Phone: _____

Elected: _____ Knight of Malta: _____ Red Cross: _____ Knight Templar: _____

Proposed Amendment 2021 –22

Proposed by S.K. David Alan Grindle, P.G.C. (Idaho)

RECOGNITION BY GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Whereas, it would be beneficial for the Grand Encampment to maintain a list of all Templar organizations with which it is in amity.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that a new Section 99(a) of the Grand Encampment *Statutes* be added, as follows:

“Section 99(a). Recognition by Grand Encampment.

(a) The Grand Encampment will maintain a list of all Templar organizations with which it is in amity. An organization may apply for recognition by the Grand Encampment, to be considered in amity therewith. Such application may be temporarily acted upon by the Grand Master pending final approval of the voting delegates at the immediately following Triennial Conclave. Permanent recognition will be by majority vote. The Grand Master may suspend recognition for cause pending approval by the Grand Encampment at the next Triennial Conclave. The Grand Encampment may suspend recognition by resolution passed by a majority vote.

(b) Templar organizations with which the Grand Encampment is currently in amity are the following, including all bodies subordinate thereto:

Great Priory of England and Wales (The Great Priory of the United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta of England and Wales and its Provinces Overseas)

Great Priory of Scotland

Grand Encampment Knights Templar United States of America and its Jurisdiction, Prince Hall Affiliation, Inc.

Sovereign Great Priory of Canada of the United and Religious and Military Orders of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta, and of the Temple

Great Priory of Ireland

Grand Encampment of Greece and Cyprus

Great Priory of Germany

Great Priory of South Australia

Great Priory of Victoria

United Great Priory of New Zealand

Great Priory of Western Australia

Great Priory of New South Wales and ACT

Great Priory of Queensland

Great Priory of Finland

Great Priory of the United Masonic, Religious, and Military Orders of the Temple and Sepulchre and of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta for France

- (c) Templary is defined in Sections 3 and 57 of the *Constitution*. Any Masonic or non-Masonic organization worldwide, that does not meet the requirements of these sections, is considered non-Templar and is not subject to recognition by the Grand Encampment.”

Respectfully submitted,

David Alan Grindle, PGC (Idaho)

Proposed Resolution 2021-23

Proposed by S.K. James E. Winzenreid, G.C.G. (West Virginia)

RECONSIDERING 2012 RESOLUTION NO. 1, AS AMENDED BY S.K. DUANE VAUGHT, DECISION NO. 5, 15 MARCH 2016

Whereas, the *Chevalier Bienfaisant de la Cité Sainte (C.B.C.S.)* is an independent masonic order conferring distinct degrees known as the Rectified Scottish Rite;

Whereas, the *C.B.C.S.* was ratified at the Convent of Lyon in 1778 and then internationally as a regular masonic order at the Convent of Wihelmsbad in 1782;

Whereas, the Rectified Scottish Rite includes chivalric masonic degrees that do not infringe upon the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross and the Mediterranean Pass, Order of Malta, or Order of the Temple as conferred by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America (Grand Encampment);

Whereas, the Great Priory of America (Great Priory) *C.B.C.S.* was chartered 17 August 1934 by lawful warrant issued from the *Grand Prieuré Indépendant d’Helvétie* (Grand Priory of Switzerland);

Whereas, the Great Priory has enjoyed cross-membership with the Grand Encampment for over 87 years with several Great Priors serving as Grand Masters of the Grand Encampment; and

Whereas, the Great Priory and the Grand Encampment have existed, and do exist, as separate, independent, sovereign masonic orders operative within the same geographic jurisdiction, each autonomously moved according to the will and dictates of its respective membership or via such lawful representatives as act subject to ratification by a majority in lawful assembly expressed.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that 2012 Resolution No. 1, as amended by S.K. Duane Vaught Decision No. 5, is hereby repealed as void *ab initio*.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Winzenreid, G.C.G. (West Virginia)

Proposed Amendment No. 2021-24

Proposed by Paul M. Leary, P.G.C. (New Hampshire)

**FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP AND REINSTATEMENT FOR LOSS OF
PREDICATE MEMBERSHIP IN LODGE, CHAPTER, OR COUNCIL**

Whereas, Section 177 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment states that membership in a Regular Lodge of Master Masons and membership or election to same in a Regular Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and, Regular Council of Royal and Select Masters in those jurisdictions where Cryptic Council Membership is required are prerequisites for the Orders of Knighthood;

Whereas, Section 202 of the Statutes, states,

Section 202. When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Lodge or Chapter or Council where required, for any reason, he shall be suspended or expelled, as the case may be, from his Commandery.

Whereas, the requirement for suspension or expulsion from Commandery is absolute and not conditioned upon a formal trial or other process;

Whereas, at the 67th Triennial Conclave in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 2018, the Grand Master failed to expel from Templary a Grand Encampment Officer who had been expelled from Masonry by his Grand Lodge, notwithstanding the Grand Master having received timely notice of the action of the Grand Lodge and a request from the Most Worshipful Grand Master that the action of the Grand Lodge be respected;

Whereas, notwithstanding the express, unqualified mandate of the Statute, the Grand Master's refusal to take the requested action was premised on the erroneous holding that the Grand Encampment Officer could not be expelled from Templary without a formal, Templar trial, wherein the action of the Grand Lodge would be subject to question;

Whereas, the inaction of the Grand Master prompted the Grand Lodge to withdraw recognition of the Grand Encampment, thereby placing in jeopardy the Order and the Sir Knights of the jurisdiction; and

Whereas, the Grand Encampment desires to avoid a recurrence of such an event in future.

Now, therefore, be it resolved as follows:

That Section 202 which currently reads

Section 202. When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Lodge or Chapter or Council where required, for any reason, he shall be suspended or expelled, as the case may be, from his Commandery. (1988 Pages 208-209)

Notwithstanding the previous paragraph of this section, if a Knight Templar believes he has been involuntarily suspended or expelled from Chapter, or Council where required, either illegally or because of personal, arbitrary, capricious or other improper motive by the Chapter or Council he may appeal to the Grand Master and suspension from Templary shall be held in abeyance for a period of not more than 30 days to allow investigation. If within that period the Grand Master and any two other elected officers of the Grand Encampment agree, the

requirement of continuous Chapter, or Council if otherwise required, membership may be waived for that member. (2012)

The requirement of Chapter, or Council if required, for a petition for affiliation or to receive the orders is not affected by this exception. (2012)

be amended to read

Section 202. When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Lodge or Chapter or Council where required, for any reason, he shall be suspended or expelled, as the case may be, from his Commandery. The suspension or expulsion shall be automatic upon receipt of notice of same from the Grand Lodge or Chapter or Council where required from which the Knight Templar was suspended or expelled. Except as hereinafter provided, the action of the Grand Lodge or Chapter or Council where required shall not be subject to review by the Grand Encampment or the Grand, Constituent, or Subordinate Commandery of which the Knight Templar is a member.

(1988 Pages 208-209)

Notwithstanding the previous paragraph of this section, if a Knight Templar believes he has been involuntarily suspended or expelled only from Chapter, or Council where required, either illegally or because of personal, arbitrary, capricious or other improper motive by the Chapter or Council, he may appeal to the Grand Master and suspension from Templary shall be held in abeyance for a period of not more than 30 days to allow investigation. If within that period the Grand Master and any two other elected officers of the Grand Encampment agree, the requirement of continuous Chapter, or Council, if otherwise required, membership may be waived for that member. (2012)

The requirement of Chapter, or Council if required, for a petition for affiliation or to receive the orders is not affected by this exception. (2012)

Added words and punctuation are underlined. Deleted words are struck through.
Respectfully submitted,

Paul M. Leary, P.G.C. (New Hampshire)

Proposed Amendment No. 2021-25

Proposed by S.K. Thomas X. Tsirimokos, P.G.C. (New Hampshire)

**EXCEPTIONS TO RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERS OF THE
UNIFORMED SERVICES**

Whereas, Section 82 of the Constitution and Section 149 of the Statutes provide for relaxation of residency requirements for conferral of the Orders of Knighthood for any person belonging to the Active Army, Navy, Air Force, U. S. Public Health Service, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and the National Aeronautical Space Agency of the United States of America;

Whereas, the enumeration of uniformed agencies membership in which ought to permit a relaxation of residency requirements is incomplete; and

Whereas, there is no such entity as the “National Aeronautical Space Agency.”

Now, therefore, be it resolved as follows:

That Section 82 of the *Constitution*, which reads

SOJOURNERS

Section 82. No Commandery may confer the Orders, or anyone of them, upon any Sojourner unless the consent of the Commandery having territorial Jurisdiction is first obtained, provided, however, that it shall be lawful for any Commandery to receive the Petition of and confer the Orders upon any person belonging to the Active Army, Navy, Air Force, U. S. Public Health Service, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and the National Aeronautical Space Agency of the United States of America who shall have been stationed within its Territorial Jurisdiction for at least Six Months prior to the presentation of his Petition. In the event of a violation of this Section the Commandery offending shall pay to the Commandery having territorial Jurisdiction the fees received for such admission and be subject to such other penalties as may be provided by law. (1964, p. 321-322)

be amended to read

SOJOURNERS

Section 82. No Commandery may confer the Orders, or anyone of them, upon any Sojourner unless the consent of the Commandery having territorial Jurisdiction is first obtained, provided, however, that it shall be lawful for any Commandery to receive the Petition of and confer the Orders upon any person belonging to the Active Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, U. S. Public Health Service, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and the National Aeronautical Aeronautics and Space Agency Administration of the United States of America who shall have been stationed within its Territorial Jurisdiction for at least Six Months prior to the presentation of his Petition. In the event of a violation of this Section the Commandery offending shall pay to the Commandery having territorial Jurisdiction the fees received for such admission and be subject to such other penalties as may be provided by law. (1964, p. 321-322);

That Section 149 of the *Statutes*, which reads

Section 149. A Commandery to which a Sojourner presents a Petition for the Orders, except persons in the Active Army, Navy, Air Force, U. S. Public Health Service, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and the National Aeronautical Space Agency as prescribed in Section 82 of the Constitution shall immediately notify the Commandery having Jurisdiction over the petitioner and obtain its waiver of Jurisdiction over the Petitioner and obtain its waiver of Jurisdiction before receiving and acting upon the Petition. (1964, p. 321-322)

be amended to read

Section 149. A Commandery to which a Sojourner presents a Petition for the Orders, except persons in the Active Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, U. S. Public Health Service, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and the National Aeronautical Aeronautics and Space Agency Administration of the United States as prescribed in Section 82 of the Constitution shall immediately notify the Commandery having Jurisdiction over the petitioner and obtain its waiver of Jurisdiction over the Petitioner and obtain its waiver of Jurisdiction before receiving and acting upon the Petition. (1964, p. 321-322);

That Section 177 (d) of the Statutes, which reads

(d) Who, immediately prior to the date of his Petition, has resided (1) for at least one year within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery within which is located the Constituent Commandery petitioned, and for at least six months within the Jurisdiction of such Commandery; or (2) for at least one year within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment and for at least six months within the Jurisdiction of the Subordinate Commandery petitioned; or (3) who is a Sojourner on whom the Commandery having Jurisdiction has waived such Jurisdiction; or (4) who is a member of the Active Army, Navy, Air Force, U.S. Public Health Service, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and the National Aeronautical Space Agency of the United States and has resided within the Jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned for at least six months immediately prior to the date of his Petition or (5) has resided within the Jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned for at least six months immediately prior to the date of his Petition if the Commandery in question has not been in the jurisdiction of a Grand Commandery for more than one year is eligible to Petition for the Orders of Knighthood. (1940, p 255)(1955, p. 547-548)(1964, p. 321-322)(2018)

be amended to read

(d) Who, immediately prior to the date of his Petition, has resided (1) for at least one year within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery within which is located the Constituent Commandery petitioned, and for at least six months within the Jurisdiction of such Commandery; or (2) for at least one year within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment and for at least six months within the Jurisdiction of the Subordinate Commandery petitioned; or (3) who is a Sojourner on whom the Commandery having Jurisdiction has waived such Jurisdiction; or (4) who is a member of the Active Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, U. S. Public Health Service, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and the National Aeronautical Aeronautics and Space Agency Administration of the United States and has resided within the Jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned for at least six months immediately prior to the date of his Petition or (5) has resided within the Jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned for at least six months immediately prior to the date of his Petition if the Commandery in question has not been in the jurisdiction of a Grand Commandery for more than one year is eligible to Petition for the Orders of Knighthood. (1940, p 255)(1955, p. 547-548)(1964, p. 321-322)(2018)

Added language and punctuation are underlined. Deleted language is struck through.

Respectfully submitted,

S.K. Thomas X. Tsirimokos, P.G.C. (New Hampshire)

Proposed Amendment No. 2021-26

Proposed by S.K. Paul M. Leary, P.G.C. (New Hampshire)

FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP AND REINSTATEMENT FOR VOLUNTARY AFFILIATION WITH AN UNRECOGNIZED OR UNSANCTIONED MASONIC TEMPLAR BODY

Whereas, at the 65th Triennial Conclave in Alexandria, Virginia in 2012, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America (Grand Encampment), by Standing Resolution, declared the Order of Knight Beneficent of the Holy City (*Chevalier Bienfaisant de la Cité Sante*) or C.B.C.S. to be “a Masonic Templar Order ... unsanctioned or unrecognized by the Grand Encampment” operating in the United States in violation of Section 3 of the *Constitution, Statutes, Disciplinary Rules, Standing Resolutions, Ceremonies, Forms And Approved Decisions Of The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America*;

Whereas, said Standing Resolution declared membership in such an unsanctioned or unrecognized Masonic Templar Order to be “inconsistent with membership in the Grand Encampment ... or any of its subordinate Commanderies, Grand Commanderies, or their constituent Commanderies” and any Sir Knight who, from the date of adoption of the Standing Resolution, sought or retained membership in such an unsanctioned or unrecognized Masonic Templar Order was declared to be “in violation of his Knightly Vows and presumed to have renounced his membership in this Order.”;

Whereas, notwithstanding the adoption of the Standing Resolution, some Sir Knights have retained or accepted membership in the Great Priory of America, C.B.C.S., and have induced other Sir Knights to violate their Knightly Vows and become members of the Great Priory of America, C.B.C.S.; and

Whereas, the continued violation of the Standing Resolution compels the Grand Encampment to restate its position concerning membership in such unrecognized or unsanctioned, Masonic Templar Orders and to administer enforcing action against the offending Sir Knights.

Now, therefore, be it resolved as follows:

That Section 201 of the *Statutes*, which currently reads,

FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP AND REINSTATEMENT NON-AFFILIATION IN LODGE OR CHAPTER

Section 201. Voluntary non-affiliation in a Lodge or Chapter or Council where required, for six months shall deprive a Knight Templar of his membership in the Commandery. (1988 pages 208–209)

be amended to read,

**FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP AND REINSTATEMENT
NON-AFFILIATION IN LODGE OR CHAPTER OR MEMBERSHIP IN
AN UNRECOGNIZED, MASONIC TEMPLAR ORDER**

Section 201. (a) Voluntary non-affiliation in a Lodge or Chapter or Council where required, for six months shall deprive a Knight Templar of his membership in the Commandery. (1988 pages 208–209)

(b) Knowingly accepting membership in an unsanctioned or unrecognized, Masonic Templar Order constitutes a renunciation of his membership in the Order and shall deprive a Knight Templar of his membership in the Grand Encampment or any of its Grand, Constituent, or Subordinate Commanderies.

(c) The Grand Master, upon application by the Sir Knight, may, in his sole and absolute discretion, reinstate the membership of a Sir Knight who furnishes satisfactory proof of his (i) reaffiliation in a Lodge or Chapter or Council where required or (ii) renunciation of his membership in the unsanctioned or unrecognized, Masonic Templar Order, as the case may be.

Added language and punctuation are underlined.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul M. Leary, P.G.C. (New Hampshire)

Proposed Amendment No. 2021-27

Proposed by S.K. R. Bradley Alderfer, P.G.C. (New Hampshire)

**PAYMENT OF MILEAGE AND PER DIEM TO TRUSTEES
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Whereas, Section 13 of the *Constitution* of the Grand Encampment established a Permanent Fund for the Grand Encampment the investments and government of which are vested in a Board of Trustees;

Whereas, Section 16 of the *Constitution* requires that the Trustees

render to the Grand Encampment *at each Triennial Conclave* ... a true and correct account in detail of all of its receipts and disbursements, together with a descriptive inventory covering all of its investments and funds and ... submit its books for examination by the Committee on Finance. (emphasis added);

Whereas, Section 114 of the *Statutes* provides for payment of mileage expense and per diem for “All Officers of the Grand Encampment, Past Grand Masters and Members of the Standing Committees” whose attendance at the Triennial Conclave is required, but not for payment of mileage expense and per diem for Trustees whose attendance is also required; and

Whereas, there is no basis for such disparate treatment of the Trustees;

Now, therefore, be it resolved as follows:

That Section 114 of the *Statutes*, which currently reads

PAYMENT OF MILEAGE AND PER DIEM TO
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Section 114. All Officers of the Grand Encampment, Past Grand Masters and Members of the Standing Committees shall be allowed mileage expense and per diem for attendance at the Triennial Conclaves. The rates of wone-way mileage and per diem for the number of days present at the official program of the Conclave shall be determined by the Grand Master each triennium. Actual expense when approved by the Grand Master shall be allowed Members of any Standing Committee for attendance upon meetings called in the interim. (2018)

be amended to read

PAYMENT OF MILEAGE AND PER DIEM TO
OFFICERS, TRUSTEES, AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Section 114. All Officers of the Grand Encampment, Past Grand Masters, Trustees, and Members of the Standing Committees shall be allowed mileage expense and per diem for attendance at the Triennial Conclaves. The rates of one-way mileage and per diem for the number of days present at the official program of the Conclave shall be determined by the Grand Master each triennium. Actual expense, when approved by the Grand Master, shall be allowed Members of any Standing Committee for attendance upon meetings called in the interim.

The added words and punctuation are underlined.

Respectfully submitted,

S.K. R. Bradley Alderfer, P.G.C. (New Hampshire)

Proposed Amendment No. 2021-28

Proposed by S.K. Thomas X. Tsirimokos, P.G.C. (New Hampshire)

ELEVATION OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS TO STANDING COMMITTEE

Whereas, Section 93 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment established Standing Committees, currently sixteen in number, “to perform such duties as the Constitution and Statutes prescribe and ... subject ... to the direction of the Grand Encampment and the Grand Master”;

Whereas, the Grand Encampment and its Grand, Constituent, and Subordinate Commanderies rely increasingly on electronic media to more cost effectively and timely communicate with our Sir Knights and other Chivalric Orders throughout the world;

Whereas, the Electronic Communications Committee was created as a Special Committee to support the Grand Encampment through such initiatives as the recently created Templar Leaders “Blast List”;

Whereas, the Grand Encampment must stay abreast of and, adapt its communications and processes to, technologies and platforms which are constantly evolving; and

Whereas, the Electronic Communications Committee is a center of excellence on whose experts the Sir Knights of the Grand Encampment may rely.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 93 of the Statutes, entitled “STANDING COMMITTEE” **be amended** by changing the title to “STANDING COMMITTEES”;

Be it further resolved that Section 93 of the Statutes be further amended by the addition, before the final paragraph, of the following:

(17) A Committee on Electronic Communications.

And be it further resolved that there be added to the Statutes Section 106 (e) which reads as follows:

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Section 106 (e). The Committee on Electronic Communications shall consist of three members, to be appointed at the conclusion of each Triennial Conclave by the newly elected Grand Master, and shall serve during the pleasure of the Grand Master. The Committee shall maintain the websites of the Grand Encampment, and support the Grand Commanderies and the Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies in establishing and maintaining a web presence, shall post the digital *KNIGHT TEMPLAR* periodical and supplements, establish and maintain mailing lists, and recommend changes and improvements in electronic communications to the Grand Master.

Respectfully submitted,

S.K. Thomas X. Tsirimokos, P.G.C. (New Hampshire)

