

**Statutes of  
The Supreme Council  
of the  
Thirty-third Degree**

**Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite  
of Freemasonry, S.J., U.S.A.**

Revised and Approved  
August 2007



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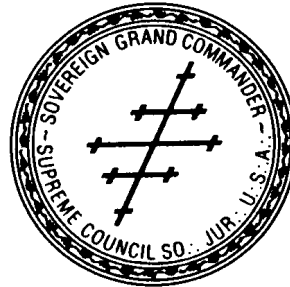
HOUSE OF THE TEMPLE OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE  
THIRTY-THIRD DEGREE OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED  
SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY OF THE SOUTHERN  
JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Office of the Grand Commander  
Washington, D.C., August 2007

I, Ronald A. Seale, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, certify that the following is a true copy of the Statutes and Regulations of said Supreme Council, as amended through the Biennial Session of the Supreme Council in August 2007.

#    
SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER



#    
GRAND SECRETARY GENERAL





# STATUTES

## ARTICLE I THE SUPREME COUNCIL

### Its Name

SEC. 1. The name of this Supreme Council is "The Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General Knights Commanders of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America." (See *Acts of Incorporation* in Addendum.)

**Name**

## ARTICLE II

### Its Jurisdiction

SEC. 1. The jurisdiction of this Supreme Council includes all the territory over which the United States of America exercises domain of powers of government, except the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin, which were apportioned by this Supreme Council to the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States. The jurisdiction of this Supreme Council also includes those countries where it has established, or may hereafter establish, Bodies of the Rite, and over which countries no regular Supreme Council has acquired jurisdiction.

**Jurisdiction,  
General**

## Article II Its Jurisdiction

### **Jurisdiction, Composed of Orients**

SEC. 2. Each state and territory within the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council, unless otherwise ordered by the Supreme Council, is hereby declared to be a separate Orient within itself. Other like Orients may be created and defined by the Sovereign Grand Commander from time to time at and over territory or countries over which this Supreme Council has acquired or may acquire jurisdiction, who shall prescribe the boundaries of each such like Orient.

### **Jurisdiction, Army**

[2] Army Lodge of Perfection, Army Chapter of Rose Croix, Army Council of Kadosh, and Army Consistory constitute a separate jurisdiction attached to the Orient of Kansas and under the control of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Kansas, while said Bodies are located on the Military Reservation at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

### **Orient, Change In**

SEC. 3. The Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council is authorized to attach or detach any state or territory within the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council in which there is not a resident Sovereign Grand Inspector General to or from the Orient of any Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council.

### **Recognition Policy.** **Qualifications for** **Foreign Supreme** **Councils**

SEC. 4. The policy is as follows: The Supreme Council of the 33° for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States shall only recognize other Supreme Councils whose members belong to regular Grand Lodges. Should any Active Member of a recognized Supreme Council be suspended, expelled, or if he should withdraw from or allow his regular Blue Lodge membership to lapse and yet retain his Active Membership in his Supreme Council, the Supreme Council of the 33° for the Southern Jurisdiction shall withdraw recognition from said Supreme Council.



## **ARTICLE III**

### **Degrees**

SEC. 1. By authority of this Supreme Council, within its jurisdiction are established the following Subordinate Bodies, to wit:

#### **Subordinate Bodies**

A. Lodges of Perfection, by which are conferred the Degrees from the Fourth to the Fourteenth, inclusive; namely, Secret Master, Perfect Master, Intimate Secretary, Provost and Judge, Intendant of the Building, Elu of the Nine, Elu of the Fifteen, Elu of the Twelve, Master Architect, Royal Arch of Solomon, Perfect Elu.

#### **Lodges of Perfection**

B. Chapters of Rose Croix, by which are conferred the Degrees from the Fifteenth to the Eighteenth, inclusive; namely, Knight of the East, Prince of Jerusalem, Knight of the East and West, Knight of Rose Croix.

#### **Chapters of Rose Croix**

C. Councils of Kadosh, by which are conferred the Degrees from the Nineteenth to the Thirtieth, inclusive; namely, Pontiff, Master of the Symbolic Lodge, Noachite or Prussian Knight, Knight of the Royal Axe or Prince of Libanus, Chief of the Tabernacle, Prince of the Tabernacle, Knight of the Brazen Serpent, Prince of Mercy, Knight Commander of the Temple, Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept, Scottish Knight of St. Andrew, Knight Kadosh.

#### **Councils of Kadosh**

D. Consistories, by which are conferred the Thirty-first and Thirty-second Degrees; namely, Inspector Inquisitor, Master of the Royal Secret.

#### **Consistories**

SEC. 2. The mandatory Degrees are the Fourth, Fourteenth, Eighteenth, Thirtieth, and Thirty-second and they shall never be communicated except by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, and then only in unusual circumstance.

#### **Obligatory Degrees**

### **Article III Degrees**

#### **Degrees, Communication and Conferral**

[2] None of the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite may be conferred within the jurisdiction of this Supreme Council except by Subordinate Bodies established by its authority, nor be communicated except by Sovereign Grand Inspectors General in their discretion and within their Orients, or by Deputies of the Supreme Council, as authorized in Article X, Section 3 of these Statutes, or by a Subordinate Body having a special dispensation for that purpose from a Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council. All fees received for Degrees communicated as herein authorized shall be immediately paid to the Supreme Council, unless the Degrees were communicated for the purpose of establishing, or as the agent for, an organized Body, in which event they shall be immediately paid to such Body.

#### **Degrees, Fees for Communicating**

#### **Degrees, Conferral by The Supreme Council**

SEC. 3. The Supreme Council reserves to itself the power of conferring any of the Degrees of the Rite upon any Brother whom it may deem worthy to receive them.

## ARTICLE IV

### Members

SEC. 1. This Supreme Council consists of not more than thirty-three Active Members (Sovereign Grand Inspectors General) and such Emeriti and Honorary Members as the Supreme Council may elect. The Active Members shall be so distributed that no Orient within its general jurisdiction shall have more than one Member.

**The Supreme Council,  
Members Of**

SEC. 2. Whenever a vacancy exists in an Orient, the Supreme Council may, at any regular session thereafter held, elect from the Inspectors General Honorary resident and affiliated within that Orient, one person to the office of Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient, who becomes *ex officio* an Active Member of the Supreme Council. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall become automatically retired at the close of the calendar year of his 80th birthday.

**Active Members,  
Election and Age  
Limitations**

[2] Such elections shall be after nomination in executive session as a special order of business at each regular session, and the vote shall be taken *viva voce* on roll call, beginning with the youngest Member and must be unanimous, all present voting.

**Active Members,  
Elections, Time,  
Place and Manner Of**

SEC. 3. Upon retirement a Sovereign Grand Inspector General who has served for a period of at least six years shall, upon request of the Sovereign Grand Commander or by recommendation of an Active Member of the Supreme Council, be elected, by majority vote, an Emeritus Member, with the rank and dignity possessed by him at the time of his retirement, together with the right to use the title of the highest office attained by him, with the prefix "Past." An Emeritus Member shall have the privilege of attending all regular meetings of the Supreme Council except executive

**Emeriti Members,  
Election upon  
Retirement as  
S.G.I.G. and  
Privileges**

## Article IV Members

sessions, serving on committees at the request of the Sovereign Grand Commander, and he shall be given an Emeritus Membership Card and shall be exempt from the payment of dues. An Emeritus Member will retain the privilege of wearing the cap and chain of an S.G.I.G. and will be provided with a double-headed eagle drop with the words "Emeritus Member" thereon on his chain.

### **Emeriti Members, Election upon Resignation as S.G.I.G. and Privileges**

SEC. 4. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General who has resigned may be elected, by unanimous vote, an Emeritus Member, with the rank and dignity possessed by him at the time of his resignation, together with the right to use the title of the highest office attained by him, with the prefix "Past." Upon election he shall have the privilege of attending all regular meetings of the Supreme Council except executive sessions, serving on committees at the request of the Sovereign Grand Commander, and he shall be given an Emeritus Membership Card and shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

### **Elective Officers and Active Members, Removal from Office**

SEC. 5. Whenever any elective officer of the Supreme Council or a Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall have become unable or unwilling to discharge his duties, the Supreme Council may, for the good of the Order, upon motion and by a two-thirds vote of the Members then present at any regular or special session of the Supreme Council, remove said officer or Sovereign Grand Inspector General from office. Upon motion and by a unanimous vote of the Supreme Council Members then voting, such officer or Sovereign Grand Inspector General may be elected an Emeritus Member, and he shall then be given an Emeritus Membership Card and shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

### **Emeriti Members, Election upon Removal from Office**

### **Active Members, Vacancies**

SEC. 6. Upon resignation or retirement under any of the foregoing sections, the office of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, and any office in the Supreme

## **Members Article IV**

Council held by the Member so resigned or retired, shall immediately become vacant and may be filled at that or any future regular session of the Supreme Council.

SEC. 7. The Supreme Council may, at any regular session, elect from among the members of the Thirty-third Degree of any other jurisdiction such Brethren as may be nominated by the Sovereign Grand Commander, to be enrolled upon its Tableau as Emeriti Members of Honour, whose names shall be continued perpetually upon its rolls.

**Emeriti Members of  
Honour, Election Of**

SEC. 8. The Supreme Council may, at any regular session, elect to receive the Thirty-third Degree and to be Honorary Members of the Supreme Council with the rank and dignity of Inspectors General Honorary, such Masters of the Royal Secret possessing the qualifications and regularly nominated as herein provided, as it may select by unanimous vote taken on a voice vote ~~viva voce, on roll call beginning with the youngest Member, all present voting~~. The Thirty-third Degree shall never be asked for, directly or indirectly, and if asked for, shall be refused. Nominations shall be referred to the Committee on Nominations and report had therefrom before ballot is taken. No nomination shall be made of a member of any Body who is in arrears in his dues.

**Honorary Members,  
Election by the  
Supreme Council**

SEC. 9. Not less than thirty days before each regular session of the Supreme Council each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council may file in the office of the Grand Executive Director, in the number below specified, the written nominations for Inspectors General Honorary, Masters of the Royal Secret who are bona fide residents and members in good standing of Subordinate Bodies of this jurisdiction, who have attained the age of thirty-

**Honorary Members,  
Qualifications**

## Article IV Members

five years and who have had conferred upon them the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour at least forty-six months before the session at which the nominations are to be voted on, to receive the Thirty-third Degree and to be Honorary Members of the Supreme Council with the rank and dignity of Inspector General Honorary.

### Honorary Members, Number of Nominations Based on Existing Membership

[2] The number of such nominations for Inspectors General Honorary for each Orient in the United States shall be twelve for its first 2,500 (or fewer) Masters of the Royal Secret as of the prior December 31, and four for each additional 2,500. Fractions left over are to be carried forward as credits. The smaller territorial and foreign Orients may each have four nominations for Inspectors General Honorary, except when in the judgment of the Sovereign Grand Commander a larger number is needed in a particular jurisdiction. The nominations set forth in this numbered paragraph may be a lesser number at the option of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of each Orient.

### Honorary Members, Nomination Procedure

[3] Nominations filed less than thirty days before any such session shall not be considered at that session, except by unanimous consent. Nominations shall be made on blanks furnished by the Grand Executive Director, and must state the name in full of each nominee, the place and date of his birth, his occupation, his residence, the dates when he received the Thirty-second Degree and the rank of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, the names and location of the Bodies of the Rite with which he is affiliated, and a brief statement of his specific services rendered in behalf of this Rite. Provided, that when the nominee is either a resident of, or a member of Bodies in, another Orient under this general jurisdiction, the approval of such nomination by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in such

## Members Article IV

other Orient shall be obtained, and such nomination shall be charged to the Orient of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council making the same.

SEC. 10. In addition to the nominations provided for in the preceding section, and in addition to the number standing to his credit, and in the same form and manner, and complying with the same conditions, each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council may nominate to receive the Thirty-third Degree with the rank and dignity of Inspector General Honorary and Honorary Member of the Supreme Council, two Knights Commander of the Court of Honour for the first one hundred, and two for each additional two hundred Masters of the Royal Secret who have received the Thirty-second Degree in his Orient since the preceding regular session. Whatever fractions are left over from one such session may be counted in the quota for the next. The nominations set forth in this numbered paragraph may be a lesser number at the option of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of each Orient.

**Honorary Members,  
Number of  
Nominations Based  
on New Members**

[2] Nominations under this and the preceding section shall be referred to the Committee on Nominations and report had thereon before ballot is taken.

SEC. 11. The Supreme Council reserves to itself the right to elect Inspectors General Honorary from the Masters of the Royal Secret of the jurisdiction at large, whenever in its judgment the interests of the Rite will be thereby promoted, and without reference to the rank of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour.

**Honorary Members,  
the Supreme Council  
May Elect at Large**

## Article IV Members

### **Thirty-third Degree, Where Conferred**

SEC. 12. The Thirty-third Degree must, when practicable, be conferred by the Supreme Council, but when not practicable it may be conferred by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Orient in which the designate resides, or in which his membership is held, or by courtesy.

### **Thirty-third Degree, Forfeiture of Election**

SEC. 13. If a Brother elected to receive the Thirty-third Degree does not present himself to receive it at or prior to the regular session of the Supreme Council next succeeding his election, such election shall be void, but the time may be extended by unanimous vote of the Supreme Council.

### **Thirty-third Degree, Not Given Gratuitously**

SEC. 14. The Thirty-third Degree shall not be given gratuitously except by unanimous vote of the Supreme Council.

### **Honorary Members, Rights**

SEC. 15. Honorary Members have the right to be present at all sessions of the Supreme Council except executive sessions, and to have a voice therein but without a vote.

### **Honorary Members, Loss of Membership**

SEC. 16. Honorary Membership in the Supreme Council is *ipso facto* terminated by voluntary resignation duly accepted; by expulsion or suspension from the Supreme Council or any of its Subordinate Bodies; by voluntary non-affiliation for a period of one year in either a Blue Lodge or the Scottish Rite; by expulsion or suspension from the privileges of Masonry by the Lodge or Grand Lodge of Symbolic Masonry having jurisdiction over the member. Permanent removal from the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council by a member does not terminate the membership, provided the member remains affiliated and in good standing with the Subordinate Bodies of the Rite in this general jurisdiction.



## **Members Article IV**

SEC. 17. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General possesses, and may exercise within his Orient, all the prerogatives of Grand Master of Masons, so far as relates to this Rite, and may do and perform all such acts as he may deem for its interest which are not prohibited by the Constitutions or by these Statutes. When rendering a decision involving the interpretation of these Statutes or concerning the practice of the Rite, he shall immediately make a full report thereof to the Sovereign Grand Commander.

**Active Members,  
General Powers**

**Active Members,  
Reports to Sovereign  
Grand Commander**

[2] A Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council has the power to disapprove the selection of, or to remove, any officer of a Subordinate Body in his Orient, or of a related corporation. (See 1947 *Trans.*, p. 303; 1963 *Trans.*, p. 234.)

SEC. 18. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may appoint a Personal Representative of the Advisory Conference or Executive Committee in each Valley of his Orient to act for him, and the acts of these representatives are valid when approved by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy, who is responsible for these acts. In addition, he may appoint an Orient Personal Representative for the Orient.

**S.G.I.G. or Deputy  
Personal  
Representatives,  
Appointment Of**

[2] The duties and responsibilities of such Valley and Orient Personal Representatives are as follows:

**Representatives,  
Duties Of**

A. To serve as the eyes and ears of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council to the end that peace and harmony may be promoted and brotherly love prevail;

B. To see that customs, usages, and laws of the Supreme Council are properly observed;

## Article IV Members

C. To carry out the instructions of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council; and

D. To exercise such powers as may be delegated to him by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in writing.

### **S.G.I.G., Loss of Active Membership**

SEC. 19. If a Sovereign Grand Inspector General removes permanently from his Orient, except that of the District of Columbia, he *ipso facto* loses his Active Membership. (See Article X, Section 2 of these Statutes.)

### **S.G.I.G., Absence from the Supreme Council Sessions**

SEC. 20. Any Sovereign Grand Inspector General absent from two successive regular sessions of the Supreme Council without excuse adjudged sufficient may, at the close of the second session, be deemed to have resigned his membership in the Supreme Council.

### **S.G.I.G., Member of All Bodies in His Orient**

SEC. 21. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General cannot be an officer of a Subordinate Body of the Rite. He shall be a member of all Subordinate Bodies within his Orient, with all rights and privileges of such membership, but shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

### **S.G.I.G., May Communicate Degrees in Unattached Foreign Countries**

SEC. 22. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General is authorized to communicate any of the Degrees of this Rite, except the Thirty-third, in any foreign country where no Supreme Council exists.

## **Members Article IV**

SEC. 23. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General may issue Letters Temporary for the establishment within his Orient of Subordinate Bodies, which Letters shall continue in force until the next regular session of the Supreme Council. (See Article XVI, Section 7.)

**S.G.I.G.,  
Letters Temporary  
Issued By**

SEC. 24. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General may grant dispensations waiving the provisions of the Statutes of the Supreme Council or the bylaws of Subordinate Bodies within his Orient governing the time of presenting petitions of candidates, reference and reports of committees thereon, and balloting therefor, and delays in the time for conferring Degrees upon qualified and elected candidates, and all other statutes and bylaws governing the time and place of meeting and the transaction of routine business by such Subordinate Bodies. He may give his consent to Subordinate Bodies suspending the provisions of their bylaws in particular instances when in his opinion such action is for the best interest of the Rite, and there is no statute of the Supreme Council prohibiting it.

**S.G.I.G.,  
Rights and  
Limitations  
of Dispensation**

SEC. 25. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General has the power to confer or communicate Degrees, either with or without charge therefor, and without election by a Body of the Rite, upon Brethren of great merit and desert in his Orient, who he is assured will be faithful and zealous in the Rite, or who are not well able to pay for the Degrees, or he may direct any organized Body or Bodies within his Orient to confer such Degrees for him, either with or without charge therefor. The Sovereign Grand Inspector General may direct that such Brethren be enrolled as members of such Bodies of the Rite in his Orient as he may designate.

**S.G.I.G.,  
May Confer or  
Communicate  
Degrees without  
Charge**

## Article IV Members

[2] In cases where the Degrees are conferred or communicated without charge, the Subordinate Bodies conferring same, or in which the Brethren are enrolled as members, shall not be required to pay to the Supreme Council the customary fees for Degrees; and the Supreme Council shall furnish to such Brethren the usual English Patents without charge.

**Deputy, May Not  
Confer or  
Communicate Degrees  
without Charge**

[3] But a Deputy of the Supreme Council is not authorized to confer or communicate Degrees, or have it done, without charge therefor.

**S.G.I.G.,  
Official Reports  
to the Sov. Gr.  
Cmdr.**

SEC. 26. Each Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall make, whenever requested by the Sovereign Grand Commander so to do, a full report of his official acts and decisions during such period as may be prescribed by the Sovereign Grand Commander. In this report he may also make such recommendations for the good of the Rite as he may deem pertinent.

**Active or Emeritus  
Member,  
Death and Memorial**

SEC. 27. Upon the death of a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Active or Emeritus, notice thereof shall be given the Sovereign Grand Commander, who shall cause to be promulgated a suitable memorial of his life and Masonic service. Upon the death of an Inspector General Honorary, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Orient shall notify the Grand Executive Director. The Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council shall also cause a suitable memorial page to be set apart in the records of the Lodge of Perfection of which the deceased Inspector General Honorary was a member. This section, however, shall not be construed as prohibiting the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, or the Lodge, from promulgating any other suitable memorial if desired.

## Members Article IV

[2] The Albert Pike Memorial Services shall be held upon the Sunday preceding the regular sessions of the Supreme Council and the Sovereign Grand Commander shall appoint a committee to make necessary arrangements therefor.

**Albert Pike  
Memorial Service**

SEC. 28. The Committee on Obituaries shall include in its report to the regular session, the tablets, not previously reported, in memory of deceased Active and Emeriti Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Grand Crosses of the Court of Honour prepared by the Supreme Council, which shall be published in the *Transactions of the Supreme Council* in full, together with a reproduction of a photograph of each of the deceased.

**Active, Emeriti, and  
Grand Cross  
Members, Obituaries  
and Memorial  
Tablets**

[2] There shall also be published in the *Transactions* a tableau of deceased Inspectors General Honorary.

**Insp.: Gen.:  
Honorary, Tableau  
upon Death**

SEC. 29. The Sovereign Grand Commander may dispense with the wearing of the prescribed badge of mourning or the draping of the altars and working tools upon the death of an Active or Emeritus Member of the Supreme Council. The Sovereign Grand Inspector General may, in like manner, dispense with these memorial acts on the death of an Inspector General Honorary of his Orient.

**Mourning Badges,  
May Be Dispensed  
With**

## **Article IV Members**

### **Official Correspondence, Carried on through S.G.I.G.s or Deputies**

SEC. 30. All official correspondence with the Sovereign Grand Commander, and between Bodies of the Rite located in different Orients within this general jurisdiction, relating to the status of members, to questions of jurisdiction, to Masonic intercourse, to appeals for Masonic charity or Fraternal assistance, and to every subject requiring legislation by the Supreme Council shall be carried on through the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General or Deputies of the Supreme Council in charge of the respective Orients. All official correspondence with Bodies located in other jurisdictions relating to similar matters must be carried on by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council through the Sovereign Grand Commander, unless and as otherwise ordered or directed by him.

### **Member, Resignation Of**

SEC. 31. The resignation of a Member shall be made to the Supreme Council when in session, subject to its acceptance by a majority vote. In recess it may be made to the Sovereign Grand Commander, who is authorized to accept the same or to report it to the Supreme Council for action.

## ARTICLE V

### Sessions—Quorum

SEC. 1. The Supreme Council shall meet in regular session biennially at the House of the Temple in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, between the fifteenth day of the months of August and October in each odd year, as specified by the Sovereign Grand Commander and in special session as provided in Section 2 of this Article; but no nomination of Inspectors General Honorary, of Grand Crosses, or of Knights Commander of the Court of Honour shall be made or acted upon except at a regular session in Washington.

**Sessions, Regular,  
Time and Place**

SEC. 2. Special sessions may be called by the Sovereign Grand Commander to be held at such time and place as he may name in the call. It shall be his duty to call special sessions upon the written request of a majority of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General at such time and place as may be designated in their request. The date of a special session shall be not less than fifteen days nor more than sixty days after the date of summons except by unanimous consent, and notice of a special meeting shall be given by wire and followed immediately by formal written notice to each Sovereign Grand Inspector General.

**Sessions, Special,  
Time, Place, and Man-  
ner of Calling**

SEC. 3. Seven Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, the Sovereign Grand Commander or Lieutenant Grand Commander being present, or nine Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, in the absence of these officers, shall constitute a quorum for the transactions of business.

**Quorum,  
Requirements For**

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## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Officers and Employees**

SEC. 1. The dignitaries and officers of the Supreme Council are as follows:

**Officers of  
the Supreme Council**

#### **ELECTIVE**

**Officers, Elective**

1. Sovereign Grand Commander
2. Lieutenant Grand Commander
3. Grand Prior
4. Grand Chancellor
5. Grand Minister of State
6. Grand Secretary General
7. Grand Treasurer General
8. Grand Almoner

#### **APPOINTIVE**

**Officers, Appointive**

9. Grand Chaplain  
(may be an Honorary Member)
10. Grand Orator
11. Grand Master of Ceremonies
12. Grand Chamberlain
13. First Grand Equerry
14. Second Grand Equerry
15. Grand Standard Bearer
16. Grand Sword Bearer
17. Grand Herald

[2] The Sovereign Grand Commander shall appoint a Grand Executive Director from the Honorary Membership to serve under his supervision and may appoint such other officers from the Honorary Membership as he may designate, including Grand Stewards, Grand Organist, and Grand Tyler, all of whom shall serve at his will and pleasure.

**Officers Appointed from  
Honorary Membership**

## **Article VI Officers**

### **Sovereign Grand Commander, Powers Of**

SEC. 2. The Sovereign Grand Commander is the supreme executive and the chief judicial officer of the Rite within the jurisdiction of this Supreme Council. He is the representative of the Supreme Council when that Body is not in session, and is invested with general powers of supervision, instruction, and administration everywhere within its jurisdiction; and he may decide all questions properly referred to him affecting the interests of the Rite, and shall report his decisions, in such manner as he may deem best, to the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council.

### **Sovereign Grand Commander, Offices and Residence**

[2] He shall occupy and maintain the executive offices located in the House of the Temple at the city of Washington in the District of Columbia to perform his duties and superintend the business of the Supreme Council during his tenure of office as Sovereign Grand Commander.

### **Sovereign Grand Commander, Additional Title and Title upon Retirement**

[3] He shall upon his election as Sovereign Grand Commander relinquish all authority of his jurisdiction as Sovereign Grand Inspector General and in addition to the title of Sovereign Grand Commander shall be designated and become Sovereign Grand Inspector General at Large. On his retirement as Sovereign Grand Commander, he shall relinquish his office as Sovereign Grand Inspector General at Large and shall possess the titles of Past Sovereign Grand Commander and Past Sovereign Grand Inspector General at Large.

### **Sovereign Grand Commander, Visitation By**

SEC. 3. He shall, if practicable, visit, either in person or by duly commissioned representatives, one or more of the Bodies in each state or territory at least once every two years and make report thereof to the Supreme Council at its next regular session.

## **Officers Article VI**

SEC. 4. He shall, at each regular session, make report to the Supreme Council of all official acts performed and judicial decisions rendered by him in recess. An appeal from any decision rendered by him shall not operate as suspensive. All of his official acts are subject to review by the Supreme Council.

**Sovereign Grand  
Commander, Report  
to and Review by the  
Supreme Council**

SEC. 5. Under the supervision of the Sovereign Grand Commander, the Grand Executive Director shall keep all of the accounts of the Supreme Council, receive all monies due it, and ensure proper receipt thereof, and shall immediately deposit, in the name of the Supreme Council, in a depository or depositories designated by it, all monies received, and render a due account thereof to the Grand Treasurer General. The books and accounts of the Grand Executive Director shall at all times be open for inspection by any Sovereign Grand Inspector General. The Grand Executive Director shall also be custodian of the House of the Temple and of all property, real and personal, belonging to the Supreme Council and is charged with the safekeeping of the same. He shall perform such other duties as may be delegated to him by the Sovereign Grand Commander.

**Sovereign Grand  
Commander  
Supervises Grand  
Executive Director and  
Delineates Duties**

**Books and Accounts  
of Grand Executive  
Director, Open for  
Inspection**

**Grand Executive  
Director, Custodian  
of the House of the  
Temple**

SEC. 6. The Grand Executive Director shall make to the Supreme Council on the first day of each regular session a full report of the transactions of his office, both general and financial, since the last regular session. He shall also report all property in his possession belonging to the Supreme Council. He shall, if required by the Sovereign Grand Commander, make reports to any session of the Supreme Council.

**Grand Executive Director,  
Reports Of**

[2] The financial accounts of the Grand Executive Director shall be closed on December thirty-first in each year.

**Fiscal Year**

## Article VI Officers

**Grand Executive  
Director, Responsible  
for Reporting and  
Printing *Transactions***

SEC. 7. The Grand Executive Director shall cause to be reproduced a full report of the transactions of each regular and special session of the Supreme Council, omitting only such portions as the Supreme Council or Sovereign Grand Commander shall direct.

**Grand Executive  
Director, In Charge of  
Employees**

SEC. 8. The Grand Executive Director is in charge of the employees in his office, and under his direction as custodian of the House of the Temple and its grounds, and in such other departments as are placed under his direction or control, subject to the supreme executive authority of the Sovereign Grand Commander.

**Grand Executive  
Director, Responsible  
for Quarterly Financial  
Statements**

SEC. 9. The Grand Executive Director as soon as practicable after the close of each calendar quarter shall cause the financial report to be distributed to each Active Member of the Supreme Council, showing receipts and disbursements and budget variations for the quarter and for cumulative quarters from the start of the biennium.

**Investments, Surplus  
Funds**

SEC. 10. The Sovereign Grand Commander and the Grand Executive Director, at the beginning of every quarter year, beginning January first, shall report to the Committee on Finance the amount of money in the treasury of the Supreme Council not otherwise appropriated, and their estimate of the amount necessary for the conduct of business of the Supreme Council for the succeeding three months, and the Committee on Finance shall thereupon direct the investment by the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Grand Executive Director in such amount of the surplus funds of the Supreme Council as in the judgment of the Committee on Finance may be safely withdrawn for that purpose. Such investment may be made in obligations or securities, provided that the aggregate amount of common stocks shall at the time of investing

## **Officers Article VI**

not exceed 75% of the total current market value of all such investments, and provided further that when making any investment an independent investment advisor shall be consulted.

SEC. 11. The funds of this Supreme Council shall be paid out by checks drawn on the depositories of the Supreme Council and signed by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Lieutenant Grand Commander as provided in Section 12 of this Article, and by the Grand Executive Director and the Grand Treasurer General, payable to the order of the persons for whose benefits said checks are drawn. The Committee on Finance may specify a dollar limit under which only one signature of the above-listed officers is required.

**Disbursements and  
Check Signatories**

SEC. 12. The Lieutenant Grand Commander, in the absence of the Sovereign Grand Commander from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council or upon the special request of the Sovereign Grand Commander, shall assume the executive duties and powers of the office of Sovereign Grand Commander, acting as Lieutenant Grand Commander, and shall have authority to issue Letters Temporary for the organization of new bodies, decide questions submitted to him, sign checks and warrants, and perform such other acts as the emergency may require.

**Lt.: Grand Commander,  
Assumes Sovereign  
Grand Commander's  
Duties upon Request**

[2] In the event of the death, resignation, or disability of the Sovereign Grand Commander, the Lieutenant Grand Commander shall assume the office of Sovereign Grand Commander, as Sovereign Grand Commander, and as such shall possess all the powers and be charged with the duties and responsibilities of the office.

**Lt.: Grand Commander,  
Assumes Sovereign  
Grand Commander's  
Office upon Death,  
Resignation,  
or Disability**

## Article VI Officers

**Grand Prior, Assumes  
Duties of Sovereign  
Grand Commander  
if No Lt.: Grand  
Commander**

[3] He shall render a report of his acts to the Supreme Council at the next regular session. If there be no elected Lieutenant Grand Commander, the rights and duties herein set forth shall inure to, and be discharged by, the Grand Prior.

**Lt.: Grand  
Commander's Office  
Remains Vacant When  
Lt.: Grand  
Commander is Acting  
Grand Commander**

[4] If under these statutes and during his elected term of office, the Lieutenant Grand Commander should become Acting Sovereign Grand Commander or succeed to the office of Sovereign Grand Commander, he shall so remain during said period and have the title "Sovereign Grand Commander," and the office of Lieutenant Grand Commander shall remain vacant until the next election of officers by the Supreme Council.

**Lt.: Grand Commander  
Serving as Acting  
Grand Commander,  
Salary Of**

[5] When the Lieutenant Grand Commander assumes the office of Sovereign Grand Commander as authorized under these statutes, he shall be paid and be entitled to the salary, expenses, and benefits, as determined by the Finance Committee.

**Grand Prior, Duties Of**

SEC. 13. The Grand Prior presides in the absence of the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Lieutenant Grand Commander. He is, in the Supreme Council when convened, what the Junior Warden is in a Chapter of Rose Croix, and the Craft are under his superintendence while the Members are at refreshment. To him are referred in the first instance, at the request of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, all matters of complaint and controversy between Subordinate Bodies and their respective members, for opinion and advice. He shall also discharge such other duties as may from time to time be required of him by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council.

## **Officers Article VI**

SEC. 14. The Grand Chancellor is the law officer of the Supreme Council. As such he is advisor of the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Supreme Council on matters of Masonic law and precedent, to whom all questions thereof are to be referred; and upon all matters of importance debated in the Supreme Council he may be called upon to deliver his conclusions before the Supreme Council decides. To him it belongs to prepare charges against and prosecute offenders before the Supreme Council or any tribunal created by it; and when any matter is to be investigated or decided by the Supreme Council, he shall, upon request, prepare and present clear and concise statements of facts with his views of the law. He will also give his opinion on questions of jurisprudence upon the request of the Sovereign Grand Commander.

**Grand Chancellor,  
Duties Of**

SEC. 15. The Grand Minister of State is the minister of foreign affairs and shall, when directed by the Sovereign Grand Commander, conduct all the correspondence with foreign bodies and report upon it to the Supreme Council. He shall also perform such other like duties as may from time to time be required of him by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council.

**Grand Minister of  
State, Duties Of**

SEC. 16. The Grand Secretary General shall keep a faithful record of the transactions of the Supreme Council and of the Council of Administration, and shall keep in his possession and affix to such papers as may require attestation, the official seal of the Supreme Council. He shall perform such other duties as properly appertain to his office, or which may be required of him by the Supreme Council or the Sovereign Grand Commander.

**Grand Secretary  
General, Duties Of**

## Article VI Officers

### Grand Treasurer General, Duties Of

SEC. 17. The Grand Treasurer General is the financial officer of the Supreme Council. He shall serve as the Chairman of the Committee on Finance and report to the Supreme Council as delineated in Article XI, Section 7, of the statutes of the Supreme Council. At each regular biennial session of the Supreme Council, he shall present a proposed budget for the ensuing biennium on behalf of the Committee on Finance.

### Grand Almoner, Duties Of

SEC. 18. The Grand Almoner exercises management responsibility over and maintains the Almoner's Fund of the Supreme Council. He dispenses its charities, regardless of race, creed, sex, age, or national origin to widows, orphans, the poor, the distressed, and the physically handicapped. At his discretion he may also distribute monies for other educational and charitable purposes.

### Grand Chaplain, Duties Of

SEC. 19. The Grand Chaplain conducts the customary devotions of the Supreme Council as are established by usages of the Rite and offers prayer during the Supreme Council's ceremonies and reflections when called upon by the Sovereign Grand Commander.

### Grand Orator, Duties Of

SEC. 20. The Grand Orator is the orator of the Supreme Council and is charged with the duty of causing distinguished visitors to be suitably presented and properly welcomed. He will also be called upon to pronounce eulogies on deceased Brethren and perform such other like services as may from time to time be required of him by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council.



## Officers Article VI

SEC. 21. The Grand Master of Ceremonies shall direct the formation of all processions of the Supreme Council, escort and introduce all distinguished visitors, and perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council may direct.

**Grand Master of  
Ceremonies, Duties Of**

SEC. 22. The Grand Chamberlain shall assist the Grand Master of Ceremonies in the performance of his duties and perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council may direct. In the absence of the Grand Master of Ceremonies the Grand Chamberlain shall act as his substitute.

**Grand Chamberlain,  
Duties Of**

SEC. 23. The First Grand Equerry and the Second Grand Equerry are, when called upon, to assist the other officers in the performance of their respective duties, and are otherwise to perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Supreme Council may direct.

**First Grand Equerry  
and Second Grand  
Equerry, Duties Of**

SEC. 24. The Grand Standard Bearer has in his charge and care the Great Banner of the Supreme Council. It is his duty to carry the Great Banner in all processions of the Supreme Council, and perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Supreme Council may direct.

**Grand Standard Bearer,  
Duties Of**

SEC. 25. The Grand Sword Bearer has in his charge and care the great cross-hilted double-edged two-handed sword. It is his duty to bear the great sword in all processions, and whenever the Supreme Council is in session to guard and protect the Great Banner of the Supreme Council, and perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Supreme Council may direct.

**Grand Sword Bearer,  
Duties Of**

## Article VI Officers

### Grand Herald, Duties Of

SEC. 26. The Grand Herald shall assist the Sovereign Grand Commander in opening and closing the Supreme Council, lead all processions of the Supreme Council, and perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Supreme Council may direct.

### Titles, Official

SEC. 27. The official titles of the elective and appointive officers of the Supreme Council are as given at the beginning of Section 1 of this Article.

### Officers, Term Of

SEC. 28. Commencing at the regular session of the Supreme Council in October 1961, and each two years thereafter, the elective officers shall be elected for a term of two years; the appointive officers shall hold office at the will and pleasure of the Sovereign Grand Commander.

### Officers, Resignation Of

SEC. 29. The resignation of an officer shall be made to the Supreme Council when in session, subject to its acceptance by a majority vote, but in recess shall be made to the Sovereign Grand Commander, who is authorized to accept the same.

### Officers, Loss of Rights and Privileges

SEC. 30. All of the rights, privileges, and perquisites of the officers are *ipso facto* terminated by voluntary resignation duly accepted, by permanent removal beyond the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council, by expulsion or suspension from the Supreme Council or any of its Subordinate Bodies, by voluntary nonaffiliation for a period of one year in either a Blue Lodge or the Scottish Rite, or by expulsion or suspension from the privileges of Masonry by the Grand Lodge or the Lodge of Symbolic Masonry having jurisdiction over such member.

## **Officers Article VI**

SEC. 31. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in any of the elective offices of the Supreme Council, except that of Grand Secretary General, Grand Treasurer General, or Grand Almoner, the duties pertaining to the office so becoming vacant shall be performed by the next succeeding elected officer or officers in the order of their respective rank until said office shall be filled by election.

**Elective Offices,  
Vacancy and  
Succession In**

[2] The elected officer, however, shall retain and also perform the duties of the office to which he was elected. In signing for the office becoming vacant he shall sign as acting as the officer whose office has become vacant and the duties of which office he is at the time performing.

SEC. 32. If the office of the Grand Secretary General or the Grand Treasurer General becomes vacant, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Sovereign Grand Commander or Acting Sovereign Grand Commander until an election is held to fill the same.

**Vacancies in Grand  
Secretary General's  
Office and Grand  
Treasurer General's  
Office, Filled by  
Appointment**

[2] If the office of the Grand Almoner becomes vacant, the duties of this office shall be performed by the Grand Treasurer General until the next election.

**Vacancy in Grand  
Almoner's Office**

SEC. 33. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Sovereign Grand Commander or any other elective office, the same shall be filled by election on the second or some subsequent day of the next regular session, or at a special session, unless the Supreme Council is then in session.

**Vacancy in Elective  
Offices**

## **Article VI Officers**

### **Adjournment of Elections**

[2] The Supreme Council has power by a majority vote to adjourn such election from time to time until the vacancy is filled.

### **Vote Necessary To Elect**

SEC. 34. A two-thirds vote of the Members present shall be necessary to elect a Sovereign Grand Commander; a majority shall be sufficient in all other cases, except when otherwise provided in these statutes.

### **Proxy Vote not Acceptable**

SEC. 35. No vote by proxy or letter for the election of any officer shall be received or counted.

### **Indemnification of Active Members, Deputies, Officers, and Trustees**

SEC. 36. The Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction shall indemnify any Active Member, Deputy of the Supreme Council, officer or trustee or any former Active Member, Deputy of the Supreme Council, officer or trustee of such Supreme Council, or any person who may have served at its request as an officer or trustee of another corporation against court costs, attorney's fees, judgments and other expenses actually and necessarily incurred by him in connection with the defense of any action, suit, or proceeding in which he is made a party by reason of being or having been such officer or trustee, except in relation to matters as to which he shall be adjudged in negligence or misconduct in the performance of a duty. This indemnification shall not be deemed exclusive of any other right to which such trustee or officer may be entitled, under any bylaw agreement, vote of board of trustees, or otherwise.

### **Bonding of Officers and Employees**

[2] All officers and employees of this Supreme Council shall be placed under bond furnished by a surety company, which bonds shall be in the amount of \$1,000,000 each, the cost of which shall be paid by the Supreme Council.

## **Officers Article VI**

SEC. 37. Active Members, Deputies, and officers of the Supreme Council shall disclose any possible conflict of interest with respect to any matter coming before the Council or any of its committees. In the event a member of the Council or any of its committees has any such possible conflict, he shall advise other members of the Council or its committees of any significant reasons, known to him but unknown to such other members, why the matter being considered may not be in the best interests of the Scottish Rite.

**Conflict of Interest  
of Active Members,  
Deputies and  
Officers, Disclosure  
Of**

SEC. 38. A Member making such a disclosure shall not use his influence nor vote on the matter giving rise to the possible conflict. The minutes of the meeting shall reflect on such disclosure and the abstention from voting.

**Abstention From  
Voting if Conflict of  
Interest Disclosed**

SEC. 39. The foregoing shall not be construed to prevent any member of the Council or its committees from answering relevant questions of other members on which his knowledge may be of assistance.

**Conflict of  
Interest, Does Not  
Prevent Sharing of  
Information**

SEC. 40. All officers and trustees of Scottish Rite related corporations shall disclose any possible conflict of interest with respect to any matter coming before the Scottish Rite related corporations. In the event an officer or trustee of a Scottish Rite related corporation has any such possible conflict, he shall advise other officers or trustees of any significant reasons, known to him but unknown to such other officers or trustees, why the matter being considered may not be in the best interests of the Scottish Rite.

**Conflict of Interest  
of Officers and  
Trustees  
of Scottish Rite  
Related  
Corporations,  
Disclosure Of**

## **Article VI Officers**

### **Conflict of Interest, Abstention from Voting**

SEC. 41. An officer or trustee making such a disclosure shall not use his influence nor vote on the matter giving rise to the possible conflict. The minutes of the meeting shall reflect on such disclosure and the abstention from voting.

### **Conflict of Interest, Does Not Prevent Sharing of Information**

SEC. 42. The foregoing shall not be construed to prevent any officer or trustee of Scottish Rite related corporations from answering relevant questions of other officers or trustees on which his knowledge may be of assistance.

### **Representatives, Roll Call**

SEC. 43. As a special order of business during each regular session of the Supreme Council, there shall be a call of the roll of representatives of other Supreme Councils with which this Supreme Council is in fraternal relation, at which time an interchange of communications from and to the respective Councils may be had for the purpose of bringing them into closer and more frequent actual intercommunication.

### **Representatives, Duties Of**

SEC. 44. All representatives of our Supreme Council to other Supreme Councils and all representatives of other Supreme Councils to our own shall obtain all documents and information of interest to the Rite and present the same to the Sovereign Grand Commander as early as possible, before each regular session of the Council. All information thus furnished shall be full, clear, and comprehensive. The Sovereign Grand Commander is hereby fully authorized and empowered to remove any representative from our Supreme Council who fails to comply fully with his duties hereunder and to fill his place by the appointment of another, and in case any foreign representative shall fail to comply with his duties, our Sovereign Grand Commander is hereby fully authorized to request the Council from which such representative comes, to remove him from his position and appoint another in his place.

## **Officers Article VI**

SEC. 45. It is the policy of this Supreme Council not to authorize or permit any of its officers or Members, Active or Honorary, or any of the members of Subordinate Bodies under its jurisdiction to engage in any conferences, formal or informal, or to carry on any communications concerning any matter pertaining to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry with any alleged Masonic Body or organization which is not fully recognized as legitimate and regular by Regular Symbolic Grand Lodges within the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council.

**Conferences with  
Irregular Bodies  
Prohibited**

### **OFFICIAL SIGNATURES (Description)**

SEC. 46. The distinctive symbol to be used before the signature of the Sovereign Grand Commander is a cross with three cross-bars, near the extremities of which and of the shaft are small cross-bars; the signature to be followed by a rayed equilateral triangle enclosing the figure 33. Violet ink to be used.

**Sovereign Grand  
Commander,  
Official Signature**

[2] The symbol cross to precede the signature of a Sovereign Grand Inspector General has two cross-bars, near the extremities of which and of the shaft are small cross-bars; the signature to be followed by a rayed equilateral triangle enclosing the figure 33; the title may be written out or abbreviated "Sov.: Gr.: Insp.: Genl.:" Purple ink to be used.

**Sovereign Grand  
Inspector General, Of-  
ficial Signature**

[3] The symbol cross to precede the signature of a Deputy of the Supreme Council is a plain cross with two cross-bars (no cross-bars at the extremities); the signature to be followed by a rayed equilateral triangle enclosing the figure 33; the title may be written out or abbreviated "Dep.: of the Supreme Council." Crimson ink to be used.

**Deputy, Official  
Signature**

## **Article VI Officers**

### **Inspector General Honorary, Official Signature**

[4] The symbol cross to precede the signature of an Inspector General Honorary is a plain cross with two cross-bars (no cross-bars at the extremities); the signature to be followed by a rayed equilateral triangle enclosing the figure 33; the title may be written out or abbreviated "Insp.:. Genl.:. Hon.:." Crimson ink to be used. The use of the abbreviation "Hon." after the name of an Inspector General Honorary is unauthorized. The Inspector General Honorary may sign himself simply "John Doe, 33°." If he desires his official designation, he should write it under his name. The title may be left off programs and official

[5] For the rest of the symbols to precede or follow signatures and titles, red ink to be used.

[6] In each of the above, the cross-bars are to be horizontal and except where shown differently, the shaft is inclined to the right to correspond with the angle of the strokes of slanting writing.

### **Court of Honour, Official Signature**

[7] The shafts of the crosses used by the Court of Honour are vertical, the end of the shaft and cross-bars being provided with a small cross-bar at the extremities.

### **Rose Croix, Official Signature**



[8] For the Rose Croix the symbol is a Passion Cross set on the apex of a pyramid or equilateral triangle.

[9] By usage and custom the double-headed eagle has become an accepted emblem of the 32°.





## Officers Article VI



### OFFICIAL SIGNATURES (Samples)

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Sov.: Grand Commander

 \_\_\_\_\_ 



Sov.: Gr.: Insp.: Genl.:

 \_\_\_\_\_ 


Dep.: of the Supreme Council

 \_\_\_\_\_ 

Insp.: Genl.: Hon.:

 \_\_\_\_\_ 

Gr.: Cross

 \_\_\_\_\_ 32°

Kt.: Comm.: C.: of Hon.:

 \_\_\_\_\_ 32°

M.: R.: S.:

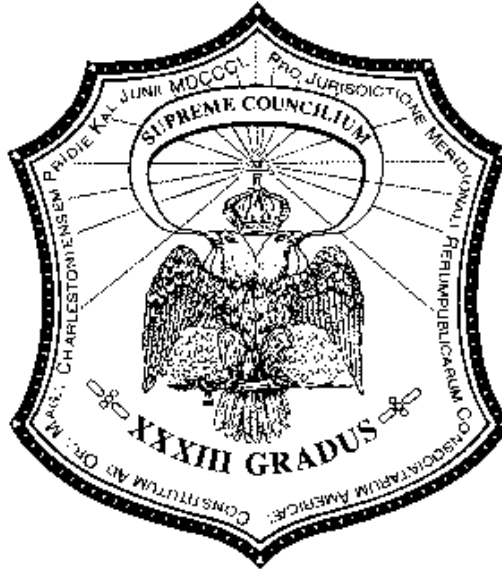
 \_\_\_\_\_ 18°

Eques á \_\_\_\_\_ R.: C.:

## Article VI Officers

### OFFICIAL SEALS

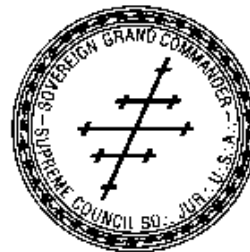
SEC. 48. The Seals attached to the Patents and official documents of this Supreme Council are as shown below:



GREAT SEAL OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL



PETTY SEAL OF  
THE SUPREME COUNCIL



SEAL OF  
THE SOVEREIGN GR. COMMANDER



SEAL OF  
THE GRAND CHANCELLOR



SEAL OF  
THE GRAND SECRETARY GENERAL

## Officers Article VI

### Employees Retirement Plan

~~SEC. 49. The Retirement Plan for Certain Employees of the Supreme Council, as follows, is subject to the right of the Sovereign Grand Commander to amend, if necessary, to comply with the law. Anything to the contrary herein notwithstanding, reference is made to the controlling Retirement Plan of Certain Employees of the Supreme Council on file with the Grand Executive Director. Upon reaching the normal retirement age of sixty-five, or any time thereafter, and after five years of vested service, employees may retire with full benefits at their request. The annual retirement pension shall be one and one-half percent of their annual salary computed on the basis of their highest consecutive sixty months salary, multiplied by the number of years they have worked for the Supreme Council. The normal form of payment is a straight life annuity; however, unless an election to the contrary is made, an employee who has a spouse on the date pension payments are scheduled to commence will automatically receive an actuarially equivalent joint and survivor benefit as set forth in the plan. The benefit shall be in addition to those received from the United States Social Security and shall be without cost to the employees. Elective Officers of the Supreme Council are not eligible for pension benefits under this plan.~~

#### **Employees Retirement Plan, General Description**

~~[2] Employees who have completed five years of service will be 100% vested in the benefit described above.~~

#### **Vesting Rights**

~~[3] Subject to a requirement of ten years of vested service, early retirement at the minimum age of sixty will be at the option of the employee, with benefits reduced by 1/2% per month for the period of difference between early retirement date and normal retirement date.~~

#### **Early Retirement**

## Article VI Officers

<b>Disability Retirement</b>	<del>—[4] Subject to a requirement of ten years of vested service, an employee who is adjudged to be totally and permanently disabled may retire with accrued benefits on an unreduced basis.</del>
<b>Pre-Retirement Death Benefit</b>	<del>—[5] The spouse of a 100% vested active employee will receive 50% of the employee's accrued pension benefit determined as of his date of death and based on the 50% joint and survivor benefit.</del>
<b>Retirement Plan, Cost and Modification</b>	<del>—[6] The Supreme Council shall pay the entire cost of the plan. The Supreme Council may discontinue or modify the plan. If it is necessary to discontinue the plan, the then assets of the trust fund will be used to provide benefits according to the terms of the plan.</del>
<b>Employees Retirement Plan</b>	<u>SEC. 49. The Supreme Council may, with the consent and approval of the Sovereign Grand Commander, from time to time and at anytime, establish, amend, freeze, or terminate a retirement plan or plans for its employees.</u>

### Disability for Elective Salaried Officers

<b>Disability for Elective Salaried Officers</b>	SEC. 50. The elective salaried officers of this Supreme Council shall receive their full salary for the length of the term for which they were elected; should they become incapacitated, or for any other reason be unable to perform full-time services, they shall thereafter receive one-third of their salary during the balance of the term to which they were elected.
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## ARTICLE VII

### Committees

SEC. 1. The Sovereign Grand Commander shall, within sixty days after each regular session of the Supreme Council, appoint the standing committees to serve until the close of the next regular session of the Supreme Council. He may, during the recess of the Supreme Council, fill any vacancy in any committee caused by death, resignation, or removal of Members. The following are the standing committees of the Supreme Council:

**Standing Committees,  
Appointment**

Appeals and Grievances

Audit

Benevolence and Fraternal Assistance

Education and Americanism

Finance

Fraternal Relations

House of the Temple

Jurisprudence and Legislation

Libraries

Nominations

Obituaries

Publications

Ritual and Ceremonial Forms

State of the Order and Unfinished Business

Strategic Planning

**Standing Committees,  
Names Of**

SEC. 2. The Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council shall make separate reports of their decisions and of their acts. The reports of their decisions shall be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence and Legislation, and the reports of their acts to the Committee on the State of the Order and Unfinished Business.

**Reports of Active Mem-  
bers and Deputies**

## **Article VII Committees**

### **Committee Meetings**

SEC. 3. When in the opinion of the Sovereign Grand Commander the business of the Supreme Council would be facilitated thereby, he may convene any committee at any time.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Council of Administration

SEC. 1. The first nine officers of the Supreme Council shall constitute the Council of Administration. The Sovereign Grand Commander, or in his absence the Lieutenant Grand Commander, with any four of said Members will constitute a quorum.

**Council of  
Administration,  
Members and  
Quorum Of**

SEC. 2. The Council of Administration, the Sovereign Grand Commander, or in his absence the Lieutenant Grand Commander, being present, after thirty days' notice to all its members of the time and place of meeting, shall assemble for the purpose of advising with the Sovereign Grand Commander on such matters as may be submitted.

**Council of  
Administration,  
Meetings Of**

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## ARTICLE IX

### Procedure

SEC.1. All questions, other than election of officers or amendments to the *Statutes*, shall be presented to the Supreme Council by motion or resolution, and shall be determined by *viva voce* vote of a majority of Members present, unless otherwise provided by statute. Any motion or resolution, upon the request of three Members, shall be reduced to writing before being voted upon.

**Voting Procedure  
of the Supreme Council  
in Session**

[2] A roll call may be demanded before any proposition.

SEC. 2. Whenever in the opinion of the Sovereign Grand Commander the emergency requires it, a vote of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General may be taken in recess upon a proposition not otherwise provided for by these *Statutes*, and when such vote is so taken, each vote shall be regarded as cast on the day of its receipt by the Grand Executive Director, and the proposition shall be recorded as adopted on the day when he has received the affirmative votes of two-thirds of all Active Members of the Supreme Council. The result shall be made known to the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General by the Sovereign Grand Commander.

**Voting Procedure  
of the Supreme Council  
While in Recess**

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## ARTICLE X

### Deputies of the Supreme Council

SEC. 1. The Sovereign Grand Commander may appoint and commission an Inspector General Honorary as the Deputy of the Supreme Council in any territory not occupied by it or by any other regular Supreme Council, with power to confer or communicate the Degrees and establish Subordinate Bodies of the Rite in such territory under Letters Temporary issued by the Sovereign Grand Commander, and to perform such other acts as shall be specified in the commission issued to him by the Sovereign Grand Commander.

**Deputy,  
Appointment Of**

[2] The Sovereign Grand Commander may also appoint and commission an Inspector General Honorary as the Deputy of the Supreme Council for the American Military Scottish Rite Bodies–NATO Bases, with such powers given to Deputies as provided herein.

**Deputy for American  
Military Scottish Rite  
Bodies–NATO Bases**

SEC. 2. The Sovereign Grand Commander may also appoint and commission an Inspector General Honorary as the Deputy of the Supreme Council in any Orient which is unattached and in which there is no resident Sovereign Grand Inspector General, with the powers and prerogatives of a Sovereign Grand Inspector General within such Orient, except as otherwise provided in these *Statutes*. The Deputy of the Supreme Council thus appointed must be at the time of appointment a bona fide resident and an affiliated member of Subordinate Bodies in the Orient for which he is appointed, and shall be exempt from the payment of dues while serving as such Deputy, provided, however, that the residency requirement shall not apply to a Deputy of the Supreme Council appointed for the District of Columbia.

**Deputy,  
May Be Appointed for  
Unattached  
Jurisdictions**

**Deputy, Exempt  
from Dues**

**Deputy, Residency Not  
Required for District of  
Columbia Appointment**

## Article X Deputies of the Supreme Council

### Deputy, Power to Confer Degrees Limited

SEC. 3. A Deputy of the Supreme Council shall not have the power to confer or communicate Degrees, except for the purpose of immediately establishing, or as agent of, an organized Body. Nor shall he have the power to confer or communicate Degrees as a gratuity.

### Deputy, Fees, Expenses

SEC. 4. All fees collected by a Deputy of the Supreme Council must be paid over by him to the Body for which the Degrees were conferred, or to the Supreme Council if a Body is not organized. He shall be reimbursed for all monies necessarily expended by him in the discharge of his duty in organizing Bodies in unoccupied territories, upon accounts rendered to and approved by the Sovereign Grand Commander.

### Deputy, Reports

SEC. 5. A Deputy of the Supreme Council shall make, when requested by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council, a full and detailed report of his acts and decisions together with any recommendations he may have to offer.

### Deputy, Term

SEC. 6. The appointment or commission of a Deputy of the Supreme Council shall be in force no longer than the close of the ensuing regular session of the Supreme Council, unless confirmed at such session by the Supreme Council and continued in force by the Sovereign Grand Commander. ~~No Deputy of the Supreme Council whose appointment has failed of confirmation shall again be appointed or commissioned without the consent of the Supreme Council.~~

### Deputy, Retirement

SEC 7. When a Deputy of the Supreme Council retires with at least six years of service, he shall be entitled to be called "Past Deputy of the Supreme Council" and to wear the Deputy cap.

## ARTICLE XI

### Revenues, Fees, and Assessments

SEC. 1. The revenues of the Supreme Council shall be derived from fees for Letters Temporary and Permanent Charters; from fees for Patents and Diplomas; from fees and assessments from Bodies under its jurisdiction to cover operating costs; from fees for Degrees conferred by it and by Sovereign Grand Inspectors General or Deputies, and from the sale of its books.

#### Revenue Sources

SEC. 2. The fees for Letters Temporary and Permanent Charters and the cost of books as listed below may be increased by the Sovereign Grand Commander at his discretion.

#### Fees for Permanent Charters

##### Letters Temporary:

Lodge of Perfection .....	\$50.00
Chapter of Rose Croix.....	\$60.00
Council of Kadosh .....	\$60.00
Consistory .....	\$80.00

##### Permanent Charters:

Lodge of Perfection .....	\$60.00
Chapter of Rose Croix.....	\$80.00
Council of Kadosh .....	\$80.00
Consistory .....	\$100.00

[2] The cost of books for organizing Subordinate Bodies (in addition to the above) shall be as follows:

Lodge of Perfection .....	\$57.00
Chapter of Rose Croix.....	\$17.50
Council of Kadosh .....	\$37.50
Consistory .....	\$15.00

#### Cost of Books

## Article XI Revenues, Fees, and Assessments

### Patents, Diplomas, and Ladies' Certificates, Description

SEC. 3. All Patents and Diplomas of the Degrees and Ladies' Certificates shall be issued by the Supreme Council: all Diplomas in Latin, and also Patents in English of Emeriti Members and of Emeriti Members of Honour, and Letters-Patent of Credence to foreign representatives, under the great seal, with the individual seals and signatures of the Sovereign Grand Commander, the Grand Chancellor, and the Grand Secretary General; and those of the 14°, 18°, and 30° also to carry the seal of the Body and the signatures of the presiding officer and the Secretary (or Registrar) of the Body of such Degree, respectively; Patents in English of Masters of the Royal Secret, under the great seal, signed by the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Grand Secretary General, and by the presiding officer and Registrar of the Consistory; and Patents in English of Knights Commander of the Court of Honour, Inspectors General Honorary, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, and Ladies' Certificates, under the petty seal, with the signatures of the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Grand Secretary General.

### Fees for Patents, Diplomas, and Ladies' Certificates

[2] The fees, if any, for such Patents, Diplomas, and Certificates shall be as follows:

33° Active, Sov.: Gr.: Insp.: Genl.: ..... No Fee

33° Insp.: Genl.: Hon.:

Original ..... No Fee

Duplicate ..... \$3.00

Grand Cross Court of Honour (Latin only)

Original ..... No Fee

Duplicate ..... \$10.00

Knight Commander Court of Honour

Original ..... No Fee

Duplicate ..... \$3.00

32° Master of the Royal Secret

Original ..... \$7.00

Duplicate or Corrected ..... \$3.00

## Revenues, Fees, and Assessments Article XI

### Ladies' Certificate

Original .....\$3.00  
Duplicate or Corrected .....\$2.00

### Letters-Patent of Credence to Foreign

Representative ..... No Fee

### Patent of Affiliation from the Jurisdiction

of Another Supreme Council .....\$3.00

SEC. 4. With the approval of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, the minimum fees ~~or honorarium~~ for conferring Degrees and Honors may ~~shall~~ be as follows:

- A. For the Degrees from Fourth to Fourteenth, inclusive, including 14° Ring..... \$40.00
- B. For the Degrees from the Fifteenth to the Eighteenth, inclusive ..... \$20.00
- C. For the Degrees from the Nineteenth to the Thirtieth, inclusive..... \$20.00
- D. For the Thirty-first and Thirty-second Degrees, Patent included ..... \$20.00

However, Subordinate Bodies may increase the fees, and all fees shall be paid ~~in cash~~ in advance.

[2] No Sovereign Grand Inspector General ~~(except as provided in Article IV, Section 26)~~, or Deputy of the Supreme Council, ~~or Subordinate Body~~ shall confer either "E" or "F" ~~any of the Degrees for any less or greater fees than those above provided and all fees shall be paid in advance to the Supreme Council, but~~

- E. For the Knight Commander Court of Honour, Patent included .....\$200.00
- F. For the Thirty-third Degree, Patent included .....\$300.00

### Fees for Conferring Degrees

**Fees "A" through "D"  
May Be Increased  
By Subordinate Bodies:  
All Fees To Be Paid  
In Advance**

**Fees for "E" and "F" May  
Not Be Less or Greater  
than as Provided:  
All Fees Payable  
in Advance**

## Article XI Revenues, Fees, and Assessments

### Assessment on Degrees Paid to the Supreme Council

SEC. 5. Promptly after the conferring of the Fourth Degree the Secretaries of the Lodges of Perfection shall remit to the Supreme Council the sum of seven dollars for each newly created Secret Master; and after the conferring of the Fifteenth Degree the Secretaries of the Chapters of Rose Croix shall remit the sum of four dollars for each newly created Knight of the East; and after the conferring of the Nineteenth Degree the Recorders of the Councils of Kadosh shall remit the sum of four dollars for each newly created Pontiff; and after the conferring of the Thirty-first Degree the Registrars of the Consistories shall remit the sum of four dollars for each newly created Master of the Royal Secret, the Registrars of the Consistories shall remit the sum of seven dollars for each Patent, and no Patent shall be issued by the Grand Executive Director until these sums are received by him except as provided in Article IV, Section 26.

### Per Capita Assessment Due the Supreme Council

SEC. 6. The Grand Executive Director shall, annually, on or before the first day of April, make for each Subordinate Body the annual report as provided in Article XV, Section 17, of these *Statutes*. Commencing January 1, 2005, the per capita assessment is four dollars for the Lodge of Perfection and two dollars each for the Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh, and Consistory, payable on January 1, 2006, and thereafter, on members carried on the rolls the last day of December of the previous year. Bodies working under Letters Temporary, whose Charters are granted at the regular session next after their formation, shall not be liable for the per capita assessment during the period covered by the Letters Temporary, but their liability will commence January first after the Charter is granted.

### Per Capita Assessment Due from Bodies Cont'd under Letters Temporary

[2] Bodies continued under Letters Temporary shall be assessed for the per capita assessment from following January first, unless the Supreme Council shall order otherwise.



## Revenues, Fees, and Assessments Article XI

SEC. 7. At each session of the Supreme Council the Committee on Finance shall report by itemized list the appropriations necessary for the expenses of the Supreme Council, and in no case shall the money drawn from the treasury upon any account exceed the amount appropriated for such account; provided that in case of an emergency or unusual circumstances any item in the budget may be increased upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee and the approval of the Sovereign Grand Commander.

**Appropriations Report  
by Finance Committee**

**Emergency Increase  
of Budget Items**

SEC. 8. Each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and Deputy in attendance upon any session of the Supreme Council or of the Council of Administration, or any member of a committee in attendance upon a meeting of such committee called to sit in recess, shall receive such *per diem* for each day's attendance as prescribed by the Supreme Council, and thirty-seven cents per mile travel expense by land from the place of his residence to the place of meeting or, if travel by air, actual economy air fare. The same rates will be applied for the return to his home.

**Mileage and Per Diem  
of S.G.I.'s, G.S.,  
Deputies, and  
Committee Members**

[2] Active Members shall receive like *per diem* for each day's actual attendance after crowning at the session at which they are crowned, and also like mileage while traveling on their return home after crowning.

**Mileage and Per Diem  
of Active Members upon  
Crowning**

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## **ARTICLE XII**

### **Rituals, Programs, Books, and Libraries**

#### **Rituals**

SEC. 1. The Supreme Council retains title to all the Rituals, Secret Works, and Rubrics, and if a Body ceases to exist, they shall be immediately returned to the Supreme Council.

**Title to Rituals, Secret  
Works, and Rubrics  
Retained by  
the Supreme Council**

SEC. 2. Each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council may have issued to him one copy of each Ritual, Secret Work, and Rubric of the Degrees from the Fourth to the Thirty-second, inclusive, for all of which he shall receipt to the Grand Executive Director and agree that if he ceases to be such officer, all the books shall be immediately returned to the Supreme Council.

**Rituals for Active  
Members and  
Deputies**

SEC. 3. Each Lodge of Perfection must obtain for its use from the Grand Executive Director the following books published by the Supreme Council, viz.:

**Rituals and Related  
Publications for  
Lodges of Perfection**

- 4 Rituals of the Degrees conferred by it.
- 1 Secret Work of the Degrees conferred by it.
- 1 Rubric of the Degrees conferred by it.
- 1 Liturgy of the Degrees conferred by it.
- 1 Legenda of the Degrees conferred by it.
- 3 *Funeral Ceremony and Lodge of Sorrow.*
- 1 *Grand Constitutions.*
- 1 *Morals and Dogma.*
- 1 *Ceremony of Installation and Dedication.*
- 1 *A Bridge to Light.*
- 1 The Synopses and Communications for the Degrees.

## **Article XII Rituals, Programs, Books, and Libraries**

### **Distribution to 14° Initiates**

[2] The Secretaries shall assemble a sufficient supply of Pike's *Morals and Dogma* for a loan and return on request, and receipt, of interested Brethren. In lieu of the distribution of Pike's *Morals and Dogma*, the Supreme Council will provide a copy of *A Bridge to Light* to each candidate who completes the 14°.

[3] The Synopses and Communications for the Degrees is adopted as the official and required form for communication of a Degree when for good reason it is not exemplified in full form.

### **Rituals and Related Publications for Subordinate Bodies**

[4] The other Subordinate Bodies must obtain for their use the same number of Rituals, Secret Work, Rubric, and *Grand Constitutions*; and in addition thereto each Chapter of Rose Croix must obtain one copy of the *Liturgy* of the Chapter; each Council of Kadosh one copy of each of the *Liturgy* and *Legenda* of the Council; each Consistory one copy each of the *Legenda* and the *Readings of the 32°*.

### **Printing, Publishing, or Distributing of Rituals and Related Matter**

[5] It is not permissible to print, publish, or distribute any pictures or illustrations of any part of the Rituals, Rubrics, costumes, scenery, properties, forms, or ceremonies used in the conferring of the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the Southern Jurisdiction, or to print in a program or other publication issued by the Bodies any extract from, explanation, or synopsis of any of the Degrees, or to present any part of the Degrees anywhere at any time except in a tiled meeting or for the purpose of communication or rehearsal, and then only before those who are entitled to be present.

### **Prohibited Rituals and Related Publications Are Exclusive**

SEC. 4. No other Ritual, Secret Work, Rubric, Liturgy, manual, monitor, or book of like character than those prescribed and furnished by the Supreme Council shall be used by a Subordinate Body, nor can any Ritual, Secret Work, or Rubric become the property of any person or Body other than the Supreme Council.

## **Rituals, Programs, Books, and Libraries Article XII**

### **Programs**

SEC. 5. A Subordinate Body validates its official programs and announcements with the date and signatures from the Valley of the city and the Orient in which it is located.

**Official Programs and  
Announcements of  
Subordinate Bodies**

SEC. 6. It is proper to set forth in Reunion programs a short description of each Degree, provided that the substance thereof be first approved by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Orient wherein such description is used.

**Degree Description  
Permitted in Programs**

SEC. 7. Whenever it is practicable, all programs and announcements of Reunions must be submitted to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for his approval before they are published and distributed.

**S.G.I.G. or Deputy to  
Approve Programs and  
Announcements**

### **Books**

SEC. 8. All books published by the Supreme Council except the Rituals, Secret Works, and Rubrics may be sold by the Grand Executive Director to proper persons. No books shall be sold except for cash.

**Books, Sale Of**

SEC. 9. Each Sovereign Grand Inspector General is entitled to have as his own property one copy of each work published by the Supreme Council, other than the Rituals, Secret Works, and Rubrics.

**Books for S.G.I.G.s**

### **Libraries**

SEC. 10. The Libraries of the Supreme Council are placed under the charge of the Sovereign Grand Commander, who shall appoint the employees and prescribe rules and regulations for the management of the same.

**Libraries of the  
Supreme Council under  
Charge of Sov. Grand  
Commander**

## **Article XII Rituals, Programs, Books, and Libraries**

### **Libraries, Catalogues Of**

SEC. 11. Catalogues of the Libraries shall be printed and distributed as the Sovereign Grand Commander may direct.

## **ARTICLE XIII**

### **Clothing and Uniforms, Grand Decorations, Jewels, Rings, Caps**

#### **Clothing and Uniforms**

SEC. 1. The clothing and uniforms shall be such as are prescribed in the Rituals and Liturgies.

**Clothing and Uniforms,  
Prescribed by Rituals**

SEC. 2. At the reception of candidates and upon other ceremonial occasions the Brethren may wear the ordinary evening dress of society or other black clothing, in lieu of the uniform, with the jewels and decorations of this Rite belonging to their rank.

**Clothing, Black in Lieu  
of Uniform**

SEC. 3. The mourning color of the Supreme Council is violet on white; that of the Court of Honour, black on orange; that of all the other Bodies, black on red.

**Mourning, Colors Of**

#### **Grand Decorations**

SEC. 4. Those who are entitled to wear the Grand Decorations (*Majora Insignia Ordinis*) of the Thirty-third Degree will be divided into four classes and are as follows:

**Thirty-third Degree  
Grand Decorations  
Four Classes Of**

SEC. 5. Fourth Class: The decoration shall be of gold and enamel, one and one-half of an inch in diameter, and made in the form as described in the Appendix to the *Grand Constitutions of 1786*. (See 4°, Article II, page 269, *Grand Constitutions*.) It shall be worn on the left breast, suspended by a white ribbon, one and one fourth inches in width, with gold slide and buckle. This decoration may be worn by all Inspectors General Honorary. (See page XIII-4 for illustration.)

## **Article XIII Grand Decorations**

SEC. 6. Third Class: The decoration shall be as prescribed for the Fourth Class, but it shall be one and three-fourth inches in diameter and shall be worn on the left breast, suspended by a white ribbon edged with purple, one and one-half inches in width, with gold slide and buckle. This decoration may be worn by all Active and Emeriti Members of the Supreme Council not of the Second Class. (See page XIII-4 for illustration.)

SEC. 7. Second Class: The decoration shall be as prescribed for the Third Class, but it shall be worn suspended from the neck, on the breast, by a purple ribbon edged with white, two and one-half inches in width. This decoration may be worn by the Grand Prior, Grand Chancellor, Grand Minister of State, Grand Almoner, and such Active and Emeriti Members as have held these offices, and also by all Active and Emeriti Members who have been such for twenty years, and by Grand Representatives of this Supreme Council in other jurisdictions.

SEC. 8. First Class: The decoration shall be as prescribed for the Third Class, but shall be imposed upon a rayed sun of silver, two and one-half inches in diameter, set with diamonds, and worn on the left breast. This decoration may be worn by the Sovereign Grand Commander, Lieutenant Grand Commander, by those Brethren who have held either of said offices, and by eminent Masons abroad to whom the honor may be especially decreed by the Supreme Council.

### **Jewels**

#### **Grand Cross Jewel, Description**

SEC. 9. Grand Cross. The Jewel of a Grand Cross of the Court of Honour is a Teutonic Cross of gold, one and three-fourth inches square, with raised or beaded edges, resting on a wreath of gold oak leaves; engraved on each arm of the cross is a column on which is a circular plate of gold with white enameled center bordered with blue enamel; gold beads around its base. In the center is a crimson rose with green leaves, and in the border "GR.:



## **Grand Decorations Article XIII**

CROSS COURT OF HONOUR” in gold letters. It shall be worn on the left breast, suspended by a white ribbon, one and one-fourth inches in width, with gold slide and buckle. (See page XIII-5 for illustration.)

SEC. 10. Knight Commander. The Jewel of a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour is a Passion Cross of gold laurel leaves; on the cross is a raised plate of gold with white enameled center; gold beads around its base. In the center is trefoil of green, around which is “KT.: COMM.: COURT OF HONOUR” in gold letters. It shall be worn on the left breast, suspended by a white ribbon, one and one-fourth inches in width, with gold bar. (See page XIII-5 for illustration.)

**Knight Commander  
Jewel, Description**

SEC. 11. Thirty-second Degree. The Jewel of the Thirty-second Degree is a Teutonic Cross of gold, one and three-fourth inches square, with raised or beaded edges and a surface within frosted, having in the center a wreath of green enamel, with a gold tie at bottom, and within the wreath the numerals XXXII in gold. (See page XIII-5 for illustration.)

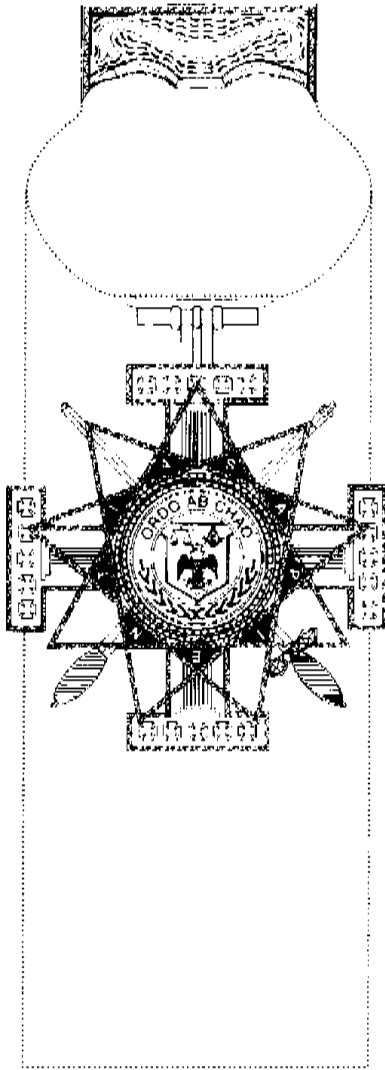
**Thirty-second Degree  
Jewel, Description**

SEC. 12. Other Degrees. The Jewels of the Thirtieth Degree, of the Eighteenth Degree, and of the Fourteenth Degree shall be such as are prescribed in the Rituals and Liturgies of those Degrees.

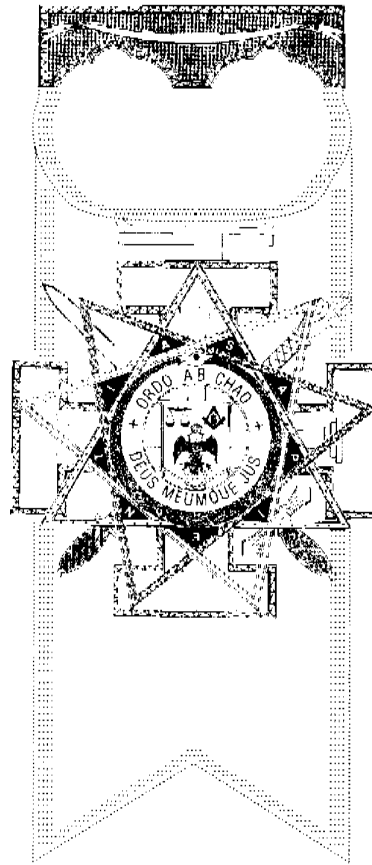
**Other Jewels,  
Described in Rituals**

## Article XIII Grand Decorations

### Grand Decorations (Illustrations)



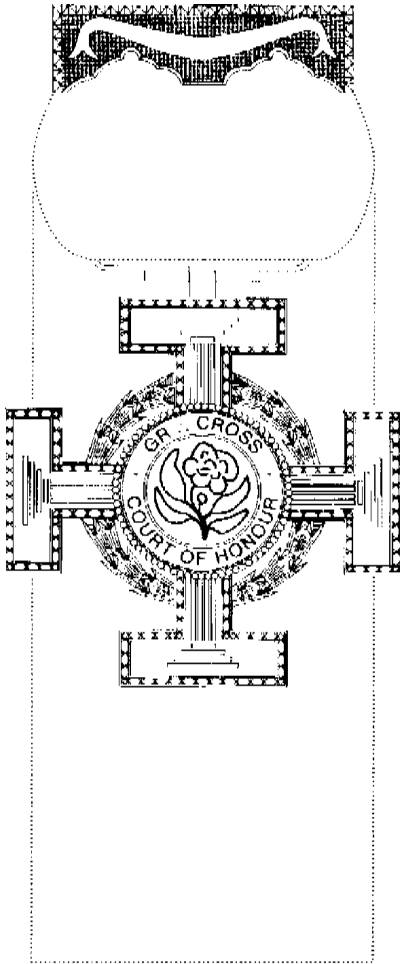
**Grand Decoration**  
33° Insp.: Genl.: Hon.:  
Fourth Class (For description,  
see SEC. 5 of this Article.)



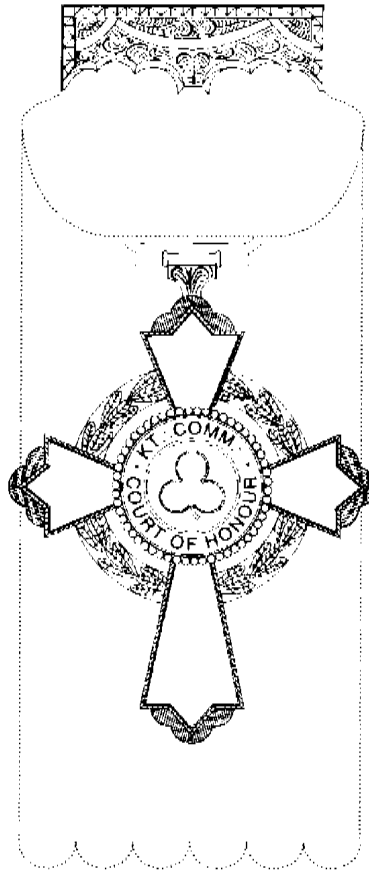
**Grand Decoration**  
33° Active: Sov.: Gr.: Insp.: Genl.:  
Third Class (For description,  
see SEC. 6 of this Article.)

## Grand Decorations Article XIII

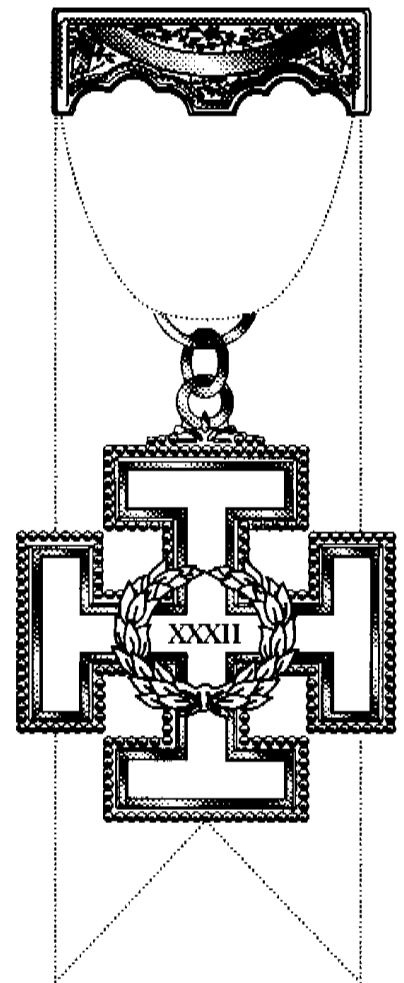
### Jewels (Illustrations)



**Jewel of a Grand Cross**  
(For description, see SEC. 9  
of this Article.)



**Jewel of a Knight Commander**  
(For description, see SEC. 10  
of this Article.)



**Jewel of the Thirty-second Degree**  
(For description, see SEC. 11  
of this Article.)

## Article XIII Grand Decorations

### Rings

#### Thirty-third Degree Ring, Description

SEC. 13. The ring of the Thirty-third Degree is a triple one of gold, like three small half-round rings side by side, united into one, not exceeding five-sixteenths of an inch in width. This ring may be plain without any device or mark on the outside of it, or it may have on the outside of it an equilateral triangular-shaped plate with the numerals 33 on same. Engraved within the ring should be the proper inscription, together with the name of the Brother and the date on which he received the Degree.

#### Fourteenth Degree Ring, Description

SEC. 14. The ring of the Fourteenth Degree is a plain band of gold or silver color which may be encased in a lucite pyramid, approximately five-sixteenths of an inch in width, and having imposed thereon an engraved or enameled plate in the form of an equilateral triangle and within the triangle the Hebrew letter “Yod” and engraved within the ring the proper inscription. The recipient of a Fourteenth Degree Ring is hereby prohibited from placing any emblem or design thereon, except as provided in this section.

### Rings (Illustrations)



14° Ring



33° Ring

**Grand Decorations Article XIII**

**Official Caps of the Supreme Council  
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite  
Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.**



**33° Active: Sovereign Grand  
Inspector General**



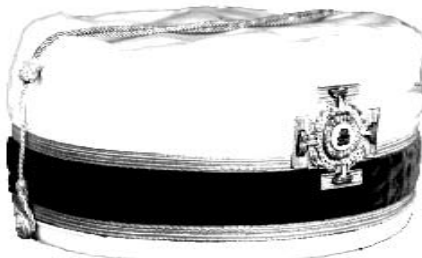
**Sovereign Grand  
Commander**



**Deputy of the Supreme  
Council**



**33° Inspector General  
Honorary**



**33° Grand Cross  
Court of Honour**



**32° Knight Commander  
Court of Honour**



**Fifty-Year  
Membership**



**32° Master of the  
Royal Secret**

(For descriptions, see *SECTIONS 15* through *22* of this Article.)

## Article XIII Grand Decorations

### Cap Descriptions

#### Active Member Cap, Description

SEC. 15. 33° Active: Sovereign Grand Inspector General. The cap for an Active Member of the Supreme Council shall be circular style, about 3-1/2 inches high, made of heavy purple grosgrain silk. Band of purple silk velvet 1-1/2 inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below the band. One row of 1-1/2 ligne No. 2079 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band, leaving an interval of 1-1/8 inches showing on band between the lace. The band embroidered in laurel vine, leaf, and berry pattern in Nos. 26 and 27 fine gilt bullion. In the center of the front of the cap a slanting Patriarchal Cross with crosslets of No. 26 fine gilt bullion, open center in cross filled with purple silk velvet. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with purple satin and interlined with cotton and muslin, the inner rim of buckram with a leather sweat band. (See page XIII-7 for illustration.)

#### Sov. Gr. Commander Cap, Description

SEC. 16. Sovereign Grand Commander. The cap for the Sovereign Grand Commander shall be the same as the above, except it shall be made of violet grosgrain silk, and the band shall be violet silk velvet of a darker shade than the grosgrain silk, and the Sovereign Grand Commander's Cross, being a Cross of Salem with crosslets, shall be used in place of the Patriarchal Cross, open center in the Cross of Salem filled with purple silk velvet. (See page XIII-7 for illustration.)

## **Grand Decorations Article XIII**

SEC. 17. Deputy of the Supreme Council. The cap for Deputy of the Supreme Council shall be circular style 3-1/8 inches high, made of heavy white grosgrain silk. Band of #9 scarlet velvet 1-1/4 inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below band. One row of 3 ligne No. 1962 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band. In the center of the front of the cap a slanting Patriarchal Cross without crosslets of No. 26 fine gilt bullion embroidery with No. 3 gilt jaceron around the cross, open center in cross filled with red silk velvet. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with white satin and interlined with cotton and muslin, the inner rim of buckram, with a leather sweat band. (See page XIII-7 for illustration.)

**Deputy Cap,  
Description**

SEC. 18. 33° Inspector General Honorary. The cap for an Inspector General Honorary shall be circular style, 3-1/8 inches high, made of heavy white grosgrain silk. Band of white silk velour 1-1/4 inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below the band. One row of 3 ligne No. 1962 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band, leaving an interval of 9/16 inch showing on band between the lace. In the center of the front of the cap a slanting Patriarchal Cross without crosslets of No. 26 fine gilt bullion embroidery with No. 3 gilt jaceron around the cross, open center in cross filled with red silk velvet. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with purple satin and interlined with cotton and muslin, the inner rim of buckram, with a leather sweat band. (See page XIII-7 for illustration.)

**Inspector General  
Honorary Cap,  
Description**

## Article XIII Grand Decorations

### Grand Cross Cap, Description

SEC. 19. 33° Grand Cross Court of Honour. The cap for Grand Cross of the Court of Honour shall be circular style, 3-1/8 inches high, made of heavy white grosgrain silk. Band of blue silk velvet 1-1/4 inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below the band. One row of 3 ligne No. 1962 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band, leaving an interval of 9/16 inch showing on band between the lace. On center in front a representation of the Grand Cross jewel made as follows: A Teutonic Cross 1-3/4 inches square of 20 ligne gilt flat wire lace edged with 2 rows of No. 3 gilt jaceron resting on a wreath of oak leaves embroidered in Nos. 26 and 27 gilt bullion. On each arm of the cross a column embroidered in Nos. 26 and 27 gilt bullion outlined with black silk thread. On the center of the cross a circle of white grosgrain silk 7/16 inch in diameter with an outer circle of blue grosgrain silk 3/4 inch in diameter, both circles outlined with No. 3 gilt jaceron with loops on outside of outer circle of No. 26 gilt bullion. On the blue silk in gold-colored silk embroidery the letters "GR.: CROSS COURT OF HONOUR." On the white silk circle a crimson rose outlined in black with green leaves and stem in silk embroidery. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with blue satin and interlined with cotton and muslin, the inner rim of buckram, with a leather sweat band. (See page XIII-7 for illustration.)

### Knight Commander, Court of Honour Cap, Description

SEC. 20. 32° Knight Commander Court of Honour. The cap for a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour shall be circular style, 3-1/8 inches high, made of heavy red grosgrain silk. Band of red grosgrain silk 1-1/4 inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below the band. One row of 3 ligne No. 1962 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band, leaving an interval 9/16 inch showing on band between the lace. On center in front a representation of the Knight Commander jewel made as follows: A Passion Cross 2 inches long, with fancy arms embroidered in Nos. 25 and 26 gilt bullion resting on a wreath of gold laurel leaves of Nos. 26 and 27 gilt bullion. The arms of the cross



to have red silk velvet centers. A double circle of white grosgrain silk outlined with No. 3 gilt jaceron with loops on outside of outer circle of No. 26 gilt bullion. On outer circle in gold-colored silk embroidery the letters "KT.: COMM.: COURT OF HONOUR." On the inner circle the trefoil in green silk embroidery. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with red satin and interlined with muslin, the inner rim of buckram, with a leather sweat band. (See page XIII-7 for illustration.)

SEC. 21. Fifty-Year Membership. Any 14° member in good standing of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America who became a member of the Scottish Rite fifty (50) or more calendar years prior to the current calendar year is entitled to recognition as such. Such recognition will permit the recipient to wear a 50-year cap or a 50-year pin, and he shall also be entitled to receive a proper certificate. For a member to qualify for such recognition, his records shall be submitted by the Valley Secretary to the Grand Executive Director to be certified.

**Fifty-Year Membership,  
Qualifications**

[2] This cap shall be the same style and shape as that for Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, except that it is made of light blue grosgrain silk, with a band of the same material 1-1/4 inches wide finished. The insignia on center in front shall be the figure 50 surrounded by a green silk embroidered laurel wreath. Cap shall be lined with light blue satin and interlined with muslin. Name of Brother receiving cap shall be embroidered in silk on a separate piece of silk sewn onto the lining. (See page XIII-7 for illustration.)

**Fifty-Year Membership,  
Cap Description**

## Article XIII Grand Decorations

### Thirty-second Degree Cap, Description

SEC. 22. 32° Master of the Royal Secret. The cap for a Master of the Royal Secret shall be circular style, 3-1/8 inches high, made of heavy black grosgrain silk. Band of 18 ligne No. 2180 black silk braid 1-1/4 inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below the band. One row of 3 ligne No. 1962 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band, leaving an interval 9/16 inch on band between the lace. On center in front a double-headed eagle 1-3/4 inches high with a rayed equilateral triangle 3/4 inch high, including rays, above the eagle. The total height of the eagle and rayed equilateral triangle to be 2-1/2 inches. The eagle of Nos. 29, 30, and 31 gilt bullion. The equilateral triangle to be of red cloth outlined with No. 3 gilt jaceron with figure 32 in center and rays outside of Nos. 25 and 26 gilt bullion embroidery. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord, fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with black satin and interlined with muslin, the inner rim of buckram, with a leather sweat band. (See page XIII-7 for illustration.)

### Official Flag of the Southern Jurisdiction, Description

SEC. 23. Scottish Rite Official Flag. The official flag shall be as follows: the dimensions shall be 3' x 5'. The field shall be white with a centered Scottish Rite eagle. The eagle shall have a dark brown body, white heads and tail feathers and gold beaks and talons. Upon its breast shall be an erect, bordered white triangle, with a centered "32." The eagle's talons shall clutch the blade of a silver, flaming sword draped with a golden banner, bearing, "SPES MEA IN DEO EST." Centered vertically above as well as below the eagle shall be a purple horizontal bar, trimmed with gold at the top and bottom and extending the width of the flag. Each bar shall have white lettering. The bar above the eagle shall bear the words "Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry." The bar below the eagle shall bear the words "Southern Jurisdiction, United States of America."

## **ARTICLE XIV**

### **Court of Honour**

SEC. 1. The Court of Honour, established for those Brethren who have deserved well of the Rite, shall be composed of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, the Emeriti and Honorary Members of the Supreme Council, the Grand Crosses, and the Knights Commander.

**Court of Honour,  
Members**

SEC. 2. Not less than thirty days before each regular session of the Supreme Council each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council may file, in the number below specified, in the office of the Grand Executive Director, the written nominations of Masters of the Royal Secret who are members in good standing in his Orient, for the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour. Nominations filed less than thirty days before any such session shall not be considered at that session, except by unanimous consent. Nominations shall be made upon blanks furnished by the Grand Executive Director, and must state the name in full of each nominee, the place and date of his birth, his occupation, his residence, the date when he received the Thirty-second Degree, the names and location of the Bodies of the Rite with which he is affiliated, and a brief statement of his specific services rendered in behalf of this Rite. Provided, that when the nominee is either a resident of or a member of Bodies in another Orient under this general jurisdiction, the approval of such nomination by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in such other Orient shall be obtained, and such nomination shall be charged to the Orient of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council making the same.

**Knight Commander,  
Qualifications and  
Nomination Procedure**

## Article XIV Court of Honour

**Knight Commander,  
Number of Nominations  
Based on Inspectors  
General Honorary  
Quota**

[2] The number of such nominations for Knights Commander for each Orient in the United States shall be two for each nomination for Inspector General Honorary as set forth in Article IV, Section 9, of these *Statutes*.

[3] The smaller territorial and foreign Orients may each have eight nominations for Knights Commander, except when in the judgment of the Sovereign Grand Commander a larger number is needed in a particular Orient. The nominations set forth in this numbered paragraph may be a lesser number at the option of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of each Orient.

**Knight Commander,  
Number of Nominations  
Based on Number of  
Masters of the Royal  
Secret**

SEC. 3. In addition to the nominations provided for in the preceding section, and in addition to the number standing to his credit, and in the same form and manner, and complying with the same conditions, each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council may nominate for the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, four Masters of the Royal Secret for each fifty Masters of the Royal Secret who have received the Thirty-second Degree in his Orient since the preceding regular session. Whatever fractions are left over from one such session may be counted in the quota of the next. The nominations set forth in this numbered paragraph may be a lesser number at the option of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of each Orient.

[2] Nominations under this and the preceding section shall be referred to the Committee on Nominations and report had thereon before ballot is taken.

**Knight Commander,  
Arrearage in Dues  
Prevents Nomination  
Of**

[3] No nomination shall be made for a member of any Body who is in arrears in his dues.

## Court of Honour Article XIV

SEC. 4. The Supreme Council reserves to itself the right to elect Knights Commander of the Court of Honour from the Masters of the Royal Secret of the jurisdiction at large whenever, in its judgment, the interest of the Rite will be thereby promoted.

**Knight Commander,  
Supreme Council May  
Elect at Large**

[2] The Sovereign Grand Commander may between Biennial Sessions of the Supreme Council elect ten Knights Commander of the Court of Honour at Large whenever, in his judgment, the interest of the Rite will be thereby promoted. However, Article XIV, Sec. 5, Paragraph 2 must be complied with.

**Knight Commander,  
Between Sessions  
Grand Commander  
May Elect at Large**

SEC. 5. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General or a Deputy of the Supreme Council may not nominate to the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour anyone who has not received the Thirty-second Degree at least forty-six months before the session at which the nomination is to be voted on, and has not a Patent of the Thirty-second Degree from this Supreme Council or a similar Patent from a regular Supreme Council of another grand jurisdiction, which has been officially endorsed by the officers of the Bodies of an Orient in this jurisdiction with which he has become affiliated, and who is not an affiliated Master Mason and a member of a Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh, and Consistory of an Orient of this jurisdiction.

**Knight Commander,  
Nomination  
Restrictions**

[2] The ceremonies of Investiture for the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour may be held in the various Orients under the direction of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General or Deputies rather than by this Supreme Council at its biennial session. If a Brother elected to be invested with the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour does not present himself to receive the Investiture at or prior to the regular session of the Supreme Council next succeeding his election, such election shall be void, but the time may be extended by unanimous vote of the Supreme Council.

**Knight Commander,  
Ceremony May Be Held  
in Orients**

**Knight Commander  
Elects, Attendance  
Required at Ceremony  
of Investiture**

## **Article XIV Court of Honour**

### **Knight Commander, Ceremony May Be Open**

[3] Thirty-second Degree Brethren may be admitted to the Knight Commander of the Court of Honour Ceremony at the discretion of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council conducting the ceremony. Furthermore, the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council are permitted to conduct the investiture of the Knights Commander in open ceremony with the deletion of the first section as follows: "I invoke upon myself all my Masonic obligations, vows, and promises."

### **Knight Commander, Loss of Rank, Rights, and Privileges**

[4] Whenever a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour for any cause is suspended by or becomes unaffiliated in his Blue Lodge or any Body of this Rite, and such status so continues for one year, or if he is expelled by any such Lodge or Body, he thereby loses his rank and decoration, together with all his rights and privileges as such.

### **Knight Commander, Not To Be Applied For**

SEC. 6. The rank of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour or Grand Cross shall never be asked or applied for, and if asked or applied for, shall be refused.

### **Grand Cross, Qualifications For**

SEC. 7. Before the first day of each regular session each Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may, by sealed letter addressed to the Sovereign Grand Commander, nominate one Inspector General Honorary from his Orient for investiture with the dignity of Grand Cross for signal services and unusual merit, which he shall specify. These letters shall show, on the outside of the envelope, the following words, "Nomination for Grand Cross," without the name of the nominee, and shall be laid, with seals unbroken, before the Sovereign Grand Commander, who shall refer them to a committee consisting of all the members of the Council of Administration present at the session, by whom they shall be opened. The recommendations shall be read and the committee shall proceed to select, by unanimous consent, the Grand Cross nominees.

## **Court of Honour Article XIV**

[2] The designates thus selected must be voted upon by the Supreme Council, and unanimous vote shall be necessary in each case for an election.

**Grand Cross,  
Election Of**

[3] A Grand Cross shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

**Grand Cross,  
Exempt from Dues**

SEC. 8. The Court of Honour may assemble when called together by the Sovereign Grand Commander, shall be presided over by a Legate Grand Cross designated by him, may adopt rules of order and bylaws for its government, recommend to the Supreme Council measures of legislation, and be heard in the Supreme Council by its Grand Crosses to explain the same.

**Court of Honour,  
Assemblies Of**

SEC. 9. Each Grand Cross shall receive a Diploma and Jewel from the Supreme Council without charge.

**Grand Cross,  
No Charge for Jewel  
or Diploma**

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## **ARTICLE XV**

### **Regulations Governing Subordinate Bodies**

SEC. 1. Subordinate Bodies of the Rite in this jurisdiction are organized and exist by virtue of Letters Temporary, which are signed by the officer issuing them, or of Permanent Charters granted by the Supreme Council and signed by the Sovereign Grand Commander, the Grand Chancellor, and the Grand Secretary General, attested by the great seal of the Supreme Council.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Organized under  
Letters Temporary or  
Permanent Charters**

SEC. 2. A regular Lodge of Perfection is composed of nine members, and a perfect Lodge, of thirteen; a regular Chapter of Rose Croix, of seven members, and a perfect Chapter, of thirteen; a regular Council of Kadosh, of nine members, and a perfect Council, of eighteen; a regular Consistory of Masters of the Royal Secret, of nine members, and a perfect Consistory, of fourteen; and the number of members required to make these Bodies regular is indispensable.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Number of Members  
Required for Regularity**

SEC. 3. A Body may be opened with a lesser number of its own members if there be present the regular number including visitors, or if a Sovereign Grand Inspector General or a Deputy of the Supreme Council be present, but without the regular number of its own members present, the Body can do no work whatever except to confer Degrees, for which purpose only, when candidates have already been elected, it may convene and proceed with no fewer than five members.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Minimum Number of  
Members Required To  
Open**

SEC. 4. The territorial jurisdiction of a Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh, or Consistory is concurrent with that of every other Body of the same Degree in the same jurisdiction, unless otherwise limited and defined by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Territorial Jurisdiction**

## Article XV Subordinate Bodies

### **Subordinate Bodies, Place of Meeting May Be Changed by S.:G.:I.:G.: or Deputy**

SEC. 5. The Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may remove the place of meeting of any Body to any other place within the same city, town, or village or transfer the Charter and meeting place of any Body to any other city, town, or village within his Orient. (See also 1929 *Trans.*, page 249.)

### **Subordinate Bodies, Surrender of Charter**

SEC. 6. Any Body may, by vote of its members had at a Stated Meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose, of which notice is given to all of its members, surrender its Charter and cease to exist, unless nine members of such Body, if it be a Lodge of Perfection, Council of Kadosh, or Consistory, or seven members if it be a Chapter of Rose Croix, vote in the negative, in which event the Charter and other property of the Body will be retained and it may continue its work.

### **Subordinate Bodies Forfeiture of Charter**

SEC. 7. Upon report and recommendation of the Committee on the State of the Order and Unfinished Business, the Charter of any Body which has failed to make returns and pay assessments and dues for two years may, by vote of the Supreme Council, be declared forfeited and void. No Subordinate Body under the jurisdiction of this Supreme Council shall withdraw or attempt to withdraw its allegiance to the Supreme Council without the consent of the Sovereign Grand Commander or of the Supreme Council. The Charter of any Subordinate Body attempting to withdraw its allegiance shall be forfeited and the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council instructed to pick up said Charter and return the same to the Supreme Council.

### **Subordinate Bodies, Forfeiture of Charter for Attempted Withdrawal of Allegiance**

### **Subordinate Bodies, Disposition of All Property upon Cessation of Existence**

SEC. 8. When a Body ceases to exist from any cause, all of its books and records and all of its personal property, consisting of emblems, symbols, and other equipment and paraphernalia used or employed in exemplification of the Degrees of the Rite, and particularly those relating

## **Subordinate Bodies Article XV**

to the Secret Work of the Order, shall immediately pass to and become the property of the Supreme Council and shall be forthwith forwarded to the Supreme Council by the officers of said Body, or by any person having the same in possession or custody. All other property, real and/or personal, of such Body shall be subjected first to the payment of all lawful liens existing against the same in the order of their legal priority; and secondly, the remainder of such property, if any, shall be subjected to the payment, pro rata, of all other lawful unsecured debts of said Body. All the residue of such property remaining after the payment of liens and debts as herein provided shall immediately pass to and become the property of the Supreme Council.

[2] To effect the purposes of this section, the Sovereign Grand Commander or other proper officer of the Supreme Council is hereby given power, to be exercised in his discretion, to appoint one or more persons who shall, upon such appointment, take possession and control of such property, and liquidate and administer the same in accordance with the laws of the state in which such property is situate and in accordance with the provisions of this statute not in conflict with such state laws.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Appointment of  
Administrator**

[3] When a Body ceases to exist from any cause, the Grand Executive Director shall issue Demits to the members thereof who are in good standing.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Demits Issued upon  
Cessation of Existence**

SEC. 9. Stated Meetings of a Lodge of Perfection must be held at least monthly, and of a Chapter of Rose Croix and a Council of Kadosh, at least once in two months, except during the months of July, August, and September. A Consistory must hold regular meetings at least once every three months.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Stated Meetings**

## Article XV Subordinate Bodies

### Subordinate Bodies, Feast Days

SEC. 10. Lodges of Perfection celebrate as a feast day the fifteenth day of the Hebrew month Tishri. The meetings of the Chapter of Rose Croix are held on Maundy Thursday without a feast or banquet, and on Easter Sunday. Councils of Kadosh celebrate as feast day the thirteenth day of January. The annual feast day of the Consistory is the thirty-first day of May.

[2] The Ceremony of Extinguishing and Relighting the Lights may be open to the public by using the Rituals modified for that purpose.

### Subordinate Bodies, Bylaws Requirements

SEC. 11. Each Body must have separate bylaws which must be sent for approval to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or to the Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Orient within thirty days after their adoption, or they will cease to be in force at the end of that period. While awaiting approval, they will be provisionally in force, and if no action is taken upon them within sixty days, they become laws. After they become laws, the presiding officer of the Body must file a copy thereof with the Grand Executive Director. Thereafter amendments to the bylaws must be made and filed in the same manner.

### Subordinate Bodies, Election of Officers

#### Appointment of Secretary

SEC. 12. Bodies may, by their bylaws, provide for the election of their officers, except for the Secretary, who shall be appointed by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council after conferring with the Valley Personal Representative and any other line officers of the Valley, either annually, biennially, or triennially. Elections in Lodges of Perfection shall be held at the regular meeting nearest to the third day of the Hebrew month Adar; in Chapters of Rose Croix, at the regular meeting nearest to the Thursday after Easter; in Councils of Kadosh, at the regular meeting nearest the twenty-fourth day of June; in Consistories, at the regular meeting nearest to the twenty-seventh day of December, provided, however, that a Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may permit joint elections at other times; and if, from any cause, a Body fails to elect officers on the day prescribed, the

## **Subordinate Bodies Article XV**

Sovereign Grand Inspector General or the Deputy of the Supreme Council shall order an election to be held on another day fixed by himself, due notice thereof being given to members.

SEC. 13. Officers may be installed at the same meeting at which they are elected or appointed, or at any time within thirty days thereafter. After such time the installation can be had only by dispensation from the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or the Deputy of the Supreme Council. The installation ceremony may, in addition, be performed either at a joint meeting or a joint and open meeting of Scottish Rite members, their families or friends, with approval of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council. Until the new officers are duly installed, the old officers hold over. Elective officers must be installed in person. Appointive officers may be installed by proxy.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Installation of Officers**

SEC. 14. Any officer of a Body may resign.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Resignation of Officers**

[2] The resignation of any officer of a Body may be demanded and his place made vacant by proposition moved at one regular meeting and considered and sustained by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members present at the next regular meeting.

SEC. 15. A member of a Subordinate Body of the Rite maintaining his permanent residence in an Orient other than that in which such Body is located may not be elected to an office in such Body; and when an officer of such Body, after his election, moves from the territorial jurisdiction of that Body, his office immediately becomes vacant; provided, however, that the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Orient wherein the Body is located, if he deems it best for the interests of the Body and of the Rite, may

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Residence  
Requirement for Elec-  
tion to Office**

## **Article XV Subordinate Bodies**

**Residence  
Requirement, May Be  
Waived by S.G.I.G.  
or Deputy**

authorize the Body to elect to office members who retain their membership in the Body but who reside without the local jurisdiction or beyond the limits of the Orient, and such Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may ratify and confirm such election if had originally without authority previously given, and may, by appropriate order, authorize the continuance in office of any member of such Body who has previously been elected to an office therein and who, during the term of his office, removes from the Orient in which such Body is located or from the territorial jurisdiction of such Body. Any office in a Subordinate Body shall become vacant by the death of the incumbent, his resignation, his suspension or expulsion, or upon his becoming a nonaffiliate in any Body of the Rite.

**Vacancies in Office,  
as Result of Death,  
Resignation,  
Suspension, or  
Non-affiliation**

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Succession, Election,  
and Appointment  
of Officers To Fill Va-  
cancies**

SEC. 16. When a vacancy occurs in the presiding office of a Body, the second officer will succeed the first, and the third, the second, and the third office shall be filled by election at a regular meeting, of which due notice shall be given to the members. If both of these officers desire to retain their old positions, the election may be held for the office of presiding officer; and if the second officer will accept the head of the Body, and the third officer desires to keep his old place, the election shall be only for the second place. When vacancies occur in other offices, they shall be filled by appointment made by the presiding officer, except in the case of the Secretary, who shall be appointed in accordance with Article XV, Section 12.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Annual Reports  
Provided by Grand  
Exec. Director**

SEC. 17. The Grand Executive Director shall provide annual reports in triplicate on or before the first day of April. One copy will be for the Secretary of the Subordinate Body, one for the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in his Orient, and the third for permanent record in the office of the Grand Executive Director.

## **Subordinate Bodies Article XV**

[2] A report, giving inventory of Rituals, Secret Works, and Rubrics as of December 31, shall be submitted annually by the Secretary of the Subordinate Body to the Grand Executive Director's office on forms provided by the latter's office.

**Annual Rituals Report  
Submitted by Secretary**

SEC. 18. Each Body is required to retain control over its own financial affairs and to administer them by the vote of its own members without the interposition of a Board of Control or any similar board; provided, that where Bodies are located in one place and consent thereto, the funds may be managed and controlled by the Lodge of Perfection.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Financial Control**

SEC. 19. Almoners shall report to the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General or Deputies of the Supreme Council in the Orients each January, showing their yearly total receipts and disbursements, amount on hand, and any investments.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Almoner's Report**

[2] The Almoners shall be included in the bonds of those handling funds for the Bodies, with protection in line with the operations.

**Subordinate Bodies, Al-  
moners To Be Bonded**

[3] Contributions shall be verified by the signatures of any two officers at the time of collection and deposited in checking bank accounts.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Contributions To Be  
Verified and Deposited**

[4] Disbursements for all purposes shall be made by check signed by both the Almoner and either the Secretary or the Treasurer.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Disbursements**

SEC. 20. When a Body is opened in its highest Degree, all its Degrees are opened and it may pass from work in one Degree to work in another without other form than the declaration that it does so.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Opening on Degrees**

## **Article XV Subordinate Bodies**

### **Subordinate Bodies, Public Appearance in Uniform Restricted**

SEC. 21. No Body or any member thereof is permitted to appear in public in uniform, except at the funeral of a member of the Rite, or by dispensation issued by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council.

### **Subordinate Bodies, Regalia and Paraphernalia To Be Used Only for Masonic Purposes**

SEC. 22. No Body shall rent, loan, or allow the use of its regalia or other paraphernalia used in the work of its Degrees or ceremonies for any other than Masonic purposes.

### **Subordinate Bodies, Incorporation Prohibited**

SEC. 23. No Body or Bodies of the Rite shall be permitted to become a body corporate. By permission of the Supreme Council, or of the Sovereign Grand Commander in recess, any Body or Bodies of the Scottish Rite may, by resolution, authorize designated trustees to organize a corporation or an association, or establish a trust under the civil laws of the jurisdiction in which they are situate, to acquire by gift, devise, or purchase, and hold title to, real or personal property for the use of such Body or Bodies. Such corporation or association or trust shall remain a part of and under the direct control of the Supreme Council.

### **May Authorize Trustees To Organize Corporation for Specific Purposes**

### **Subordinate Bodies, Control and Management of Property**

[2] The regulations for the use of the property, such as the construction of buildings, incurring of indebtedness and securing payment of the same, and all matters relating to the control and management of the property belong to the membership of the Body or Bodies interested, subject always to the general powers of supervision of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or the Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Orient in which the Body is situated, and his written approval is required prior to sales, contributions, or mortgages of any real estate or substantial assets, and in case of construction of buildings, written approval of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council is required for the site, plans, contracts, acceptance of bids, and financing.



## **Subordinate Bodies Article XV**

[3] It is not objectionable to use the word “club” in designating an organized group of Scottish Rite Masons, anything to the contrary in the proceedings heretofore notwithstanding.

**Scottish Rite Club  
May Be Formed**

[4] By permission of the Supreme Council, or of the Sovereign Grand Commander in recess, any Body or Bodies of the Rite may, by resolution, authorize designated trustees to organize a corporation, or association, or establish a trust under the civil laws of the jurisdiction in which they are situate, to acquire, by gift or devise, monies or properties for charitable and educational purposes only, no part of the corpus or income of such corporation to inure to the benefit of any individual or Body, but to be used solely and exclusively for charitable and educational purposes.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
May Authorize Trustees  
To Organize  
Corporation for  
Charitable and  
Educational Purposes**

[5] All corporations, associations, or trusts shall provide in their Charter, Articles of Association, or Trust Agreement that the governing board or trustees must be elected or appointed by a Body or Bodies of the Rite.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Elect or Appoint Board  
of Trustees of  
Corporation**

[6] All corporations, associations, or trusts shall provide in their Charter, Articles of Association, or Trust Agreement the following:

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Corporation under Au-  
thority of  
the Supreme Council**

“The lodges and officers named herein must be acting by the authority of and under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, United States of America.”

## Article XV Subordinate Bodies

[7] All charitable and educational corporations, associations, or trusts shall provide in their Charter, Articles of Association, or Trust Agreement the following:

“On dissolution, liquidation or winding up of the corporation, association or trust, whether voluntary or involuntary, the net assets shall be transferred to a corporation, association, or trust having the same or similar purposes, whose trustees or governing body shall operate by the authority of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Orient (or particular jurisdiction) and under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, United States of America, which corporation, association or trust shall be exempt from federal income tax under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any such future law).”

### Bonding of Subordinate Bodies and Officers

[8] The Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council shall require their respective Bodies to secure such surety bonds protecting their funds and securities in the hands of their officers, committees, and trustees, and the officers and directors of corporations formed by them, as will in their judgment protect the Bodies from any financial loss; that such surety bonds shall be given to the Subordinate Bodies, approved by them, paid for by them, and shall be held in the custody of the presiding officer of the Body.

### Subordinate Bodies, Reunions or Classes Not To Be Named after Living Persons

SEC. 24. No Body, or Reunion, or Class of candidates is permitted to take the name of any living person.

## **Subordinate Bodies Article XV**

SEC. 25. No Scottish Rite Lodge, Club, or Body shall permit the maintenance or operation of any slot machine, pin-ball machine, bingo, keno, or other gambling devices or games of chance in any Scottish Rite Temple, Scottish Rite Cathedral, or in any building, or in any room in any building occupied by or under the control of such Lodge or Body.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Gambling Prohibited**

SEC. 26. An appeal may be taken from the action of any Body by any member feeling himself aggrieved thereby to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Orient in which the Body is situate, at any time within thirty days from the date of such action. An appeal may be taken to the Supreme Council from any decision of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, by any Body or any member feeling aggrieved thereby, within sixty days from the date of such decision. The appeal in the latter case is taken by serving a notice on the officer appealed from and filing a copy with affidavit of service with the Sovereign Grand Commander, who shall have power, in his discretion, to suspend such decision until the appeal can be heard. All appeals to the Supreme Council shall be presented for hearing at the next regular session.

**Subordinate Bodies,  
Rights and Procedures of  
Appeal from Action Of**

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## **ARTICLE XVI**

### **Formation of New Bodies**

SEC. 1. Whenever it is desired to organize a Body of the Rite, a Petition shall be made in writing, either to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Orient in which the Body is to be located. (See Form of Application for New Bodies in the Addendum.) If the Body is to be organized in unoccupied territory for which no Deputy of the Supreme Council has been appointed, the Petition shall be made to the Sovereign Grand Commander, if the Supreme Council is in recess. The Supreme Council reserves the power to issue, when in session, Letters Temporary upon petition made to it directly for the establishment of Bodies in unoccupied territory.

**New Bodies,  
Petition For**

SEC. 2. A Petition for a Lodge of Perfection must be signed by no fewer than nine Perfect Elus; for a Chapter of Rose Croix, by no fewer than seven Knights Rose Croix; for a Council of Kadosh, by no fewer than nine Knights of Kadosh; for a Consistory, by no fewer than nine Masters of the Royal Secret.

**New Bodies,  
Number of Signatures  
Required on Petition**

SEC. 3. Each signer must present with the Petition a Certificate of Good Standing in the Body in which he holds membership, or, if unaffiliated, a Demit from the Body in which he last held membership.

**New Bodies,  
Petition Signatories  
To Present Certificates  
or Demits**

SEC. 4. When the Petition has been completed, it shall be presented to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient wherein the new Body is to be located, who shall approve or disapprove it and return it, with all the papers attached, to the petitioning Brethren. Upon receipt of the Petition approved by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, the petitioners shall forward it, together with all Certificates of Good Standing and Demits, to the Grand Executive Director, and along with proper remittance to cover fees and cost of books, etc., as provided by the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*. (See Article XI.2.)

**New Bodies,  
Petitioning Procedures**

## Article XVI Formation of New Bodies

[2] In an Orient where there is a Deputy of the Supreme Council, he shall transmit such Petition to the Sovereign Grand Commander.

### New Bodies, Issuance of Supplies and Letters Temporary

SEC. 5. Upon the receipt of the Petition and accompanying remittance, the Grand Executive Director shall provide the necessary supplies and report his action to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in whose Orient the Body is to be established, and thereupon Letters Temporary, signed by the Sovereign Grand Commander or Sovereign Grand Inspector General, as the case may be, shall be issued.

### New Bodies, Powers Recited in Letters Temporary

SEC. 6. Letters Temporary shall recite that the Body so created temporarily shall, without being regularly constituted and without installation of its officers, have power to fix and collect the fees and dues to be paid by candidates and members, not inconsistent with the provisions of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*. Such Body shall have the power to elect candidates for the purpose of conferring the Degrees upon them, to elect by affiliation members who have received such Degrees in other Bodies, and to do any and all things necessary and proper for the conduct of the business of such Body under the direction of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council.

### New Bodies, Requirements and Procedure for Application for Charter

SEC. 7. Letters Temporary shall be in force to the regular session of the Supreme Council held next thereafter, when application, with the recommendation of the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, as the case may be, under whose direction the Body was formed, shall be made to the Supreme Council for a Charter. (See Form of Application for Charter of New Bodies in the Addendum.) Such application shall be filed in the office of the Grand Executive Director at least thirty days prior to the date of meeting of the regular session, and shall be accompanied by the required fees for charter and the following documents:

## **Formation of New Bodies Article XVI**

A. Alphabetical list of members who signed the Petition for Letters Temporary, setting forth the name of each in full, followed by Degree attained.

B. Name in full, followed by Degree attained, and name of former Body of each Brother affiliated while under Letters Temporary.

C. Name in full, followed by Degree attained, of each Brother who became a loss under Letters Temporary—death, demission, suspension, etc.—giving date in each case.

D. Name in full, followed by Degree attained, of each Brother invested with Degrees under Letters Temporary.

E. Names in full of Brethren designated by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, as the case may be, as the first officers of the Body under charter.

F. Alphabetical list of all members, names in full, followed by Degree attained, as of the date application is made for charter. A computer generated one-line roster can be ordered from the Supreme Council for this purpose.

[2] Thereupon the Grand Executive Director shall certify whether all fees due the Supreme Council have been paid and present the application with accompanying papers to the Supreme Council for consideration.

SEC. 8. If a Charter be not granted, the Letters Temporary may be continued or the temporary Body may be dissolved, in which latter case the Grand Executive Director shall return the Certificates of Good Standing to the issuing Bodies, and shall issue Demits to all Brethren who were members in good standing of such temporary Body at the date of its dissolution.

**New Bodies, Letters  
Temporary Continued  
or Surrendered  
If Charter Not Granted**

## Article XVI Formation of New Bodies

### **New Bodies, Petition Signatories May Withdraw Signatures**

SEC. 9. A signer of a Petition for Letters Temporary who files a Demit may, up to the time of application for charter by the new Body, have his name stricken from the roll of petitioners and his Demit returned to him. A signer of such Petition who files a Certificate of Good Standing may, up to the time of application for charter by the new Body, have his name stricken from the roll of petitioners, in which case the Secretary of the new Body shall notify the Grand Executive Director, who shall then return the Certificate of Good Standing to the issuing Body, and the Brother's standing in the issuing Body remains uninterrupted.

### **New Bodies, Powers Limited Under Let- ters Temporary**

SEC. 10. Bodies working under Letters Temporary do not have power to enact bylaws, but are governed by the direction of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council.

### **New Bodies, Actions upon Receipt of Permanent Charter**

SEC. 11. When the Supreme Council grants a Permanent Charter for the organization of a Body, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Orient in which it is located will, upon the delivery of the Charter, proceed to organize the new Body permanently by constituting it and installing the officers named in the Charter, and making report thereof, with the date of his action, to the Grand Executive Director, but only in case they were not elected before the Charter was issued.



## **ARTICLE XVII**

### **Regulations Affecting Candidates and Members**

SEC. 1. An applicant for the Degrees in any Body of the Rite must be and remain an affiliated Master Mason in a regular Symbolic Lodge. As between Orients of this Supreme Council, there shall be no residence requirement for a petitioner for the Degrees, provided that upon receipt of the Petition, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Orient of the petitioner's residence shall be notified promptly thereof.

**Membership,  
Qualifications  
for Application**

[2] Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council may put into force and effect such regulations in their respective Orients as they, in their judgment, deem necessary to assure that the Degrees of the Rite are not conferred upon candidates who do not do their duty, or who have not had opportunity to do their duty, as Symbolic Lodge members.

**Candidates for Degrees,  
Regulations Prescribed  
by S.G.I.G.s or  
Deputies**

SEC. 2. It shall not be permissible for any Subordinate Body of this Supreme Council or for any officer or member thereof to publish or circulate in any printed or written form a list of the names of petitioners for the Degrees for general distribution among the members of such Body.

**Petitioners for Degrees,  
Publication of Names  
Prohibited**

SEC. 3. No person who is an actual resident within the territorial jurisdiction of a Body of the Rite within the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council can lawfully obtain any of the Degrees from any other officer or Body under the jurisdiction of any other Supreme Council, unless written consent and waiver of jurisdiction shall have been obtained from the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in charge of the state or territory in which the Brother resides, except as provided in Paragraph 2 of this section.

**Candidate for Degrees  
in Another Supreme  
Council**

**Waiver of Jurisdiction,  
to Another Supreme  
Council**

## Article XVII Candidates and Members

### Waiver of Jurisdiction, From Another Supreme Council

[2] Nor will any person who is a citizen within the territorial jurisdiction of any other Supreme Council be permitted to obtain any of the Degrees from any officer or Body of this jurisdiction until the written consent and waiver of jurisdiction shall have been obtained from the Sovereign Grand Commander or proper official of such foreign Supreme Council, provided, however, where the waiver of jurisdiction is requested between the Supreme Councils of the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions of the Scottish Rite for an American citizen, then the waiver may be obtained from the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in the state or territory in which the Brother resides or is affiliated.

[3] Except as provided in Paragraph [2] of this Section, a person must be a citizen of the United States in order to petition for and receive and new Degrees of this Supreme Council.

### Military and Overseas Employees, Masonic Residence Of

SEC. 4. Any commissioned, non-commissioned, or warrant officer, or enlisted soldier, sailor, or marine of the regular Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard of the United States of America, or any merchant mariner, or any officer of the foreign service of the United States Department of State, or any employee of any agency of the United States, regularly employed outside of the United States, or any civilian, officer, or employee working abroad for American industrial or business firms, who is away from his legal residence for extended periods, being an affiliated Master Mason in good standing, may, by Petition to a Subordinate Body of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of either the Northern or Southern jurisdiction of the United States, establish his Scottish Rite Masonic residence within the jurisdiction of either of said Supreme Councils without reference to his actual or legal place of residence. Such Masonic residence shall be taken for all Scottish Rite purposes to be the residence of such officer or enlisted man, merchant mariner, foreign service officer or employee, or such civilian, officer or employee working abroad for American industrial or business firms, who is away from his legal residence for extended periods, and shall not be changed except by the consent in writing of the

## **Candidates and Members Article XVII**

Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for the jurisdiction in which such Masonic residence has been established.

Note: The foregoing section is enacted to carry into effect the agreement entered into on August 28, 1909, between the two Supreme Councils exercising jurisdiction over the United States. (See 1909 *Trans.*, App. 203; 1961 *Trans.*, p. 313; and 1975 *Trans.*, p. 168.)

SEC. 5. No Body or officer has power to receive a former member of any spurious Body under any other conditions than those required of a Master Mason, together with a voluntary renunciation in writing of all connection with, and allegiance to, such spurious Body. But an apostate can never be received or recognized.

**Members of Spurious  
Bodies, May Not Be Re-  
ceived or Recognized**

SEC. 6. Every petition or proposition for the Degrees or application for affiliation must be made at a Stated Meeting at least one month before being voted upon unless otherwise authorized by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council.

**Propositions or Petitions  
for Degrees or Affiliation,  
Must Lay Over**

SEC. 7. Any qualified person residing within the territorial jurisdiction of this Supreme Council may be proposed at any Stated Meeting of a Body under its jurisdiction by proposition in writing, signed by one member and seconded by another, also in writing. Such proposition may be made without the knowledge of the person proposed. A Body may, by its bylaws, require candidates to apply for Degrees by petition in writing.

**Propositions for  
Membership, Require  
Two Signatories**

SEC. 8. When a Body has ordered a ballot, the presiding officer has no right to stop or postpone it on a private application to him. The member of the Rite who desires postponement must move to postpone the ballot and give reasons therefor, and the Body will then vote to determine whether to postpone or not.

**Ballot,  
Postponement Of**

## **Article XVII Candidates and Members**

### **Ballot, Black Ball, and Objections to Candidates**

SEC. 9. When, upon a ballot being taken, one black ball appears, further action shall be postponed until the next regular meeting of the Body. In the meantime the objector may make known to the presiding officer in secret his objection to the candidate, which objection the presiding officer may, in his discretion, make known to the Body, if the identity of the objecting Brother be not revealed thereby. The presiding officer may also make known to the Body his opinion as to whether or not the reasons which have been communicated to him are sufficient to justify rejection. At the next regular meeting, whether the reasons have been communicated to the presiding officer or not, a second ballot shall be taken, and if there then be one or more negative votes, the candidate will be declared rejected.

### **Ballot Rejection of Candidate**

SEC. 10. When there are two or more black balls cast on the question of initiation or affiliation, the candidate will be declared rejected.

### **Rejected Candidate, May Reapply after Six Months**

SEC. 11. When a candidate for initiation has been rejected, he cannot again apply to the same Body or any other Body or be again proposed in the same Body, until after expiration of six calendar months.

### **Rejected Applicant for Affiliation, May Reapply after Two Months**

SEC. 12. When an applicant for affiliation has been rejected, his admission may be again proposed after the lapse of two months, and the proposal must then lie over one month before ballot.

### **Rejected Candidate, Must Disclose Same When Reapplying**

SEC. 13. A candidate rejected upon petition must, when again applying to the same or to another Body, make known to it the fact of his former rejection.

## **Candidates and Members Article XVII**

SEC. 14. After a candidate has been elected in a Body and before he has received any of the Degrees conferred in that Body, a written objection signed by two or more Brethren, stating reasons therefor, may be interposed. The objections must be considered by the Body and voted upon, and if sustained by one-third of the members present, the Degrees cannot be conferred and the candidate will stand rejected. But after a candidate has received any Degree in a Body, objections are unavailing as to his advancement in that Body.

**Candidate,  
Objections after  
Election**

SEC. 15. A candidate elected to receive the Degrees of a Body must present himself at the proper time and place to receive the same within six months from the date of his election. If he fails to do so, or to show good and sufficient cause for his delay, he shall thereby forfeit the election and must again petition or be proposed and be balloted for as in the first instance.

**Candidate,  
Must Receive Degrees  
within Six Months of  
Election or Forfeit Elec-  
tion**

SEC. 16. Every candidate who receives any of the Degrees in any Body of the Rite becomes thereby a member of the Body which elected him, and his name shall be entered upon its roll.

**Candidate, Becomes  
Member upon Receipt  
of Any of the Degrees**

SEC. 17. If a candidate has received any of the Degrees in the jurisdiction of any other Supreme Council, he must regularly affiliate in this jurisdiction, in all of the Degrees previously received, before he can receive any additional Degrees.

**Candidate, Affiliation  
Requirement**

## **Article XVII Candidates and Members**

**Affiliation from  
Another Jurisdiction,  
Requires Vows of the  
Obligatory Degrees**

SEC. 18. If a member of the Rite of the jurisdiction of any other Supreme Council affiliates with any Body of this jurisdiction, he must take all the pledges and vows of the Fourteenth, Eighteenth, Thirtieth, and Thirty-second Degrees of the Body with which he affiliates. He may purchase the Diplomas or Patents of the Degrees which he has received, or having such documents from another regular jurisdiction may, in lieu of purchasing others, have the same officially endorsed by the presiding officer and Secretary, or Registrar, of each Body of the Rite in the jurisdiction with which he becomes affiliated, report of which endorsement must be made immediately to the Grand Executive Director under the seal of the Body.

**Affiliation,  
Patents or Diplomas  
May Be Purchased or  
Endorsed**

**Affiliation from Another Ju-  
risdiction, Applicant's Blue  
Lodge Membership Ac-  
cepted So Long As Foreign  
Supreme  
Council Is Duly  
Recognized and in  
Fraternal Relations**

[2] When an applicant for affiliation with a Body or Bodies of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry subordinate to this Supreme Council presents with his Petition a proper Demit or Certificate from the Supreme Council of another grand jurisdiction, or from its Subordinate Bodies, which Supreme Council is recognized by and in Fraternal relationship with this Supreme Council, it is not incumbent upon the Scottish Rite Bodies to which such application for affiliation is presented to inquire into the relationship existing between the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the state in which such application is presented and the Symbolic Grand Lodge, or its Subordinate Bodies, in the state or country wherein such applicant for affiliation holds his Blue Lodge membership, so long as said foreign Supreme Council is duly recognized by and in Fraternal relations with this Supreme Council.

**Membership,  
Requires Affiliation  
in Symbolic Lodge**

SEC. 19. Every member of the Rite residing within the jurisdiction of this Supreme Council, to be entitled to the rights and privileges of such membership, must be and remain an affiliated Master Mason in good standing in a regular Symbolic Lodge and a member in good standing of

## **Candidates and Members Article XVII**

each Body of the Rite, the Degrees of which he possesses, except as provided in the third paragraph of this section and in Section 23 of this Article. A member of the Rite is not required to be or remain affiliated with the Body in which he received the Degrees or in whose territorial jurisdiction he is domiciled. A member of a Body under the allegiance of this Supreme Council does not lose that status by removal from the territorial jurisdiction of that Body, or to a foreign jurisdiction.

**Membership,  
May Be Transferred  
at Will**

**Membership,  
Unaffected by Removal  
from Jurisdiction**

[2] A member of the Rite who has received the Degrees in a Body working under a foreign Supreme Council and who is still a resident of the territory occupied by such foreign Supreme Council is eligible to petition for affiliation with a Body of our allegiance, if not prohibited by the Supreme Council to which he owes allegiance.

**Affiliation, Members of  
Foreign Jurisdictions  
Eligible For**

[3] Any member of the Rite who becomes a nonaffiliate of a regular Symbolic Lodge and who does not within two years reaffiliate with the same or some other regular Symbolic Lodge shall cease to be a member of any of the Bodies of the Rite. He is not restored to membership in the Scottish Rite by his subsequent election to membership in and affiliation with a Symbolic Lodge after the lapse of two years. He can then be restored to membership in the Scottish Rite only by petition and election by a majority vote of members present at a Stated Meeting of each Body of the Rite.

**Membership,  
Ceases after Two Years'  
Nonaffiliation  
with Symbolic Lodge**

SEC. 20. A member of the Rite making application for affiliation must present, in addition to his application, a Demit from the Body of which he was last a member, or a Certificate as provided in Section 24 of this Article, or a proper Certificate from a Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of this Supreme Council.

**Affiliation,  
Application Must In-  
clude Proper  
Certificate or Demit**

## **Article XVII Candidates and Members**

**Election of Candidate,  
Effective Only upon  
Receipt of Preceding  
Degrees**

SEC. 21. A Body may elect an affiliated Master Mason to receive the Degrees conferred in it, but when ordering the ballot, it must be stated that such election is to take effect only when the candidate shall have received all the preceding Degrees.

**Election of Affiliate,  
Requires Affiliation in  
All Lower Degrees of  
Valley**

SEC. 22. A Body may elect a member of the Rite for affiliation in it, but when ordering the ballot it must be stated that such election is to take effect only when the applicant shall have affiliated with all the Bodies of this Rite of lower Degree in that Valley.

**Unaffiliated Member,  
May Apply for  
Affiliation in Bodies of  
His Choice**

SEC. 23. An unaffiliated member of the Rite may apply for affiliation with any Body of the Rite of his selection wherever located.

**Unaffiliated Member,  
May Lose Rights  
and Privileges**

[2] Any unaffiliated member of the Rite who does not within twelve months from date of demit seek affiliation with the Body or Bodies which conferred the Degrees he has received, shall be prohibited from visiting Bodies, from receiving relief therefrom and from Masonic burial at their hands. And if he resides within a jurisdiction in which Bodies do not exist, he must within twelve months from date of demit affiliate with the several Bodies, the Degrees of which he has received, in some other Orient, or he shall be subject to the same prohibitions.

**Unaffiliated Member,  
Must Affiliate Even If  
Bodies Do Not Exist in  
Jurisdiction of  
Residence**

**Certificate of Good  
Standing, Use and Ef-  
fect When Applying for  
Affiliation**

SEC. 24. A member of a Body in this jurisdiction, who is in good standing and whose dues are paid, who desires to affiliate with another Body of the same Degree in this jurisdiction, may apply for and receive from the Secretary of the Body of which he is a member a duly attested Certificate of his standing in the Body. By presenting such Certificate with his Petition he may apply for affiliation with another Body. If he is elected, he thereby becomes a member of the Body with which he filed his Petition for affiliation, and the Secretary of said Body shall certify the fact of



## **Candidates and Members Article XVII**

such election to the Body issuing the Certificate of Good Standing, and the petitioner shall thereupon be dropped from the roll of membership of such issuing Body and his membership therein shall be terminated as if by demit. The Certificate herein provided for shall bear date of issue and the seal of the Body for which it is issued, and shall be good for the purpose herein specified until the end of the calendar year in which such Certificate is issued, and such newly affiliated Brother shall not be required to pay any dues to the Body or Bodies with which he affiliates for the remainder of the calendar year during which such affiliation occurs.

**Certificate of Good  
Standing Can Function  
as a Demit**

**Certificate of Good  
Standing, Expires at  
End of Calendar Year**

[2] The Inspectors General Honorary and Knights Commander of the Court of Honour may make inter-Valley and inter-Orient transfers of membership without loss of those honors.

**Transfer of  
Membership, Does Not  
Affect Honors**

SEC. 25. Suspension of a member by his Blue Lodge for nonpayment of dues carries with it suspension in every Body of this Rite. The restoration by the Blue Lodge to good standing, if had within two years, restores the member to his rights of all of the Bodies of this Rite. If the restoration is made after two years have elapsed, the suspended member can be restored to membership in the Scottish Rite only by petition and election by a majority of the members present at a Stated Meeting of each Body of the Rite.

**Suspension or  
Expulsion from  
Symbolic Lodge for  
Nonpayment of Dues,  
Effects Of**

**Restoration,  
Conditions For**

[2] Suspension of a member by his Blue Lodge for any cause whatever other than nonpayment of dues, or expulsion therefrom for any cause whatever, carries with it the same penalty in every Body of this Rite. Restoration by the Blue Lodge shall not restore membership in any Body of this Rite, but he can be restored to membership in the Scottish Rite only by petition and election by a majority of the members present at a Stated Meeting of each Body of the Rite. The vote on a petition for restoration of membership under this section may be *viva voce*.

**Suspension or Expulsion  
from Symbolic Lodge for  
Reasons Other Than Non-  
payment of Dues, Effects  
Of**

**Restoration, Only upon  
Petition and Election**

## Article XVII Candidates and Members

### Suspension for Nonpayment of Dues, After Two Years' Arrear- ages

SEC. 26. A member of a Subordinate Body who shall be in arrears for dues for two years shall thereby become suspended, unless such dues are remitted as herein provided, or further time not exceeding twelve months is granted by a majority vote of the members present at a stated meeting; provided, however, that upon the order of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Orient involved, the time of suspension of a member in arrears of dues may be fixed at not less than one year.

### Restoration, Conditions For

[2] A member suspended for nonpayment of dues who shall within two years pay the arrearages due at the time of his suspension, together with current year's dues, shall be automatically restored. But if a member fails to pay such dues within two years from the time of his suspension, he shall, upon his written request accompanied by the payment of dues to the time of his suspension, plus current year's dues, and a favorable committee report, and by a majority vote of those present at a Stated Meeting, be restored. A Body may, by a majority vote, with the consent of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, remit all or part of such delinquent dues.

### Delinquent Dues, May Be Remitted

### Per Capita Assessment/Dues, Waiver of for "Senior Members" in Need

[3] The Grand Commander may waive the Supreme Council's per capita assessment on "Senior Members" (those who are either 80 years of age or have 50 years or more of total membership) **who are in financial need** in conjunction with their Valleys waiving their annual dues. Such action will be based upon receiving from their Valleys the names and ID numbers of "Senior Members" who meet the foregoing requirements, certifying that their dues have been waived.

## **Candidates and Members Article XVII**

SEC. 27. No member of this jurisdiction shall be permitted to visit or attend the Body in which he holds membership or any other Body of the Rite in this jurisdiction unless he be in possession of a card such as described in Section 28 of this Article. He shall also, upon demand, exhibit a regular Patent or Diploma of the highest Degree conferred in that Body, or of a higher Degree, or a Certificate as provided in Section 32 of this Article. Every member shall be furnished a card of the highest Degree to which he has attained.

**Identification Card,  
Required for Visitation**

SEC. 28. The Grand Executive Director shall have printed and sent annually to the Secretaries of the Subordinate Bodies member identification cards, which shall be of such size, color, and content as the Grand Executive Director shall prescribe.

**Identification Card,  
Furnished Annually by  
Grand Executive Director**

## Article XVII Candidates and Members

Life Memberships,  
Minimum Cost,  
Plan Approval  
and Annual Audit  
Reports of Plan

SEC. 29. Life memberships for members aged 74 or younger may not be sold for less than \$500.00. Members who have attained the age of 75 or older may purchase a life membership for a fee of not less than \$200.00. All plans for life memberships shall be submitted to the Sovereign Grand Commander for approval prior to implementation, and an audited report of the status of the plan shall be submitted annually to the Sovereign Grand Commander on or before April 15 each year.

[2] A Life Member shall be entitled to all of the rights and privileges of membership in the Subordinate Bodies in which he holds such membership so long as he remains a member in good standing in those Bodies.

[3] A Life Member who, for any reason, has ceased to be a member of his Symbolic Lodge with a consequent loss of membership in his Scottish Rite Bodies shall, upon being restored to membership in his Scottish Rite Bodies, be restored as a Life Member in those Bodies.

Life Memberships.  
Transfer Permitted  
Within Orient Only

[4] The Statutes of the Supreme Council permit affiliation of life members. If the holder of a life membership transfers by a Certificate of Good Standing or demits from a Lodge of Perfection in his Orient to another Lodge of Perfection in his Orient, he may transfer his life membership with him. If the holder of a life membership transfers or demits to another Lodge of Perfection in another Orient, his life membership is not transferable and shall remain in the Lodge of Perfection of which he was last a member in the Orient where he purchased his life membership.

Identification Card,  
Must Accompany  
Diploma or Patent

SEC. 30. No Diploma or Patent emanating from this jurisdiction need be recognized unless accompanied by a card as described in Section 28 of this Article or by a Certificate as described in Section 32 of this Article.

## Candidates and Members Article XVII

SEC. 31. Each Consistory shall, at its own expense (except as provided in Art. IV, Sec. 25 [2]), furnish to each Master of the Royal Secret whom it shall hereafter create, Thirty-second Degree Patent regularly issued and registered by the Grand Executive Director.

**Thirty-second Degree  
Patent, Furnished by  
Consistory**

SEC. 32. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council or a Body which has conferred Degrees may furnish to the member receiving the same a Certificate showing his investiture with the Degrees thus conferred. This Certificate will, for twelve months, entitle the member to be received and acknowledged as having received the Degrees stated in his Certificate.

**Certificate of  
Investiture, Furnished  
by S.G.I.G. or  
Deputy**

SEC. 33. Dual and plural memberships are permitted as hereinafter defined:

1. Dual membership is defined as membership in a Body of an Orient other than that of a member's primary membership. Dual membership shall be limited to membership in no more than two Orients, either within or without the member's primary jurisdiction.

**Membership,  
Dual and Plural**

2. Plural membership is defined as membership in two or more Valleys of the Orient of the member's primary membership.

3. Primary membership is defined as membership in the Valley of the jurisdiction to which a member belongs at the time of initial application for dual or plural membership.

## Article XVII Candidates and Members

4. Dual membership, with retention of any Supreme Council honors which may have been invested or conferred by this or any other Supreme Council, is permitted on a reciprocal basis with other jurisdictions we are in amity with.

5. If a Brother holds dual membership between the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions or between Orients within the Southern Jurisdiction, the Valley of his choice becomes his primary Valley for the purpose of allowing him to be eligible for elective office and for possible further honors.

6. Dual membership shall cease if the member is suspended or expelled in either jurisdiction for reasons other than nonpayment of dues.

7. Rules of procedure for dual membership shall be in accordance with the terms and provisions, as may be agreed upon, from time to time, by and between the Sovereign Grand Commanders of the jurisdictions involved.

### Demit, Right To

SEC. 34. A member of a Body, if he be clear on the books and under no charges, may withdraw from it and shall be entitled to a Demit, upon application at a Stated Meeting.

### Dues, Exemption From

SEC. 35. A Body may, by a unanimous vote at a regular meeting and with the consent of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, exempt from the payment of dues to said Body any member whose circumstances justify such exemption, but in such case the Body is not relieved from paying to the Supreme Council the per capita assessment for the member so exempted.

## **Candidates and Members Article XVII**

SEC. 36. The use by any member of the Rite of any word, figure, letter, title, emblem, or symbol to denote his rank in or his connection with the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in any written or printed document not Masonic in its character and purposes, or the use by a member of any such word, figure, letter, title, emblem, or symbol for business or advertising purposes in any business, employment, or avocation not Masonic in its purposes nor connected with Masonry is forbidden.

**Masonic Emblems, etc.,  
Use for Business or  
Advertising Prohibited**

SEC. 37. In all cases where a petition for the Degrees or an application for affiliation is rejected by a Body of the Rite, the Secretary of the Body in which such action is taken shall promptly report the same to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy in the Orient of the petitioner's residence. And in all cases of expulsion and of suspension, the Secretary of the Body in which such action is taken shall promptly report the same to the Grand Executive Director of the Supreme Council.

**Rejections,  
Suspensions, and Ex-  
pulsions, Secretaries  
Required To Report**

SEC. 38. Rosters or lists of membership of any Valley or Orient shall not be used for any commercial purposes whatsoever as similarly defined by Grand Lodges.

**Membership Lists,  
Use for Commercial  
Purposes Prohibited**

SEC. 39. Wills executed by members of the Rite in compliance with ritualistic regulations shall be retained by the makers thereof, or if temporarily deposited with the proper official of any Body of the Rite, shall be by such official forthwith, or as soon as practicable, returned to the respective makers thereof.

**Wills, To Be Retained  
by the Makers Thereof**

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## **ARTICLE XVIII**

### **Trials and Penal Statutes**

SEC. 1. Trials on accusation of offenses against Masonic law or against good morals or of un-Masonic conduct or unworthiness of any Mason of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, except Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, shall be held by the Lodge of Perfection of which the accused is a member, or within whose Orient he resides or the offense is alleged to have been committed, provided, that charges of violation of the obligation of a Degree higher than that of Perfect Elu shall be prosecuted in the Body of the Rite governing that Degree.

**Trials, Location For**

SEC. 2. The penal jurisdiction of a Lodge of Perfection includes all its own members, wherever residing, except Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, and all Masons of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of any Lodge, whether then standing suspended for nonpayment of dues or otherwise, who reside nearer its place of meeting than to that of any other Lodge of Perfection, or who shall be charged with the commission within its jurisdiction of an offense cognizable by such Lodge. In places where there are more than one Lodge of Perfection, jurisdiction as aforesaid shall be concurrent in such Lodges except as to each Lodge's own members.

**Penal Jurisdiction,  
Lodge of Perfection**

[2] When a Brother has been suspended for cause, the Lodge of Perfection within whose jurisdiction he resides or commits an offense cognizable by said Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction over him.

**Penal Jurisdiction,  
of Brother Suspended  
for Cause**

[3] A change of residence after charges have been filed does not divest the Lodge of jurisdiction to try the charges. When charges have been filed and accepted by a Lodge, there shall be no change of venue for any cause.

**Penal Jurisdiction,  
Not Affected by  
Change of Residence**

## Article XVIII Trials and Penal Statutes

### Charges, Procedure To Prefer and File

SEC. 3. Charges may be preferred by any Brother in good standing; and it shall be the duty of the Venerable Master to direct the Junior Warden, or other officer if he fails or refuses to act, to file charges formally and *ex officio*, against a Brother, if he (the Venerable Master) shall be personally cognizant, or shall be reliably informed, of such acts or conduct on the part of a Brother as *prima facie* constitute a Masonic offense. Such charges shall be in writing over the signature of the Brother preferring same, and may be general in character, but shall be accompanied by a specification or specifications setting forth the particular acts constituting the offense complained of and giving time and place and all necessary particulars relating thereto, so that the accused may be fully advised of all that he may be called upon to explain or disprove or justify.

### Charges, Vote of Lodge Required To Proceed with Service Of

SEC. 4. Charges shall be filed with the Secretary of the Lodge and be presented to the Lodge at the next Stated Meeting thereof. If the Lodge, by a majority vote of the members present at the time the charges are presented, determines that the act or acts set forth in the charges or specifications do not constitute any Masonic offense, the Lodge may refuse to entertain them. But if the Lodge, by a majority vote of those present, decides that the charges are of such character as to justify investigation, it shall designate a Stated Meeting of the Lodge for the selection of a tribunal to ascertain the facts concerning such charges. All action taken shall be subject to the approval or disapproval of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council. The accused and the accuser shall be notified of the presentation of the charges and furnished a copy thereof and advised of the date of the Stated Meeting at which such tribunal will be elected. Where the accused resides within the jurisdiction of the Lodge, the notice, with a copy of the charges, shall be served upon him personally at least ten days prior to date of the meeting at which the tribunal is to be selected. Where the accused resides outside of the jurisdiction of the Lodge and his residence is known, the charges and notice may be served by mailing a copy

### Charges, Service of in Writing

## **Trials and Penal Statutes Article XVIII**

thereof to him at least ten days before the date of meeting for the selection of the tribunal, and the service shall be completed when the copies are deposited in the United States Post Office, properly addressed and stamped. If the address or whereabouts of the accused is unknown, the tribunal may be selected at the next Stated Meeting after the charges have been accepted, without any attempt to serve notice upon the accused.

SEC. 5. At the time thus fixed the Lodge shall proceed, without any other or further motion or discussion, to select by ballot five of its members, who shall constitute a tribunal to hear the evidence and determine the facts in relation to the charges presented. The persons so selected by the Lodge shall constitute such tribunal, without any right on the part of the accused to object for any reason to the persons so selected. The tribunal shall have power to elect from its number a chairman and a secretary, to fix the time and place of its meetings, and determine the method of its procedure for the taking of testimony, summoning witnesses, and ascertaining the facts. The accused shall have notice of all its meetings and be given the fullest opportunity to present any evidence which he may desire to offer. But if the whereabouts or address of the accused is unknown and cannot be ascertained after due inquiry by the Secretary, the Venerable Master shall appoint some capable and disinterested Brother of the Lodge in which the charges are pending to represent the accused, to whom all due notices shall be given, and who shall have all rights of the accused in appearing for and representing him, and on whom all notices shall be served. The tribunal shall proceed to ascertain the facts with reference to the charges in accordance with the recognized principles and usages of Masonic jurisprudence and hearings before a commission of like character. It shall disregard, however, all technicalities and be governed solely by the desire to do justice. If the testimony of the witness cannot be had before all of the members of the tribunal, it may designate one or more of its number to take testimony of absent witnesses. Members of the Rite testifying before the

**Tribunal, Selection Of**

**Tribunal, Powers Of**

**Accused, Rights Of**

**Tribunal, Procedure Of**

## **Article XVIII Trials and Penal Statutes**

tribunal may testify under an affirmation upon their honor as such members. If the testimony of a profane is desired, the tribunal may call a notary public for the purpose of administering the oath, or it may hear the statement of the profane without oath. Documentary evidence, certified to or otherwise, pertinent to the case may be received by the tribunal.

### **Tribunal, Findings Of**

SEC. 6. When the tribunal has heard all the evidence offered by the accused or accuser, it shall determine the facts with reference to the charges and file its findings with the Secretary of the Lodge. The Secretary shall then give notice that the findings of a tribunal will be presented at a Stated or Called Meeting to be held thereafter at a time specified. Such notice may be given by mail to each member at his last known address, or by publication in the usual manner of giving notice of meetings, in either event at least five days before the date of the meeting. At the meeting thus fixed the findings of the tribunal and the evidence shall be read to the Lodge, and the accused and accuser may be heard in person or by counsel, with reference to the sufficiency of the evidence to sustain the findings, or of the facts found to constitute a punishable offense. After the hearing is concluded, the Lodge shall proceed to vote upon the question as to whether or not the accused is guilty of the charges preferred, or any of them when more than one charge is preferred. The vote shall be taken by secret ballot and all of the members of the Lodge present shall be required to vote. Where more than one charge is preferred, separate ballots should be taken upon each. If fewer than two-thirds of the members of the Lodge present vote "guilty" as to any charge, it shall be dismissed. If two-thirds vote "guilty" as to any charge, the members of the Lodge present shall then proceed by secret ballot to vote upon the penalty in the following order: first, expulsion; second, indefinite suspension; third, definite suspension; fourth, reprimand. These questions shall be determined by the vote of a majority of those present.

### **Trial by Lodge, Balloting Procedure**

### **Penalty, Provisions and Determination**

## **Trials and Penal Statutes Article XVIII**

SEC. 7. The tribunal, in its discretion, may cause the evidence introduced to be reduced to writing and, if requested by the accused, shall do so. If so, the copies of such evidence shall be filed with the Secretary of the Lodge at the time of the filing of the findings of the tribunal and thereafter shall be and remain a part of the secret archives of the Lodge, and no reference thereto shall be made by any member of the Lodge except upon the hearing for the determination of the guilt or innocence of the accused. When that fact has been determined and no appeal taken, the Lodge may, if it desires, order the copies of the evidence to be destroyed.

**Evidence, Reduced  
to Writing**

SEC. 8. Either party may within thirty days after judgment appeal from the judgment of the Lodge to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in charge of the Orient, who may affirm or reverse it. From the action of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council either party may within sixty days appeal to the Supreme Council for final adjudication. If there be no Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in charge of the jurisdiction, the appeal shall be taken from the Lodge direct to the Supreme Council.

**Appeal from  
Judgment of Lodge, to  
S.G.I.G. or Deputy**

**Appeal to  
the Supreme Council**

SEC. 9. The petition for an appeal will not operate as a suspension of a judgment against the defendant unless a suspensory order is made.

**Appeal Does Not  
Suspend Judgment**

SEC. 10. The result of every trial not appealed from or in which no suspension order is made shall be immediately reported by the secretarial officer of the Body in which the trial was had to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Orient, who shall cause the same to be made known to such Bodies, in such manner and at such time as he shall think the interests of the Rite require, and no other publication thereof shall be had.

**Judgment,  
Publication Of**

## Article XVIII Trials and Penal Statutes

<b>Suspension or Expulsion, Applies in Every Body of the Rite</b>	SEC. 11. Suspension or expulsion by a Subordinate Body carries with it the same penalty in every Body of the Rite.
<b>Active Members, Trial Of</b>	SEC. 12. <i>Trial of Active Members.</i> Charges against a Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall be filed in the Supreme Council, which has exclusive penal jurisdiction over all Active Members. Such charges shall be in writing and signed by a Sovereign Grand Inspector General and filed with the Sovereign Grand Commander. Thereupon the Sovereign Grand Commander shall appoint a committee of three Sovereign Grand Inspectors General to investigate the charges and present to the Sovereign Grand Commander the result of such investigation. If the committee decides that there is reason for believing the accused Sovereign Grand Inspector General to be guilty of a penal charge for which prosecution should be had, the Sovereign Grand Commander shall order the trial of the charges to be had at the next regular session of the Supreme Council or, if in his opinion an emergency exists, he may call a special session of the Supreme Council for the trial of such charges, and may or may not, in his discretion, suspend the accused from the discharge of his duties as Sovereign Grand Inspector General pending such trial. The Supreme Council, when charges are presented, shall make such rules as it may see fit for the governing of the trial.
<b>Disloyalty, Penalty and Procedure For</b>	SEC. 13. An Inspector General Honorary or a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour proving unworthy or disloyal, after having been given an opportunity to be heard in person or through a representative, may be dropped from the rolls of the Supreme Council by a majority vote of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General present at any session of the Supreme Council, which will deprive him of all rights and benefits of the rank held by him.

## **Trials and Penal Statutes Article XVIII**

SEC. 14. Nothing contained in these Statutes or in any rule, resolution, or regulation shall be construed as limiting, abridging, or impairing the inherent right of the Supreme Council to exercise original jurisdiction in any case and to suspend and expel any member of any Subordinate Body, any Honorary Member of this Supreme Council, or any Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in any appropriate form of procedure which may, at any time, be adopted or prescribed by the Supreme Council, provided that the accused shall always, in any case, be afforded reasonable opportunity to be heard in his defense.

**The Supreme Council's  
Jurisdictional Rights  
Related to Masonic  
Offenses**

SEC. 15. Any adverse criticism or complaint of the Supreme Council, or any member thereof, made by any Brother except in the proper forum of the Rite, is un-Masonic and violative of obligation and is therefore condemned.

**Complaints,  
Must Be Presented  
in the Proper Forum**

SEC. 16. It shall be the duty of each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council to report to the Sovereign Grand Commander any disloyalty or insubordination of any Brother within his Orient who may be of the Thirty-third Degree or who may be a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, and it shall be the duty of the Sovereign Grand Commander to report same to the Supreme Council for necessary action.

**Disloyalty,  
Must Be Reported**

SEC. 17. It is and shall be the duty of every member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite to report to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Orient in which he resides any matter involving disloyalty, insubordination or violation of obligation which may come to the knowledge of such member, and it shall be the duty of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council thereupon to institute or direct the necessary steps to subject such offending member to proper discipline.

**Disloyal Member,  
Must Be Properly  
Disciplined**

## **Article XVIII Trials and Penal Statutes**

### **Members Unable To Comply with Obligations and Duties, Encouraged To Withdraw from the Rite**

SEC. 18. Inasmuch as membership in the Scottish Rite is purely voluntary, any member who finds himself unable to comply with his obligations and with all duties imposed upon him by the statutes of the Order should, out of self-respect and in justice to the Order and his associates therein, retire therefrom in the manner duly provided therefor.



## **ARTICLE XIX**

### **Official Locations**

SEC. 1. The See of the Supreme Council is at Charleston in the state of South Carolina; but its executive offices are located in the House of the Temple at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, from which place all decrees, balustres, charters, diplomas, and other official documents shall bear date.

**Official Locations,  
the Supreme Council  
and Its Executive Offices**

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## ARTICLE XX

### Amendments

SEC. 1. These Statutes may be amended only at a regular session, or at a special session called for that purpose, of the Supreme Council, by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members then present; provided, that any amendment to the *Statutes of the Supreme Council* must be submitted to the Grand Executive Director by an Active Member only at least ninety days before the regular session, the same to be distributed to each Active Member at least sixty days before the regular session. Any amendment submitted by an Active Member only in less than this time shall require unanimous consent of the Supreme Council to be considered at that session.

**Amendments,  
Procedure For**

SEC. 2. Any committee of the Supreme Council may originate and propose an amendment at any regular or special session.

**Amendments,  
May Be Proposed  
by Committees**

SEC. 3. Every Resolution submitted for action by The Supreme Council shall be submitted to the Finance Committee for review. If the Finance Committee determines that there is a financial impact it will cause a financial impact Statement to be prepared and presented to The Supreme Council prior to action by The Supreme Council.

**Resolutions,  
To Be Submitted to  
Finance Committee**

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## **ARTICLE XXI**

### **Declaratory Disposition**

SEC. 1. These Statutes, with the Regulations of 1762, the Grand Constitutions of 1786, as published by this Supreme Council, except as herein modified, together with the edicts and decisions of the Supreme Council, and the unwritten principles and Landmarks of Freemasonry constitute the law of the Rite in the jurisdiction of this Supreme Council.

**Law of the Rite,  
Components Of**

***Finis***

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# ADDENDUM





# ACT OF INCORPORATION

As

## INSPECTORS GENERAL OF THE THIRTY-THIRD DEGREE

**(Extract of an Act enacted in December 1823, by the Legislature of the State of South Carolina)**

Sec. 33. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That Isaac Auld, M.D., as Sovereign Grand Commander; the Reverend Frederick Dalcho, M.D., as Past Sovereign Grand Commander; James Moultrie, M.D., as Secretary General and Acting Lieutenant Commander; Moses C. Levy, Esquire, as Treasurer General; Moses Holbrook, M.D., Horatio Street, Alexander M'Donald and Joseph M'Cosh, Esquires, with their associates and successors, be, and they are hereby incorporated, and declared a body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, by the name and style of Inspectors General of the Thirty-third Degree: And the said Inspectors General of the Thirty-third Degree shall have power to regulate all orders and degrees of Masonry, from the Sixteenth to the said Thirty-third degree, according to the constitutions of the said several degrees; and the said corporation, by its name and style aforesaid, shall have a common seal, with power to alter the same, and to make all necessary bylaws for their better government; and the said corporation shall have power to purchase lands or personal estate, and to accept any devise, bequest or donation: *Provided*, that the same shall not exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars: *And provided also*, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to interfere with any powers, rights or privileges heretofore granted to the "Most Worshipful Grand Lodge in this State," or any other Grand Lodge of Masons heretofore incorporated.

In the Senate House the twentieth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, and in the forty-eighth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

JACOB BOND I'ON  
President of the Senate

PATRICK NOBLE  
Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

# **ACT OF INCORPORATION**

**As**

## **THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTORS GENERAL OF THE THIRTY-THIRD DEGREE FOR THE SOUTHERN JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES**

**(Extract of an Act enacted in December 1866 by the Legislature of the State  
of South Carolina)**

No. 4842. An act to incorporate the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third Degree for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States.

1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That Albert Pike, William S. Rockwell, Giles M. Hillyer, A. G. Mackey, B. Rush Campbell, Benjamin H. French, Henry Buist, Henry W. Schroder, and Howell Cobb, their associates and successors, shall be and are hereby declared to be a body corporate and politic by the name and style of "The Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third Degree for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States," and by the said name shall be capable to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto in any Court of Law and Equity in this State; shall have a common seal, with power to change, alter, break and make new the same, shall be able and capable in law to purchase and retain real estate not exceeding in value the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars and shall have all the other rights, powers and privileges usual, incident, or necessary to corporations.

2. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid that this Act shall continue of force for fourteen years.

In the Senate House, the fourteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred sixty-six.

W. D. PORTER,  
President of the Senate

CHARLES H. SIMONTON,  
Speaker House of  
Representatives

Approved December 15th, 1866  
JAMES L. ORR  
Governor

## ACT OF INCORPORATION

As

### **THE SUPREME COUNCIL (MOTHER COUNCIL OF THE WORLD) OF THE INSPECTORS GENERAL KNIGHTS COMMANDERS OF THE HOUSE OF THE TEMPLE OF SOLOMON OF THE THIRTY-THIRD DEGREE OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREE MASONRY OF THE SOUTHERN JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

An Act to incorporate the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree of Scottish Rite Masonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled*, That Thomas Hubbard Caswell, of the City of San Francisco, State of California; Odell Squier Long, of the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia; Erasmus Theodore Carr, of Miles City, State of Montana; Frederick Webber, of the City of Washington, District of Columbia; Gilmore Meredith, of the City of Baltimore, State of Maryland; and Samuel Emery Adams, of the City of Minneapolis, State of Minnesota, officers and members of the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree of Scottish Rite Masonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, and their successors be, and they are hereby, incorporated and made a body politic and corporate in the District of Columbia by the name of "The Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General Knights Commanders of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America"; and by that name it may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any court of law or equity, and may have and use a common seal, and change the same at pleasure, and be entitled to use and exercise all the powers, rights, and privileges incidental to fraternal and benevolent corporations within the District of Columbia.

Sec. 2. That the said corporation shall have the power to take and hold personal estate and such real estate as shall be necessary and proper for the promotion of the fraternal and benevolent purposes of said corporation, which shall not be divided among the members of the corporation, but shall descend to their successors for the promotion of the objects aforesaid.

Sec. 3. That all claims, accounts, debts, things in action, or other matters of business of whatever nature now existing for or against the present supreme council mentioned in section one of this act, shall survive and succeed to and against the body corporate and politic hereby created: *Provided*, that nothing contained herein shall be construed to extend the operation of any law which provides for the extinguishing of claims or contracts by limitations of time.

Sec. 4. That said corporation shall have a constitution and regulations or bylaws, and shall have power to amend the same at pleasure: *Provided*, that such constitution and regulations or bylaws or amendments thereof do not conflict with the laws of the United States or of any State.

Sec. 5. That said corporation shall not engage in any business for gain, the purposes of said corporation being fraternal and benevolent.

Approved March 13, 1896. (See 1897 *Trans.*, p. 40.)

# Form of Application for New Bodies

To Form a New Body of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, the Following Regulations Will Be Observed

1. Brethren desiring to organize a new Body of the Rite will make application therefor to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, as the case may be, in the Jurisdiction in which they reside, using the following form:

\_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_

To \_\_\_\_\_, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General (or Deputy of the Supreme Council) in the Orient of \_\_\_\_\_

Ill.: and dear Brother:

We, the undersigned petitioners, who are Master Masons in good standing and members in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in good standing, and who have attained the Degrees placed opposite our respective names, having the prosperity of the Rite at heart and being willing to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry, and promising always to bear true faith and allegiance to the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America (whose See is at Charleston in the State of South Carolina) respectfully request that you grant us Letters Temporary for the formation of a \_\_\_\_\_ (New Body) \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (Orient) \_\_\_\_\_.

We have nominated and recommend as the first officers of this Body the following Brethren, namely:

In the office of \_\_\_\_\_ Bro.:. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_°

(List all offices and officers for the Body.)

We have selected \_\_\_\_\_ (City)(New Body) \_\_\_\_\_ as the name for this Body. Upon your advice that this petition has been approved, we will promptly remit to the Grand Executive Director of the Supreme Council the fees for Letters Temporary plus the amount necessary for books. (See Article XI.2.1 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*.)

(Here should follow the signatures of all the petitioners)

2. A petition for a Lodge of Perfection must be signed by no fewer than nine Perfect Elus; for a Chapter of Rose Croix, by no fewer than seven Knights Rose Croix; for a Council of Kadosh, by no fewer than nine Knights Kadosh; for a Consistory, by no fewer than nine Masters of the Royal Secret. (Article XVI.2 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)

3. Each signer must present with the Petition a Certificate of Good Standing in the Body in which he holds membership, or, if unaffiliated, a Demit from the Body in which he last held membership. (Article XVI.3 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)

4. When the petition has been completed, it shall be presented to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Jurisdiction wherein the new Body is to be located, who shall approve or disapprove it and return it, with all the papers attached, to the petitioning Brethren. Upon receipt of the petition approved by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, the petitioners shall forward it, together with all Certificates of Good Standing and Demits, to the Grand Executive Director, along with proper remittance to cover the fees and costs of books, etc., as provided by Article XI.2 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*. (See Paragraph 19 of the *Secretary's Manual*.)

In a jurisdiction where there is a Deputy of the Supreme Council, he shall transmit such Petition to the Sovereign Grand Commander. (Article XVI.4.2 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)

5. Upon receipt of the petition, Certificates or Demits, and accompanying remittance, the Grand Executive Director shall have the Letters Temporary prepared and sent to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General (or to the Sovereign Grand Commander, as the case may be) for signature. Upon receipt of the signed Letters Temporary, the Grand Executive Director shall provide the necessary books and report his action to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General (or Deputy of the Supreme Council) in whose jurisdiction the Body is to be established, and the new Body may begin to work. (Article XVI.5 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)

# Form of Application for Charter of New Bodies

(Note: See Article XI.2 and Article XVI.7-10, inclusive, *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)

A Body to which Letters Temporary have been issued must, at the next regular Session of the Supreme Council, make application for Permanent Charter, using the following form. The application must bear the recommendation of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, or the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, as the case may be.

\_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

To the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.:

On the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, Letters Temporary were issued by Ill.:. \_\_\_\_\_, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient of \_\_\_\_\_, (or "Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council" in an Orient where there is a Deputy of the Supreme Council) for the formation of a new \_\_\_\_\_ (Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh, or Consistory) of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in the Valley of \_\_\_\_\_, Orient of \_\_\_\_\_, by the name of \_\_\_\_\_, and on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, the said \_\_\_\_\_ was organized and opened, and has since continued successfully to work.

It is the desire of the members of said \_\_\_\_\_ to have its existence perpetuated, and they therefore pray that a Charter be granted to the said \_\_\_\_\_, promising as heretofore faithful obedience and strict conformity to the statutes, laws, edicts, and regulations of the Supreme Council, and all proper authorities thereof.

[Within the following space shall be written the names of the officers, who shall be designated by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General (or the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, as the case may be). The information designated in Article XVI.7 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council* shall also be supplied.]

In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____

## Constituting Newly Chartered Bodies

When the Supreme Council grants a Permanent Charter for the organization of a Body, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for the jurisdiction in which it is located will, upon delivery of the Charter, proceed to organize the new Body permanently by constituting it and installing the officers named in the Charter, and shall then make report thereof, with the date of his action, to the Grand Executive Director, who shall certify the facts, but only in case they were not elected before Charter was issued, to the Secretaries of the Bodies whose members have participated in the organization under Certificates of Good Standing, and thereupon such members, having become members of the chartered Body, shall be dropped from the rolls of the original Bodies and their membership therein shall be terminated as if by Demit. (Article XVI.11 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)

The form upon which report is made to the Grand Executive Director should be as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_

To the Grand Executive Director of the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.:

The Supreme Council, at its Biennial Session on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, having granted Permanent Charter to \_\_\_\_\_, sitting in the Valley of \_\_\_\_\_, Orient of \_\_\_\_\_, and the said Charter having been delivered;

Now, therefore, I, \_\_\_\_\_, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient of \_\_\_\_\_ (or "Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council" in an Orient where there is a Deputy) have this day, in conformity with the statutes of the Supreme Council, permanently organized the said \_\_\_\_\_ by constituting it and installing the officers named in the Charter.

May it have prosperity and continuance.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sov.: Gr.: Insp.: Genl.:  
in the Orient of \_\_\_\_\_

(or "Sovereign Grand Commander" in an  
Orient where there is a Deputy)



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